

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

Reg. No.	271
R.S. No.	21615

72

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

W A R      D I A R Y

U. S. S. L I B R A , (AKA12)

M O N T H   O F

F E B R U A R Y , 1943

Assigned to: U.S. PACIFIC FLEET  
SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE  
AMPHIBIOUS FORCE  
TRANSPORT DIVISION EIGHT.

1943 MAR 18 8 27

COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

47160

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AK53)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 1, 1943.

En Route From at anchor 7/8 Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs Amphib For. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Transport Division Eight.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 120308

((b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Wellington for upkeep period of about (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- At anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:



4. Brief of Day's Operations:- ( )

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At anchor</u>	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

( )

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

( )

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

U.S.S. FULLER, berthed at Wellington,  
 U.S.S. ZANE, berthed at Wellington,  
 U.S.S. TREVOR berthed at Wellington,

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (<sup>AKA 12</sup>~~AKA 12~~)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 2, 1943

En Route From at anchor 7ø/ Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TranDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

((b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- At anchor

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course In Drydock Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
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0630-Underway for drydock.

0800-Berthed in drydock, Wellington, N. Z.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1420 U.S.S. ZANE, U.S.S. TREVOR and U.S.S. FULLER underway.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-



(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (~~AKA~~)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 3, 1943.

En Route From Drydock 7/ Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein: To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- in drydock.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:



(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (~~XXXX~~)

Date: February 3, 1943

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course Drydock Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
_____	_____

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:- (1)

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-





(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (~~AKA12~~)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 4, 1943.

En Route From At anchor W/ Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: Trans.Div. AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 120308

((b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Ro Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- At anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA ~~(XXXX)~~

Date: ? February 4, 1943

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>NONE</u> _____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
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0900 - Drydock flooded, underway, moored at deck at 1145.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-



DAILY WAR DIARY

(AKA12)  
U.S.S. LIBRA (~~AKA12~~)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 5, 1943.

In Route From At anchor To/ Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- At anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:







(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (~~1059~~)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 6, 1943.

En Route From At anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- at anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
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(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

0800 U.S.S. MONTICELLO standing in  
1222 USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, USS PRESIDENT HAYES, USS PRESIDENT ADAMS,  
USS CRESCENT CITY, and USS GANSEVORT

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA ~~XXXXXX~~

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 7, 1943.

En Route From at anchor 1/9 Wellington, N.Z.

- 1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.
- (b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.
- (c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight.

Composition of Unit: libra

- 2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

((b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Weillington for up upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

- 3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- at anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

(AKA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (~~AKA~~)

Date: February 7, 1943.

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	To
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-  
 U.S.S. GANSEVORT, USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, USS PRESIDENT HAYES,  
 USS PRESIDENT JACKSON standing out - 1630  
 USS ROCKAWAY STOOD IN - 1630.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-





(AkA12)

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA ~~XXXX~~

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 8, 1943.

En Route From At anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAm hibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

((b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Wellington for upkeep period of about three(3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At:- \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:



4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>NONE</u>	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____
_____	_____	To _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(J)

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

- 1045 USS MONTICELLO standing out.
- 1300 USS R chambeau standing out.
- 1350 USS Crescent City underway.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 9, 1943

En Route From at anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division eight

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: at anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 10, 1943

En Route From At anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: Division Eight

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, despatch 120308 January.  
COMTASKFOR 62, 690235 February.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
(1) To Wellington for upkeep period of about three (3) weeks.  
(2) Form Task Unit 62.4.1. Depart Wellington for BoraBora.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. At anchor 2000 Lat. 41°48'S

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. 175°32E

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ made good since ~~previous noon~~ anchorage.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:







DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: February 10, 1943

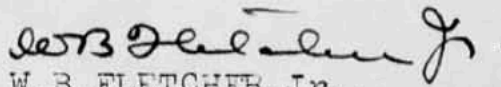
5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:  
ComTaskFor 62 despatch 090200 February- concerning embarkation  
of units of 98th. C.A. Regiment and equipment at BoraBora.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:- Complete magnetic ranging during forenoon  
with quite satisfactory results.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date February 11, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N. Z. To Bora Bora

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: Trans. Divs. Amphib. For. SoPac.  
(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task force 62, Despatch, 090235-February.  
(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark units and equipment  
98th. C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 40°08'5 S 1200 Lat. 39°29.5'S 2000 Lat. 38°17'S  
Long. 178°-14'E Long. 179°14E Long. 178°49'W

- (b) Course 049°T, 048°G, 017°PSTGC, 037°PSC and distance 277 made  
good since previous noon.

- (c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

Moderate to Heavy swell from S.S.E.

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 049°T, 048°G, 017°PSTGC, 037°PS Standard Speed 15 knots

Position in Formation: Form 9

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>NONE</u>		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
NONE	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: February 11, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

## DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description + 11 Date Feb. 12, 1943.En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivAmphibFor. SoPac.(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235, of February.(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark units and equipment  
98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 32° 18'S 1200 Lat. 31° 35'S 2000 Lat. 30° 18'SLong. 171° 02'W Long. 170° 14'W Long. 168° 35'W.(b) Course 048°G, 048.5°T and distance 338 miles made  
good since previous noon.(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 048°G, 048.5°T, 017°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing 90°, Dist. 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>NONE</u>		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description - 12 (~~11~~) Date Feb. 12, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235-February.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark units and equipment  
98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 36° 10'S 1200 Lat. 35° 29'S 2000 Lat. 34° 20'S

Long. 176° 06 W Long. 175° 11'W Long. 173° 35'W

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance 358 Mi. made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -/- 11 Date Feb. 13, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor SoPac.  
(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1  
Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN
  
2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235 of February.  
(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark units and equipment 98th C.A. Regiment.
  
3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 28° 24'S 1200 Lat. 27° 44'S 2000 Lat. 26° 25'S  
Long. 166° 15'W. Long. 165° 21'W Long. 163° 46'W  
(b) Course 048°G, 048.5°W and distance 339 Miles. made good since previous noon.  
(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 048°G, 048.5°T, 017°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing 90°, 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>None</u>		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____
_____		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: 13 Feb. 1943.

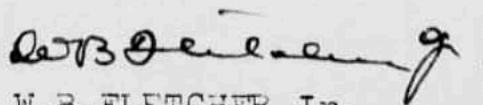
5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -4- 11 Date Feb. 14, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.  
(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235 of February.  
(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark units and equipment 98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 24° 33.5S 1200 Lat. 23° 40'S 2000 Lat. 22° 58.5'S  
Long. 161° 27'W Long. 160° 40' W. Long. 159° 02'W.  
(b) Course 048°G, 048°.5 T and distance 352 miles made good since previous noon.  
(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 048°G, 048.5°T, (020°PSTGC. Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing of 90°. 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1546</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>090°G, 090.5°T</u> <u>063°PSTGC</u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: Feb. 14, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Set clock ahead one hour to  $\neq$  10 Zone time.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not ~~xxx~~ included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description 10 Date 15 Feb. 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62. Despatch 090235 of February.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark Units and equipment  
98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 21°53.5'S 1200 Lat. 21°02 S 2000 Lat. 19°29'S.

Long. 156°29.5 W Long. 155°54'W. Long. 154°44'W.

(b) Course 059° T and distance 310 made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 090°G, 090.5°T, 063°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing of 90°, 1000 yds.

## (b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0210</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>060°G, 060.5°T,</u> <u>033 PSTGC</u>
<u>0225</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>036°G, 036.5°T,</u> <u>011 PSTGC.</u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>

## (c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

## (d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

## (e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

## (f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

## (g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description 4 10 Date Feb. 16, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Bora Bora

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235 of February.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark Units and equipment of 98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17°02' S 1200 Lat. 16°19-15 S 2000 Lat. At Anchor.

Long. 152°53' W Long. 152°19 W. Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course 36° and distance 352 made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:



## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 036°T, 012°PSTGC 024°PSC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing 90°, 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>1145</u>	Base Course <u>TO 107°T, 085°PSTC</u> Course <u>106 PSC.</u>
<u>1300-1345</u>	<u>Various</u> TO _____ Following movement
<u>1345-1453</u>	<u>of Henry T. Allen</u> TO _____
<u>1453</u>	<u>Anchored</u> TO <u>Funui Bay, BoraBora.</u> <u>Society Islands.</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>1345</u>	Following movements of Henry T. ALLEN, (Form 18) to anchorage.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: Feb. 16, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:  
COMSOPAC despatch 170302 of February makes MONTGOMERY (DMS17)  
available at Naudi for escort of T.G. 62.4.1 on Feb. 20th.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not ~~(xxx)~~ included.

W. B. Fletcher, Jr.  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description 4 10 Date Feb. 17, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor BoraBora, Society Islands.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF. 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:  
LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235 of February.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora, Embark units and equipment  
of 98 C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: At Anchor, Funui Bay.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>None</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: Feb. 17, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:  
Received this date 312151 from ComSevRon SoPac to the effect that fresh provisions are not required at Efati. (Should not have taken reefer cargo at Wellington).

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxxxx~~) included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description / 10 Date Feb. 18, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor Bora Bora, Society Islands. ~~To~~

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Task Force 62, Despatch 090235 of February

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Wellington, N.Z. to Bora Bora. Embark Units and equipment of 98th C.A. Regiment.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: At Anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:







DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description 7 9 Date Febr. 19, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor Bora Bora, Society Islands.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SOPAC.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs Amphib For. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTrans Group SoPac. 190203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs Unit to proceed unescorted to VILA.  
TRACY joins as escort later.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. 17°04'S

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. 153°13'W.

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1400</u>	<u>Course Various, Underway-Standing</u>	<u>Port of Funui Bay.</u>
<u>1334</u>	<u>Steady on course</u>	TO <u>270°G, 269°5T.</u>
<u>1355</u>	<u>Speed</u>	TO <u>Standard. 15 kts.</u>
		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
	(Form 9) Line of Bearing 90°, Distance 1000 yards.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1300- M83 and 2 converted mine sweepers underway, standing out of harbor.

1315- HENRY T. ALLEN underway.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: Feb. 19, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

Received G.T.G. 200635 to TRACY to rendezvous T.U.62.4.1 in position 17-22S, 169-50 W at 2100 Z, Feb.22.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Clock retarded one hour at 1400 to Zone Time / 10.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description + 10 Date February 20, 1945

En Route From Bora Bora To Vila

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA

HENRY T. ALLEN

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTrans Group SoPac 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs unit to proceed unescorted to Vila. Tracy joins as escort later.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17°19'S 1200 Lat. 17°21'S 2000 Lat. 17°26'S

Long. 156°11'W Long. 157°01'W Long. 158°54'W

(b) Course 270°G, 269.5°T. and distance 308 made good since ~~previous noon~~ departure from Bora Bora

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 270°G, 269.5°T, 270pstage Standard Speed 15 knots  
Position in Formation: On line of bearing 90°, distance 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>NONE</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>NONE</u>	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE







DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description 4 11 Date Feb. 21, 1943.

En Route From BORA BORA To VILA

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY TO ALLEN

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: Comtrans Group SoPac 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs unit to proceed unescorted to VILA.  
TRACY joins as escort later.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17°32'S 1200 Lat. 17°-37'S 2000 Lat. 17°23'S

Long. 161° 48.5'W Long. 163°20'W Long. 165°18'W

(b) Course 268°T and distance 361 made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description / 11 Date Feb. 22, 1943.

En Route From Bora Bora To Vila.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphib For, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup SoPac. 190203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Direct unit to proceed unescorted to VILA. TRACY joins as escort later.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17° 19'S 1200 Lat. 17° 28'S 2000 Lat. 17° 33'S  
Long. 168° 17'W Long. 169° 22.5'W Long. 171° 39'W.

(b) Course 268° True and distance 346 miles. made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 280°G, 279°.5 T, 279°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of bearing, 90°, 1000 yds. distance.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0000</u>	<u>Base Course</u> TO <u>270°G, 269.5°T.</u> <u>269°PSTGC.</u>
<u>          </u>	TO <u>                                  </u>
<u>          </u>	TO <u>                                  </u>
<u>          </u>	TO <u>                                  </u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>          </u>	<u>                                  </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>                                  </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>                                  </u>

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

1115 - TRACY joined formation as escort.

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

1100- Sighted TRACY, bearing 285° True.

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1400- ALLEN held Gunnery exercise.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None.





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date Feb. 24, 1943.

En Route From Bora Bora To Vila.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD TRACY.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. 190203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein: Directs Unit to proceed to Vila.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17°45' S 1200 Lat. 18°06' S 2000 Lat. 18°56' S.

Long. 174°42' W. Long. 175°33' W Long. 177°18' W.

(b) Course 264° and distance 355 made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:



4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 270°G, 269°.5T, 270°PSTC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: Line of bearing 90°, 1000 yds Distance.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0703</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>242°G, 241.5°T,</u> <u>241°PSTGC.</u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	TO <u>          </u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description - 12 Date Feb. 25, 1943.

En Route From Bora Bora To Vila.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN.  
D. D. TRACY.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup SoPac. 190203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs unit to proceed to Vila.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 19°51'S 1200 Lat. 19°59'S 2000 Lat. 19°52'S.

Long. 179°48'E Long. 178°45.5'E. Long. 176°33'E.

(b) Course 251°T and distance 342 made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 242°T, 241.5°G, 241 PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing 90°, 1000 yds. Dist.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>2400</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>262°T, 261°5G,</u> <u>261°PSTGC.</u>
		TO _____
<u>1500</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>284°T, 282°5G.</u> <u>285°PSTGC.</u>
		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description - 11 Date Feb. 26, 1943.

En Route From Bora Bora To Vila.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA.  
HENRY T. ALLEN,  
DD TRACY.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup SoPac. 190203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

Directs unit to proceed to VILA.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 19°19'S. 1200 Lat. 18°52'S 2000 Lat. 18°18'

Long. 173°-35'W. Long. 172°36.5'E. Long. 170°39'E.

(b) Course 281°T. and distance 354 miles. made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 284°T, 283.5°G, 284°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 kts.

Position in Formation: On Line of bearing 90°, Distance 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0900</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>300°T, 299.5°G.</u> <u>298°PSTGC.</u>
<u>1500</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>283°T, 282.5G.</u> <u>282°PSTGC.</u>
<u>2200</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>270°T, 269.5°G.</u> <u>275°PSTGC.</u>
		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

1400 Sighted unknown vessel bearing 255°T, Distance about 15 miles.

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: Feb. 26, 1945.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

None

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~now~~) included.

W. B. Fletcher, Jr.  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date February 27, 1943.

En Route From BORA BORA To VILA

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: CenTransGroup, SoPac, 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Directs unit to proceed to Vila.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17° -47'S 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. At Anchor  
Long. 168-14E Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course VARIOUS and distance 292 Miles made  
- good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 270°T, 269.5°G, 271°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knots

Position in Formation: on line of bearing, 90°, 1000 yards Dist.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0702</u>	<u>Course Various</u> TO _____
<u>0838</u>	<u>Anchored, FIJA HARBOR, EFATC Isalnd,</u> <u>New Hebrides</u> TO _____
_____	TO _____
_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0537</u>	<u>Formation to form 18.</u>

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

**NONE**

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

**NONE**

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

**0700 - 2 DD's, Cruiser, and plane escort vessel sighted-  
Task Unit 62.4**

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

**NONE**

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: February 27, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:-

NONE

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date February 28, 1943.

En Route From Anchored FILA HARBOUR, Efate Is. New Herbrides.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD. TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directs unit to proceed to Vila.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: At Anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>AT ANCHOR</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>AT ANCHOR</u>	_____

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

2010-U.S.S. ABRARA UNDERWAY

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE







1747

Reg. No.	411
U.S. No.	

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

F28

W A R      D I A R Y

U . S . S .    L I B R A ( A K A 1 2 )

Month of

MARCH

1943.

*[Handwritten signature]*

48686

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 1, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor, FALA HARBOUR, TEFATE IS. New Hebrides.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62 SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: CemTransGroup, SoPac, 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directs unit to proceed to VILA.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: Anchor

0800 Lat. At Anchor. 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_  
Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>At Anchor</u>	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1112- U.S.S. ADBARA Shifted Berth  
1635- U.S.S. PINKNEY Standing In.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 2, 1943.

En Route ~~FDrom~~ Anchored, Vila Harbour 7° FATE IS, New Hebrides.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmohibFor, SoPac

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 190203

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directs unit to proceed to Vila**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: Anchor

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course Anchored Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>Anchored</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<b>NONE--Anchored</b>	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

**NONE**

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

**NONE**

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

**1012 - U.S.S. PINKNEY Underway**

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

**NONE**





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 3, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor Vila Harbor, ~~to~~ Efate Is., New Hebrides.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 1900203.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directs Unit to proceed to Vila.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LGT) At: At Anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: At Anchor.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
_____	_____	TO _____
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

TIME : CHANGED

**At Anchor**

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

**None**

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

**None**

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

**None**

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

**None**



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 4, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At anchor, Fila Harbor, Efate Is., New Hebrides.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, So Pac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs AmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD. TRACY.**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. Despatch 030029/ March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directs unit to proceed at daybreak March 4th from Fila to Noumea with embarked 4th Def. Bn.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 18°-08' S 1200 Lat. 19°-07' S 2000 Lat. 21°-02' S

Long. 168°-14' E Long. 168°-14' E Long. 168°-35' E

(b) Course Various and distance 96 miles made good since ~~departure~~ anchorage.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0558</u>	Underway, Course Variable, 15 knots S.S.
<u>0640</u>	To Base Course & Speed TO <u>180°G, 180.5°T.</u>
<u>1610</u>	Course TO <u>162.5°G, 162°T.</u>
<u>2210</u>	Course TO <u>212.5°G, 212°T.</u>
	<u>175°PSTGC.</u>
	<u>143°PSTGC.</u>
	<u>217°PSTGC.</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0628</u>	Signal for Form 9.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1143 Sighted Tug towing 2 barges, Friendly.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 5-1943.

En Route <sup>New</sup> From Fila, Efate Is. Hebrides To Noumea, New Caledonia.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62. SOPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor. SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62/4.1.

Composition of Unit:  
**LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN.**  
**DD TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. despatch 030029/March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Directs unit to proceed to Noumea from Fila with embarked 4th Def. Bn.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 23°-37'S. 1200 Lat. 23°-01½' S 2000 Lat. At Anchor.

Long. 167°-11'E. Long. 166°-31' E. Long. "

(b) Course Various and distance 354 Miles. made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:



## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 212°T, 212.5°G. 217 PSTGC Standard Speed 15 Knots.Position in Formation: Form 9, 1000 yds Distance.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0735</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>242°T, 242.5°G.</u> <u>232°PSTGC.</u>
<u>0805</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>300°T, 300.5°G.</u> <u>300°PSTGC.</u>
<u>1000</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>340°T, 340.5°G.</u> <u>335°PSTGC.</u>
<u>1339</u>	) c/c Various to Anchorage in	
<u>1601</u>	) berth 39, Noumea, New Caledonia. TO	

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>1339</u>	<u>Formation to Form 18.</u>

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

1215 Sighted ship and aircraft bearing 243°T, Friendly.  
 1320 Sighted 2 ships and DD bearing 301°T, Friendly.

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 5, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

**Received ComTransGroup, SoPac, mailgram 050436/March regarding loading of troops and equipment of 4th Def.Bn., Tank platoon.**

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*

W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 6, 1943

En Route From At Anchor, Noumea, New Caledonia.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.
- (b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.
- (c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD TRACY

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, Mailgram <sup>052315</sup>~~050000~~/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

*Task Unit 62.4.1 depart Noumea prior to 0700 Z, March 6, proceed to Wellington, N.Z., by direct route, arriving during daylight.*

3. (a) Ship's Position (LOT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. 23°01'S

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. 166°30.5'E

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1557</u>	<u>Underway-Course and Speed</u>	TO <u>Various</u>
<u>1750</u>	To <u>Standard speed</u>	TO <u>84 R.P.M., 15 Knots</u>
<u>1802</u>	To <u>base course</u>	TO <u>165°T, 166°G, 147°</u> <u>P STGC</u>
		TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>1802</u>	To Form 9, 1000 yds. interval.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 7, 1943.

En Route From Noumea, New Caledonia To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN.**  
**DD TRACY.**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup SoPac, Mailgram 052315

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Task Unit 62.4.1 depart Noumea prior to 0700 Z, March 6, proceed to Wellington, N.Z., by direct route, arriving during daylight.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 25°-37' S. 1200 Lat. 26°-38' S. 2000 Lat. 28°-21.5'S  
Long. 167°-18'E. Long. 167°-33' E. Long. 168°-17 E.

(b) Course Various and distance 277 miles made good since ~~previous noon~~. Anchorage.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

**Strong head winds, force 6 / , and confused sea, result in marked reduction of speed.**

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 165°T, 166°G, 144°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knots.

Position in Formation: On line of bearing 90°, Distance 1000 yds.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1100</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>160°T, 161°G,</u> <u>140°PSTGC</u>
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>None</u>	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 8, 1943.

En Route From Noumea, New Caledonia To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**DD TRACY.**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup SoPac, Mailgram 052315

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Task Unit 62.4.1 depart Noumea prior 0700 Z, Mar. 6, proceed to Wellington, N.Z. by direct route, arriving during daylight.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 31°-03' S 1200 Lat. 31°-48.5' S 2000 Lat. 33°-27' S.

Long. 169°-16' E. Long. 169°-35' E. Long. 170°-28' E.

(b) Course 161°T and distance 327 miles made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

**Rough to moderate Southeasterly sea. Strong Southeasterly winds.**

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 160°T, 161°G, 135°PSTGC. 84 RPM,  
Standard Speed 15 knots.

Position in Formation: On line of Bearing 90°, Distance 1000 yds.

## (b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0600</u>	<u>Speed</u>	TO <u>81 RPM, 14.5 knots.</u>
<u>1630</u>	<u>Speed</u>	TO <u>84 RPM, 15 knots.</u>
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

## (c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<b>None</b>	

## (d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

**None**

## (e) Summary of Contacts:-

**None**

## (f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

**None**

## (g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

**None**



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 9, 1943.

En Route From NOUMEA, New Caledonia To Wellington, N. Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

HENRY T. ALLEN

DD TRACY

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: COMTRANSGROUP, SoPac, MAILGRAM 052315 March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Task unit 62.4.1 depart Noumea prior 0700 ~~s~~, March 6, proceed to Wellington, N. Z., by Direct Route, arriving during daylight.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 36°-15'S 1200 Lat. 37°-15'S 2000 Lat. 38°-48.5'S

Long. 171°-46'E Long. 172°-115'E Long. 173°-62'E

(b) Course 158°T and distance 350 Miles made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course: 160°T, 161°G, 140°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knots

Position in Formation: On line of bearing 90°, interval 1000 yards.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>2230</u>	<u>Speed</u>	TO <u>14 knots, 78RPM</u>
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
NONE	

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE





DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 10, 1943

En Route From Noumea, New Caledonia To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD TRACY

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, Mailgram 052315, March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Task Unit 62.4.1 depart Noumea prior 0700 Z, March 6, proceed to Wellington, N.Z., by direct route, arriving during daylight.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 41°-24.5'S 1200 Lat. At anchor 2000 Lat. At anchor  
Long. 174°-35'E Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course Various and distance 280 miles made good since previous noon, to anchorage

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 160°T, 160.5°G, 131 PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knots  
 Position in Formation: On line of bearing, 90° distance 1000 yds.

## (b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>2400</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>145°T, 145.5°G,</u> <u>115°PSTGC</u>
<u>0530</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>185°T, 185.5°G,</u> <u>171°PSTGC</u>
<u>0744</u>	<u>Course and speed various to</u>	TO _____
	<u>anchorage, 0947. Moored, 1105</u>	TO _____

## (c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>2400</u>	<u>Formation to Form 18.</u>

## (d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

## (e) Summary of Contacts:-

0545 Friendly aircraft.

## (f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1655 GRAYSON (D435) standing out.

## (g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 10, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

None

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 11, 1943

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor ~~xxx~~ Wellington, N. Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, Sopac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs. AmphibFor, SoPac

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD TRACY

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 090956/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Libra assigned five days ship's force upkeep at Wellington, N.Z.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: Wellington, N.Z.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed                     

Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	TO <u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	TO <u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	TO <u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	TO <u>                    </u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1150 CRESCENT CITY underway--Stood out.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 11, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

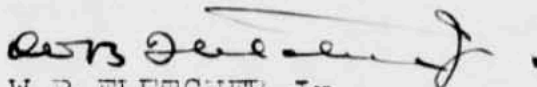
	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:-

NONE

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 12, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor W/ Wellington, N. Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs AmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD TRACY

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 090956/March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Libra assigned five days ship's force upkeep at Wellington, N.Z.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. at Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. at Anchor  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:



4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
NONE, At Anchor	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 12, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

NONE

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 13, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor W/ Wellington, N. Z

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1

Composition of Unit: LIBRA  
HENRY T. ALLEN  
DD Tracy

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: COMTRANSGROUP, SoPac, 090956/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Libra assigned five days ship's force upkeep at Wellington, N.Z.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At anchor 1200 Lat. at Anchor 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 13, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>


6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

Libra despatch to ComTransGroupSoPac 122335/March, info. ComSeronSoPac, reports readiness to depart at 0400 L -15th and lists cargo on board.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

NONE

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~are~~) included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 14, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor Z/6 Wellington, N. Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphibFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: 62.4.1.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**  
**HENRY T. ALLEN**  
**TRACY**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac, 090956/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Libra assigned five days ship's force upkeep at Wellington, N.Z.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

**At Anchor.**

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

1300 - HENRY T. ALLEN Underway from alongside dock.

1635 - HENRY T. ALLEN standing out of harbour.

Task Group 62.4.1 assumed to have been dissolved upon departure of HENRY T. ALLEN.

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE



DAILY WAR DIARY

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 14, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                                </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                                </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                                </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                                </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                                </u>

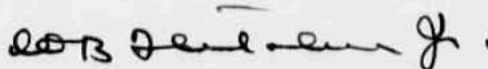
6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

**NONE**

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in  
action reports:-

**NONE**

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and  
874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~are~~) included.



W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date Mar. 15, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv. 8

Composition of Unit:

**LIBRA.**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. 090956, March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Libra assigned five days Ship's Force upkeep at Wellington, N.Z.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At Anchor. 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor. Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

TIME ; CHANGED

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1410 DD TRACY underway from Mooring.

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 16, 1943

En Route From At anchor To Wellington, N.Z.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.
- (b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.
- (c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv 8.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. despatch 150304/March.
- (b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Directs LIBRA to depart Wellington prior 0600 Z, 16th March to arrive Noumea daylight local, 20th March. Escort to join on March 19th local time.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. 40°-52'S  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. 174°-25'E

- (b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.
- (c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
1507	Underway from alongside dock	To Magnetic Range.
1643	Underway from Mag. Range.	Various Courses
		SS. 15.5 knots.
1704	Course	TO 257°T, 257.5°G, (259°PSTGC)
1724	Course	TO 280°T, 280.5°G, (279°PSTGC)
1746	Course	TO 325°T, 325.5°G, (312°PSTGC)
<del>1811</del>	1811-Course	To 000°T, 000.5°G, (339°PSTGC)
<u>TIME</u>	1944- <u>CHANGED</u>	To Base Course, 335°T, 335.5°G, 313°PSTGC

(c) Changes in Formation : NONE.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 16, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

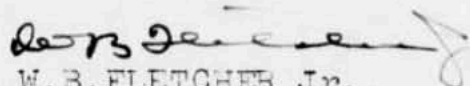
	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

LIBRA departure report 152355/March, giving local noon position for 18th and 19th and reporting estimated arrival Dumbea Bay 0800 local, 20th.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxxx~~) included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description -12 Date March 17, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Noumea, New Caledonia.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivs Amph For, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv. 8.

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA.**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. despatch 150304/March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Directs LIBRA to depart Wellington prior 0600 Z, 16th March to arrive Noumea daylight local, 20th March. Escort to join on March 19th local time.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 37°-58'S 1200 Lat. 37°-00'S 2000 Lat. 35°-20'S.

Long. 172°-45'E. Long. 172°-13'E. Long. 170°-54'E.

(b) Course Various and distance 311 miles made.  
good ~~since previous~~ departure.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

**Moderate S.W. swell.**

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 17, 1943.

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 335°T, 335.5°G, 319°PSTGC Standard Speed 15.5 knots 87 R.P.M.

Position in Formation: Singly.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0213</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>340°T, 340.5°G,</u> <u>324°PSTGC.</u>
<u>1402</u>	<u>Speed</u>	TO <u>15knots 84 R.P.M.</u>
<u>1800</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>270°T, 270.5°G,</u> <u>269°PSTGC.</u>
<u>2000</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>346°T, 346.5°G,</u> <u>330°PSTGC.</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 18, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Noumea, New Caledonia.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 62, SoPac.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv. 8

Composition of Unit:

**LIBRA**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac. despatch 150304/March.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

Directs LIBRA to depart Wellington, N.Z. prior 0600 Z, 16th March to arrive Noumea daylight local, 20th March. Escort to join March 19th local Time.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 32°-27.5' S 1200 Lat. 31°-31' S 2000 Lat. 29°-39' S

Long. 169°-51' E. → Long. 169°-30' E. Long. 168°-54' E.

(b) Course 338° T. and distance 355 Miles. made

good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 346°T, 346.5°G, 333°PSTGC. Standard Speed 15 knots.

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1830</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>350°T, 351°G, 337°PSTGC.</u>
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 19, 1943.

En Route From Wellington, N. Z. To Noumea, New Caledonia

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivsAmphFor, SoPac.

(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv 8

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac Despatch 150304/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs Libra to depart Wellington, N.Z. prior 0600 Z, 16th March to arrive Noumea daylight local, 20th March. Escort T. Join March 19th., local time.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 26°41'S 1200 Lat. 25°59'S 2000 Lat. 24°22'S  
Long. 167°55'E Long. 167°21'E Long. 166°14E

(b) Course 341°T and distance 350 miles made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

Wind SSE-Gale Force  
Heavy swells from S.E.



## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 350°T, 351°G, PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knotsPosition in Formation: Singly

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>0630</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>TO 330°T, 331°G, 323°PSTGC</u>
<u>0630</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>TO 14 knots, 78RPM</u>
<u>1710</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>TO 12 knots, 67 RPM</u>
<u>1730</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>TO 000°T, 001°G, 347°PSTGC</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 19, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

W. B. Fletcher Jr.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 20, 1943

En Route From Wellington, N.Z. To Noumea, New Caledonia

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF62, SoPac

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransDivAmphFor, SoPac

(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv 8

Composition of Unit: LIBRA

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, SoPac despatch 150304/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directs Libra to depart Wellington, N.Z. prior 0600 Z, 16th March to arrive Noumea Daylight, 20th March.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. 22°-17' 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. At Anchor  
Long. 166°-25' Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course Various and distance 238.5 miles made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

SE to N. moderating swells.

*Correct*

*1(a) -*

*To CT 732, 3<sup>RD</sup> Fleet*

*FROM*

*APRIL 16 - 43*

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 000°T, 061°G, 346°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knotsPosition in Formation: Singly

## (b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
0430	Course	055°T, 056°G, 037°PSTGC
0505	Course	TO 060°T, 061°G, 040°PSTGC
0505	Speed	15 knots
0530	Course	TO 075°T, 076°G, 055°PSTGC
0600	Course	TO 040°T, 041°G,
0621	Course	TO 030°T
and various courses to anchorage.		
Grand Quay Dock, Noumea, New Caledonia.		

## (c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
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NONE

## (d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

## (e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

## (f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

## (g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 20, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

Received ComTransGroup, SoPac, mailgram 200842/March concerning loading of Libra and prospective itinerary.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~are~~) included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 21, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor At Nooumea, New Caledonia

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF32, 3rd Fleet

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroupAmphFor, 3rd Fleet

(c) Designation of Unit: TRANSDIV 8

Composition of Unit:

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: COMTRANSGROUP, 3rd Fleet, Mailgram 200842/March

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At anchor 1200 Lat. At anchor 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course Moored Standard Speed Moored

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>Moored</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
Moored	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 21, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

Com. 3rd Flt. 200050/March assigns Mustin and Hughes as escort for LIBRA and CRESCENT CITY.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not ~~(xxxx)~~ included.

*W.B. Fletcher Jr.*

W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 22, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ Moored To Noumea, New Caledonia.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 32, 3rd Fleet.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroupAmphFor, 3rd Fleet.  
(c) Designation of Unit: TransDiv 8.

Composition of Unit:

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: ComTransGroup, 3rd Fleet, Mailgram 200842/Mar.  
(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Loading plan at Noumea, Fila (Efate), and Espiritu Santo.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. Moored 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. 22°-56'S  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. 166°-22'E

- (b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.  
(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course Moored Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
0801	Underway from mooring at Grand Quay Anchorage.
0843	Anchorage, Berth B-45, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.
1630	Underway from anchorage, course and speed various
1744	Speed TO <u>SS 15kts. 84 rpm.</u>
1813	Course to Base 189°T, 190°G, 180°PSTGC.
2023	Course Base 136°T, 137°G, 113°PSTGC.
2350	Base Course TO <u>090°T, 091°G.</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
1630	Took position 700 yards astern of CRESCENT CITY.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

1600 Formed Task Unit 32.4.6 (Capt. Sullivan) CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA; -MUSTIN and HUGHES as escort.

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 22, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

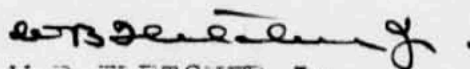
- (a) ComTransGroup, 3rdFlt, Mailgram 212114/March, forming Task Unit 32.4.6 (Capt. Sullivan) CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA, MUSTIN, HUGHES; regarding landing; and route to Guadalcanal via Efate, and Espiritu Santo; and return to Noumea.
- (b) ComTask Unit 32.4.6 Op Order 2-43.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in

action reports:-

Completed loading cargo and troops and passengers 0230.  
Completed loading boats and stores 1425.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.



W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

## DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 23, 1943.En Route From Moumea, New Caledonia To Fila, (EFATE)

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF32, 3rd. Fleet  
 (b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: ComTransGroup, 3rd. Fleet  
 (c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA DD MUSTIN  
 CRESCENT CITY DD HUGHES

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
 immediate superior: (a) COMTRANSGR. 3rd Fleet mailgram 212114/March.  
 (b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation Order No 2-43.  
 (b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
 Directions regarding loading, and route to Guadalcanal via  
 EFATE, and ESPIRITU SANTO; and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
 0800 Lat. 22°50'S 1200 Lat. 22°00'S 2000 Lat. 20°13'S  
 Long. 168°42'E Long. 168°53'E Long. 168°45'E

(b) Course Various and distance 262 miles made  
 good since ~~previous~~ anchorage.

- (c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
 affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course 090°T, 091°G, 063°PSTC Standard Speed 15 knotsPosition in Formation: Column Formation, Libra 2nd ship. Distance 700 yards.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0223</u>	Course <u>TO 060°T, 061°G, 35PSTGC</u>
<u>0730</u>	Course <u>TO 022°T, 023°G, 033PSTGC</u>
<u>0820</u>	Course <u>013°T, 014°G, 355PSTGC</u>
<u>1149</u>	Course (Emergency) <u>TO 350°T.</u>
<u>1157</u>	Course <u>013°T, 014°G, 355PSTGC</u>
<u>1400</u>	Course <u>TO 349°T, 350°G, 337°PSTGC</u>

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
NONE	

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

1148 <sup>Sound</sup> ~~Submarine~~ contact by HUGHES; results negative.

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

none

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 23, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>5 rounds-practice</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>68 rounds-practice</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

NONE

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~XXX~~) included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 24, 1943.

En Route from Noumea, New Caledonia To FILA (Ebate)

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF32, 3rd. Fleet

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon COMTRANSROUP, 3rd. Fleet.

(c) Designation of Unit 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA** DD MUSTIN  
**CRESCENT CITY** DD HUGHES

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: (a) ConTransgr. 3rd. Fleet mailgram 212114/March  
(b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation Order No 2-43.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:

**Directions regarding leading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Ebate, and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. 17°48'S 1200 Lat. at anchor 2000 Lat. at anchor

Long 168°-10'E Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

- (a) Base Course 349°T, 350°G, 337°PSTGC Standard Speed 15 knots  
 Position in Formation: Column Formation, Libra 2nd ship, distance  
700 yards.
- (b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<u>0631 Ceased Zig-Zag</u>	<u>Course and Speed TO Various</u>
<u>0925 Navigated independently</u>	<u>Course <del>10</del> and speed</u>
	<u>various to anchorage.</u>
<u>1044 Anchored, Undine Bay, Efate.</u>	<u>TO</u>
	<u>TO</u>

- (c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<b>NONE</b>	

- (d) Changes in composition of Unit:-  
**NONE**

- (e) Summary of Contacts:-  
**NONE**

- (f) Brief of operations of other Units:-  
**NONE**

- (g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-  
**NONE**



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description - 11 Date March 25, 1945

En Route From At Anchor To Undine Bay, Efate

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: TF 32, 3rd Fleet

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: Trans Group, 3rd Fleet

(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA HUGHES  
CRESCENT CITY (CTU) MUSTIN

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the 212114/March  
immediate superior: (a) ComTransGroup, 3rd Fleet Mailgram  
(b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation order No. 2-43

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions Regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Efate and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. At Anchor

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
At Anchor, none	

At Anchor, none

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

At Anchor, none

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

none

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

none

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

none

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 25, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

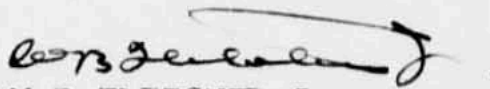
	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	_____	_____
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>N</u> _____	_____
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>O</u> <u>N</u> _____	_____
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>E</u> _____	_____
(e) Depth Charges	_____	_____

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Continued loading Cargo

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (are) included.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 26, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor To \_\_\_\_\_

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: TF 32, 3rd. Fleet

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd. Fleet

(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA MUSTIN  
CRESCENT CITY HUGHES

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: (a) COMTRANSGROUP, 3rd Fleet mailgram 212114/Mar.  
(b) CTU 32.4.6 operation order No. 2-43.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Efate, and Espirito Santo, and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. At anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:



4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

NONE

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

NONE

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

NONE

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

NONE

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

NONE

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 26, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

Received CTF 34 despatch 260839/March concerning unloading at Koli Point.

Received for info. CTU 32.4.6 despatch 252359/March concerning delay of 24 hours in departure Undine Bay.

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Continued loading cargo through out day and night.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not ~~(XXXX)~~ included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*

W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 27, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor. To Undine Bay, Efate.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: TF 32, 3rd Flt.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd Fleet.

(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA MUSTIN  
CRESCENT CITY (CTU) HUGHES

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
(a) ComTransGroup, 3rd Flt. Mailgram 212114/March.  
immediate superior: (b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation Order No. 2-43.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Efate and Espiritu Santo and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: At Anchor.

0800 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_ : At Anchor.

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>A T A N C H O R.</u>		TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
-------------	----------------

At Anchor.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 27, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

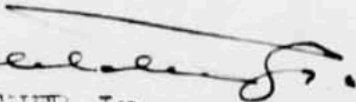
	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u></u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Continued loading cargo throughout day and night.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 28, 1943.

En Route From Fila (Ebate) To Espiritu Santo.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 32-3rd Fleet.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd Fleet.  
(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit:

LIBRA MUSTIN  
CRESCENT CITY (CTU) HUGHES

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: (a) ComTransGr, 3rd Flt. Mailgram 212114/March.  
(b) C.T.U. 32.4.6 Operation Order.

- (b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via Ebate, and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0300 Lat. 17° 14'S 1200 Lat. 16°-20'S 2000 Lat. 15°-28'S.  
Long. 168°-07'E. Long. 167°-51½'E. (At Anchor) Long. 167°-14'E.

- (b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance 87 Miles. made good since ~~previous~~ anchorage.

- (c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
0542	Underway, Course and speed	Various.
<u>0647</u>	<u>St. S.</u>	TO <u>15.5kts. 87 RPM.</u>
0647	To Base Course	335°T, 336°G, 325°PSTGC
<u>0841</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>000°T, 001°G, 318°</u> PSTGC
<u>1153</u>	<u>Course</u>	TO <u>336°T, 337°G, 325°</u> PSTGC
<u>1604</u>	<u>Course &amp; Speed</u>	TO <u>Various to</u> Anchorage Pallikula Bay

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
	2nd Ship in column ,Distance 700 yards.

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

0921 HUGHES reported Submarine, Sound - Negative.

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

1430 - Sighted HUNTER LIGGETT with escort (MAURY)

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None.



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 28, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	None _____	_____
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	None _____	_____
(c) 20mm AAMG	None _____	_____
(d) .30 Cal.	None _____	_____
(e) Depth Charges	None _____	_____

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

None

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description 11 Date March 29, 1943.

En Route ~~From~~ At Anchor ~~For~~ Pallikula Bay.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 32, 3rd Fleet.

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd Fleet.

(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA MUSTIN  
CRESCENT CITY (CTU) HUGHES.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: (a) ComTransGr. 3rd Flt. Mailgram 212114/March.  
(b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation Order No. 2-43.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Efate and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: Anchor

0800 Lat. At Anchor. 1200 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_ 2000 Lat. \_\_\_\_\_

Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 29, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

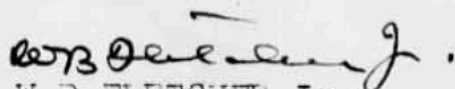
	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                    </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

Loading Cargo.

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not ~~included~~ included.

  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 30, 1943.

En Route From At anchor 77 Pallikula Bay

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 32, 3rd. Fleet

(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd. Fleet

(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: **LIBRA** **MUSTIN**  
**USS CRESCENT CITY (CTU)** **HUGHES**

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the immediate superior: (a) ComTransGroup 3rd. Fleet, Mailgram 212114/Mar. (b) CTU 32.4.6 operation order No 2-43.

(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
**Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via Efate and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.**

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_

0800 Lat. at anchor 1200 Lat. at anchor 2000 Lat. at anchor  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made good since previous noon.

(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have affected the mission:

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 30, 1943.

4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>1553</u>	<u>underway from anchorage in</u>	TO _____
	<u>Pallikula Bay, Espiritu Santo, to</u>	TO _____
	<u>anchorage, bert 22, Segound Channel.</u>	TO _____
<u>1748</u>	<u>Anchored.</u>	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
<b>NONE</b>	

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

**NONE**

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

**NONE**

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

**NONE**

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 30, 1943

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>NONE</u>	<u></u>

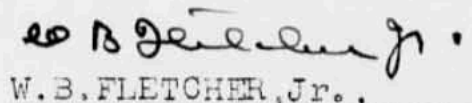
6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:  
**Received from Mag 21 copy of ComTransGroup, 3rd Fleet mailgram 231126 regarding priority loading of soil stabilizer.**

**Received Com3rd. Fleet despatch 300025, and ComTransGroup 3020555 substituting Morris for Mustin and Sterrett for Hughes upon arrival in Solomons.**

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

**Continued loading cargo.**

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.



W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.



DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)

Time Zone Description -11 Date March 31, 1943.

En Route From At Anchor 7/ Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo.

1. (a) Designation of Major Task Force or Fleet: CTF 32, 3rd Fleet.  
(b) Designation of Next Higher Echelon: TransGroup, 3rd Fleet.  
(c) Designation of Unit: 32.4.6

Composition of Unit: LIBRA MUSTIN  
CRESCENT CITY (CTU) HUGHES.

2. (a) The operation plan or order (despatch) of the  
immediate superior: (a) ComTransGr 3rd Flt. Mailgram 212114/March.  
(b) CTU 32.4.6 Operation Order No. 2-43.  
(b) Brief of the directive(s) contained therein:  
Directions regarding loading and route to Guadalcanal via  
Efate and Espiritu Santo, and return to Noumea.

3. (a) Ship's Position (LCT) At: \_\_\_\_\_  
0800 Lat. At Anchor 1200 Lat. At Anchor 2000 Lat. At Anchor  
Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_ Long. \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) Course \_\_\_\_\_ and distance \_\_\_\_\_ made  
good since previous noon.  
(c) Notes on meteorological conditions (if any) which may have  
affected the mission:

## 4. Brief of Day's Operations:-

(a) Base Course At Anchor Standard Speed \_\_\_\_\_Position in Formation: At Anchor

(b) Changes in course and Speed:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>	
<u>At Anchor</u>	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____
_____	_____	TO _____

(c) Changes in Formation:-

<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHANGED</u>
None	

None

(d) Changes in composition of Unit:-

None

(e) Summary of Contacts:-

None

(f) Brief of operations of other Units:-

None

(g) Important information of own or enemy forces:-

None

DAILY WAR DIARY

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Date: March 31, 1943.

5. Service Ammunition expended:-

	<u>IN ACTION</u>	<u>LOSS OR DESTRUCTION</u>
(a) 5"/51 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                                </u>
(b) 3"/50 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                                </u>
(c) 20mm AAMG	<u>None</u>	<u>                                </u>
(d) .30 Cal.	<u>None</u>	<u>                                </u>
(e) Depth Charges	<u>None</u>	<u>                                </u>

6. Summary of Important Orders received and decisions reached:

7. Remarks on materials and operational features not included in action reports:-

**Continued loading Cargo.**

8. Action Reports and reports required by Articles 712(2)(3) and 874(6), USN Regs. are not (~~xxx~~) included.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday, 1, April, 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION 11

**REMARKS**  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000 - 0400 : Anchored in Second Channel berth 22, Espiritu Santo in 15 fathoms of water with 60 fathom of chain to starboard anchor. Anchorage bearings Beacon "L" 12° T; Beacon "X" 133° T; Beacon "H" 75° T. Continued loading No.4 hatch. All other hatches loaded.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400 - 0800 : Anchored as before, continued loading No.4 hatch.

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800- 1200 : Continued loading No.4 hatch. 1015 completed all loading. 1124 Underway in obedience to ComTransGroup3rdFleet despatch 212114 of March, 1943 in company Task Unit 32.4.8, CRESCENT CITY (C.T.U.) followed by LIBRA. Captain conning, Navigator and Executive Officer on the bridge. Standing out of Espiritu Santo (Second Channel), on various courses conforming to the Channel and at various speeds. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM. 25.

*J.E. Moloney*  
Boatman J.E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1200 - 1600 : Underway as before, various courses and speeds standing out to sea. 1215 passed through the mine field. 1235 joined by destroyer escort, MUSTIN and HUGHES, who took position on each bow. 1303 with the middle of Tutuba Island abeam to port distance 1.3 miles changed course to 354° true, S/S 15 knots, and commenced Z.Z. Plan 12 (1940 diagram) taking position 15° on port quarter of CRESCENT CITY, (guide) distance 600 yards. 1530 ceased Z.Z. 1538 with Sakau Island abeam to port, distance 4.8 miles, changed course to 307° true. 1543 changed standard speed to 15.5 knots. 1555 commenced Z.Z. Plan 12 (1940 diagram). Av.Steam 450; Av. RPM. 82.2.

*H.K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.K. PEPPER, D-V(G) USNR.

1600- 1800 : Steaming as before on base course 307° true at S/S 15.5 knots. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 85.

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800 - 2000 : Steaming as before on base course 307° true at S/S 15.5 knots. 1850 ceased Z.Z. 1900 Changed course to 323° true and changed speed to 15.0 knots. Av.Steam 450 ; Av.RPM. 84.

*W.C. Lyons*  
Ensign W.C. LYONS, U.S.N.

2000-Position: Lat. 14°-16' S.  
Long. 166°-29' E.

2000 - 2400 : Steaming as before on base course 323° true at S/S 15.0 knots. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 82.8.

*J.E. Moloney*  
Boatman J.E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

Approved: *W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED  
12  
22  
26

CONFIDENTIALUNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Friday

2

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000 - 0400 : Steaming in formation on line of bearing  $195^{\circ}$  relative, distance 600 yards, with Task Unit 32.4.6 CRESCENT CITY (OTU and guide) followed by LIBRA. Destroyers MUSTIN and HUGHES on each bow as screen. Standard Speed 15.0 on base course  $323^{\circ}$ T, Boilers 1 and 2 in use; ship darkened and condition of readiness three; 0315 commenced Z.Z., plan 12 (1940 diagram). Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 82.5.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400 - 0800 : Steaming as before on base course  $323^{\circ}$ T, at S/S 15.0 knots. 0558 C/S to 15.5 knots. 0700 ceased Z.Z. 0702 C/S to 15.0 and C/C to  $325^{\circ}$ true. 0706 commenced Z.Z., plan 16 (1940 diagram). Av.Steam 450 lbs. Av.RPM 84.8

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-Position: Lat.  $16^{\circ}-51.5'S$ .  
Long.  $164^{\circ}-34'E$ .

0800 - 1200 : Steaming as before on base course  $325^{\circ}$ true at 15.0 knots. 1017 sighted friendly ship and escort bearing  $020^{\circ}$ True. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 82.5.

*W.C. Lyons*  
Ensign W.C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1200-Position: Lat.  $11^{\circ}-09'S$ .  
Long.  $164^{\circ}-01'E$ .

1200 - 1600 : Steaming as before on base course  $325^{\circ}$ true at 15.0 knots. 1250 ceased Z.Z. 1300 C/C to  $296^{\circ}$ true. 1303 commenced Z.Z. plan 16(1940 diagram). 1327 sighted unidentified aircraft bearing  $050^{\circ}$ true; 1340 sighted friendly aircraft bearing  $270^{\circ}$ true. 1530 C/S to 15.5 knots. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 82.

*J.E. Moloney*  
Ensign J.E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1600 - 1800 : Steaming as before on base course  $296^{\circ}$ true at standard speed 15.5 knots. 1655 sighted San Cristobal Island bearing  $260^{\circ}$ true approximate distance 40 miles. Av Steam 450; Av RPM 86.5

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800 - 2000 : Steaming as before on base course  $296^{\circ}$  true at standard speed 15.5 knots. 1900 ceased Z.Z. and took position in column open order. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 85.

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-Position: Lat.  $10^{\circ}-08.5'S$ .  
Long.  $162^{\circ}-27'E$ .

2000 - 2400 : Steaming as before on base course  $296^{\circ}$  true, at standard speed 15.5 knots. 2113 C/C to  $278^{\circ}$ true; 2215 C/C to  $270^{\circ}$ true; 2350 C/C to  $308^{\circ}$  true. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM.85.5.

*W.C. Lyons*  
Ensign W.C. LYONS, U.S.N.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday 3

April 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming in formation in column open order, distance 600 yards with Task Unit 32.4.6 CRESCENT CITY (CTU and Guide) followed by LIBRA. Destroyers MUSTIN and HUGHES on each bow as screen. Standard speed 15.5 knots, course 308° True. Boilers 1 and 2 in use; ship darkened and condition of readiness three. 0346 C/C to 270° true. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 85.7.

*[Signature]*  
 Ens'n J. J. BOLONEY, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on course 270° true at S/S 15.5 knots. 0418 C/S to 273 (10 knots). 0443 C/C to 260° true and C/S to 15 knots. 0500 sighted light on Yuga Island bearing 285° true. 0510 sighted light on Para Pile Island bearing 274° true. 0532 set condition one (General Quarters). 0539 C/C to 179° true. 0540 C/C to 269° true. 0546 secured from General Quarters, and took Debarcation Stations. 0607 C/C to 250° true and made preparation to anchor proceeding at various courses and speeds to anchorage. 0639 despatch officer boarded ship. 0647 Anchored off Togama Point, Guadalcanal Island in 19 fathoms of water with 45 fathom of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "A" 221.5° T.; Beacon "B" 257.5° True. 0726 all boats lowered in the water and commenced opening all hatches. 0737 U.S.S. VIREO placed PAB 6 on port side forward. 0752 set group "A" for combat discharge of cargo. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 56.6.

*[Signature]*  
 Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Anchored as before, unloading cargo from all holds. 0910 U.S.S. SANDS fired "Y" gun depth charge. 0925 U.S.S. WARD stood in and anchored. 0929 U.S.S. RAIL moored PAB 4 to starboard side. 0930 commenced discharging cargo from No. 3 hold into PAB 4. 0954 Anchor aweigh to shift berth moving with the current. 1003 anchored in 16 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on following bearings: Beacon "A" 241° True; Beacon "J" 124° True. Tavlu Pt. 090° True. 1110 made daily inspection of all magazines and smokeless powder samples. Found condition normal. 1115 U.S.S. VIREO cast off from port side and anchored. 1128 "Condition Red", sounded General Quarters, all boats and barges cleared side. 1140 underway steering various courses and making various speeds in position astern CRESCENT CITY. Standard speed 15.0 knots with T.U. 32.4.6 maneuvering as necessary to avoid air attack. Av.Steam 450; Av.RPM 82.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign W. C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1200-1800 : Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds following movements of Unit Commander (C.T.U. 32.4.6). 1214 all clear sounded. 1218 Secured from General Quarters. 1229 Anchored in 16 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor off Togama Pt., Guadalcanal Island on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 243° true; Beacon "B" 132° true. 1245 received PAB 6 alongside port side. Commenced unloading holds 1 and 2. 1410 received PAB 4 alongside starboard side. Commenced unloading holds 3 and 4.

*[Signature]*  
 Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400 : Anchored as before. 1822 observed sunset, darkened ship.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign W. C. LYONS, U.S.N.

Approved:

*[Signature]*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

4

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000-0600 - Anchored off Koli Point Guadalcanal in 16 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "A" 243° True; beacon "B" 132° True. Ship darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Unloading cargo from holds 1 and 2 into PAB 6 alongside port side and from holds 3 and 4 into PAB 4 alongside starboard side. 0409 air raid alert sounded. Ceased unloading. 0454 All clear sounded. Resumed unloading.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200 - Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from holds Nos. 1, 2, and 4. At 0610 CRESCENT CITY underway to shift anchorage off Lunga Point. At 0655 a Task Unit of 2 CLs and 5 DDe stood in from sea and into Tulagi Harbor. At 0800 mustered crew on stations; Absentees-None. At 0801 the U.S.S. HOVEY and U.S.S. BREESE stood out from Tulagi Harbor and out to sea. At 0910 the U.S.S. WARD, SANDS and AARON WARD stood in and anchored. At 0950 3 P.C. boats and 1 net tender stood out from Tulagi Harbor and out to sea. At 1000 PAB 6 cast off from port side in tow of 2 LCVs. At 1014 "condition red". Went to General Quarters. At 1032 "condition green". Secured from General Quarters. At 1035 resumed discharging cargo. At 1036 made daily inspection of magazines. Condition normal. At 1145 U.S.S. WARD underway.

*W.C. Lyons*  
Ensign W.C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1200-1800 - Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from holds Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. 1337 U.S.S. RAIL came alongside PAB 4 to starboard. 1443 U.S.S. RAIL shoved off with PAB 4. 1522 U.S.S. BREESE stood in and anchored. 1605 U.S.S. VIREO underway with PAB 6 in tow. 1615 U.S.S. AARON WARD stood in and anchored. 1645 U.S.S. AARON WARD stood out. 1700 U.S.S. RAIL stood out.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400 - Anchored as before. Unloading No. 3 hold. 1810 secured No. 3 hold. 1822 ship darkened. 1850 CRESCENT CITY shifted berth. 2250 called alert. 2345 secured from alert.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday  
(Day)5  
(Date)April  
(Month) 19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0600-0400 : Anchored between Togoma Point and Koli Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 20 fathoms of water, sand and coral bottom with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following anchorage bearings. Beacon "A" 243°T, Beacon "B" 132°T. Engine room standing by boilers one and two in use. Ship darkened.

*L. M. Jordan*

Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0600 : Anchored as before. At 0445 commenced making preparation for getting underway. At 0531 underway steaming various courses making various speeds. Standard speed 15 knots enroute Lunga Point. Capt. at conn. Nav. on bridge. Av. RPM. 84.0; Av. Steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0600-1200 : Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds. Captain at conn. Nav. on bridge, enroute from Togoma Point to Lunga Point. 0618 anchored off Lunga Point in 27 fathoms of water with 35 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 255°; Beacon "E" 131°; Beacon "D" 179°. 0625 CRESCENT CITY anchored. 0630 commenced discharging cargo from all holds. 0800 Mustered crew on stations. No Absentees. 0845, USS SANDS stood out. 1030 CRESCENT CITY stood out toward Tulagi. 1130 Made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples. Condition normal. Av. RPM. 84.0; Av. Steam 450.

*H. M. Pepper*

Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-2000 : Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from all holds. At 1201 sighted six(6) ships standing in from sea and into Tulagi Harbor. At 1455 USS STERRETT stood in and anchored. At 1640 sighted 2 OLS and 5DDs standing out of Tulagi Harbor. At 1750 secured from discharging cargo and at 1754 underway from anchorage to night anchorage with Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge, standard speed 15 knots steaming various courses. Draft fwd. 12'6", aft 23'9". At 1822 sunset. Darkened ship. At 1823 commenced steering various courses making various speeds and at 1838 anchored off Togoma Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 12 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 204°T. Beacon "B" 252°T and Beacon "J" 125°T. At 1840 secured sea detail. At 1930 Condition "Red". Av. RPM 84.0; Av. steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

2000-2400 : Anchored as before. 2030 Condition "Green".

*H. M. Pepper*

Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G) USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

6

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY\*

0000-0400 : Anchored off Togoma Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 12 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor, sand and coral bottom, with the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 204°T; Beacon "B" 252°T; and Beacon "J" 125°T. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Engine room standing by. Ship darkened and all holds secured for the night. 0155 blew tubes on boilers 1 and 2. 0200 air-raid alert from shore station. 0218 all clear was sounded.

  
 Boatswain J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

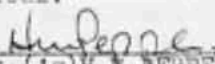
0400-0600 : Anchored as before. 0445 made all preparations for getting underway. 0515 Hove short and 0525 underway for Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands pursuant to previous orders, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge.

  
 Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0600-1200 : Steaming as before on various courses making various speeds approaching anchorage. At 0607 anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 20 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "E" 168.5°T, and Beacon "F" 253°T. At 0620 commenced discharging cargo from all holds. At 0622 XTU 32.4.1 stood in from sea and anchored off Kukum. At 0800 mustered crew on stations, no absentees. At 0825 submarine contact reported between Cape Esperance and Savo Island. At 0830 the USS TAPPANNOCK stood out from Tulagi Harbor and into Kukum. At 0930 secured working #1 hold. At 1100 made daily inspection of magazines, condition normal. Av.RPM 84. Av.Steam 450.

  
 Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1200-1800 : Anchored as before. Unloading holds 2, 3, 4 and 5. 1235 USS AARON WARD stood in. 1304 USS ALGORAB stood out. 1400 secured from unloading #3 hold. 1630 secured from unloading #5 hold. 1635 sighted Task Force of 3 cruisers and 5 destroyers leaving 080°T. 1730 set special sea detail, secured from unloading. 1753 underway from Lunga Point to Togoma Point. Captain at conn. Navigator on bridge. Steaming on various courses at various speeds.


  
 Lieut. (jg) H. A. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400 : Steaming as before, various courses and various speeds. 1820 darkened ship. 1833.5 anchored off Togoma Pt. Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water, sand and coral bottom with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 179°T; Beacon "B" 323°T; Beacon "J" 320°T. 1933 Condition "Red", Gunfire on beach 1934 General Quarters, made preparations for getting underway. 1939 all stations manned and ready. Heavy AA fire from beach. 1940 AA fire noted at Tulagi. 1946 firing ceased at Guadalcanal and Tulagi. 1947 searchlights on beach turned off. 1950 searchlight pointing at target in easterly position. Shore batteries began firing. 1956 firing ceased. 2002 firing began at Tulagi on target bearing south. 2004 firing ceased. 2051 secured from General Quarters, leaving half the AA batteries manned and lookouts remaining at stations. 2331 Condition "Green" Av Steam 450. Av.RPM 28.

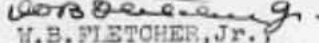
  
 Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

## Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:—

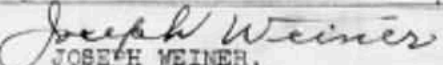
Upon departure of CRESCENT CITY at 1300, Task Unit 32.4.6 dissolved. LIBRA reported to CTU 32.4.4 in ALGORAB in compliance CTF 32 despatch 050246/Apr. and CTU 32.4.6 despatch 050849/Apr. as modified Com.3rd Flt. 061155/April.

  
 Comdr. W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., U.S.N., Comdg.

Approved:

  
 W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

7

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Anchored off Togoma Point, Guadalcanal Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 179°T; Beacon "B" 232°T and Beacon "J" 130°T. Ship darkened. Boilers No 1 and 2 in use. Ships present, Various U.S. Naval and merchant ships. Ship in modified condition III.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0600 : Anchored as before. 0500 made all preparations for getting underway. 0510 set special sea detail. 0515 hove short. 0526 underway for Lunga Pt. Captain at conn. - Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0538 set course 265°T.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(O), USNR.

0600-1200 : Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds. Captain at conn. Navigator on bridge. 0605 anchored off Lunga Pt. in 20 fathoms of water with 50 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 165°T; Beacon "F" 257°T. Commenced unloading holds #2 and #4. 0645 USS GEORGE CLYMER stood in and anchored. 0800 mustered crew on stations, no absentees. 1100 made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples. Condition normal.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before making all preparations for getting underway. 1209 General Quarters sounded. 1213 all stations manned and ready. 1214 anchor aweigh, this Task Unit 32.4.4 underway, consisting of U.S.S. LIBRA (CTU and guide) S.S. WILLIAM WILLIAMS; S.S. LOUIS JOLIET; S.S. DONA NATI and U.S.S. STERRETT as escort following movements of LIBRA. S/S 15 knots, making 2/3 speed. 1220 C/C 114°True. 1228 C/C to 099°True. 1239 C/C 074°true. 1305 C/C to 091°true and entered Lengo Channel. 1400 U.S.S. ADHARA joined T.U. 32.4.4. T.U. 32.4.4 took the following formation: LIBRA, (CTU and guide), leading Column No. 1, followed by S.S. WILLIAM WILLIAMS and S.S. LOUIS JOLIET. U.S.S. ADHARA leading Column No. 2 followed by S.S. DONA NATI, U.S.S. STERRETT acting as screen. 1418 cleared Lengo Channel. 1445 CACTUS reported enemy planes in area. 1450 mustered crew on stations and found 54 men (ship's company) and 16 passengers (Navy enlisted) left behind at Lunga Point with all boats. 1515 sounded General Quarters, observed bomber attack on Henderson Field, Guadalcanal. Captain at Battle Conn. 1517 C/C 135° ships right to 135° true. 1519 all ships opened fire on attacking planes. 1521 ship's right to 180° true. 1522 seven bombing planes attacking from different angles. One bomb fell close on starboard bow of LIBRA and close aboard on port quarter. 1524 all ships ceased firing. C/C to 135° true. 1526 C/C to 090°. U.S.S. FARENHOLT joined this unit. 1527 received word over fighter circuit that U.S.S. KANAWEA was abandoning ship. 1545 C/S to 8.0 knots. Av. steam 450; Av. RPM. 48.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, USNR.

1600-2000 : Steaming as before course 091° at S/S 15.0 knots, steaming at 10 knots. All hands at General Quarters. 1620 changed speed to 10 knots (55 RPM). 1634 set condition II, 2nd and 4th Sections on deck. 1636 tested 3" AA guns #1, 2, 3 & 4. Ammunition expended: 58 rounds 3", 1300 rounds 20mm. Casualties: None. 1637 Task Force consisting of 3 cruisers and six (6) destroyers on converging course to port. 1655 Task Force 18 tested three bursts of AA ammunition. 1717 Changed course to 125°T. 126°G, 106°PSTGC. 1800 U.S.S. TAYLOR & U.S.S. WARD joined this unit. 1816 darkened ship. Upon departure CACTUS fifty-four (54) of ship's company and sixteen (16) passengers (Navy enlisted) and all boats were left behind. 1925 observed searchlight and AA fire in vicinity of CACTUS. 1935 observed unidentified flashes 065°T. (6). 1945 heard aircraft circling over unit. 1950 challenged aircraft found same friendly. Av steam 450. Av. RPM. 52.4.

*A. R. Barton*  
Lieut. A. R. BARTON, D-M, USNR.

Approved: *W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 7 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on course 125° true, S/S 15 knots, 84 RPM, making 2/3 speed, 55 RPM. 2300 C/C to 090° True. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, USNR.

## Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

1000- Upon departure Tulagi, ALGORAE (with REID as escort) became Task Unit 32.4.14.

LIBRA thereupon assumed command Task Unit 32.4.4:- LIBRA, DONA NATI, WILLIAM WILLIAMS, LOUIS JOLIET.

Additional remarks for the day's operations contained in LIBRA ltr. AKA12/A16/A12/(003) of April 9, 1943, a copy of which is attached.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved: W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

~~SECRET~~  
AKA12/A13/A14/(003)

XCOCK(AKA12)  
Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
April 9, 1943.

From: Commander Task Unit 32.4.4.  
(Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA)  
To: Commander-in-Chief, U.S. FLEET.  
Via: (1) Commander Transport Group, Amphibious Force,  
Third Fleet.  
(2) Commander Amphibious Force, Third Fleet.  
(3) Commander Third Fleet.  
(4) Commander Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

References: (a) U.S. Navy Regulations 1920, Art. 712 and 874.  
(b) PACFLT ltrs. 24CL-42 and 36CL-42.  
(c) COMINCH serial 3899 of October 19, 1942, and  
serial 299 of January 23, 1943.

Enclosure: (A) Anti Aircraft Action Report. - Missing

1. At 1000 L, April 7, 1943, upon departure ALBORAN  
(escorted by BKID) from Tulagi, I assumed command of Task Unit  
32.4.4.

(a) Task Unit 32.4.4 was then composed of :

LIBRA discharging cargo at anchor off Lunga Point.  
S.S. WILLIAM WILLIAMS discharging cargo at anchor off  
Lunga Point.  
S.S. LOUIS JOLIET discharging cargo at anchor off  
Tenaru River.  
S.S. DONA NATI discharging cargo at anchor off Koli Pt.  
SHERRETT, escort, patrolling anchorage off Koli Pt.

(b) Transports of Task Unit 32.4.1 (SOPA in HUNTER LIGHTER)  
anchored east of Koli Pt.  
TAPPANNOCK (T.U. 32.1.3) discharging at Kukus.  
ABARA (T.U. 32.4.5) loading off Tenaru.

2. At 1210 L, a signal from C.T.U. 32.4.1 (SOPA) was received  
to take charge of T.U. 32.4.4 and get underway immediately. This  
was followed immediately by a similar signal from the shore signal  
station at Lunga Point.

7

(1)

9



April 9, 1943.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

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- 1214 L - LEBNA underway. Signal sent to Task Unit to get underway immediately and follow me. Easterly courses permitting ships to join.  
Went to General Quarters.
- 1214 L - Received decode of Cincpac's 070025.
- 1215 L - Received decode of Commander 3rd Fleet 070004 directing CTF 32 to withdraw all ships from Guadalcanal Area. Observed Task Unit 32.4.1 to eastward standing out of Lengo Channel.
- 1215 - Observed Task Force 18 standing out of Tulagi and to westward.
- 1220 - Task Unit 32.4.5 (ADHARA) standing to eastward for Lengo Channel.  
DONA NATI of this unit underway standing to eastward through Lengo Channel.
- 1230 - WILLIAM WILLIAMS and LOUIS JOLIST formed column astern. Got speed 10 knots.
- 1300 - Suggested to ADHARA that she join my unit, thus doubling destroyer screen (I did not see WARD assigned as screen for Task Unit 32.4.5 but assumed she would join up).
- 1315 - ADHARA maneuvered to join formation.
- 1345 - Received CTF 32 despatch 070155 addressed to GTU 32.4.4, ComNavAct. Solomons, and GTU 36.1.3 for all vessels Task Force 32, Task Unit 36.1.3 and KANAWIA with two submarine chasers to prepare to leave area. Orders later.
- 1400 - ADHARA joined formation, 1000 yards on my port beam followed by S.S. DONA NATI.  
Course 090 degrees true, speed 10 knots.
- 1400 - Received Comdr. Naval Base Solomons despatch 070200 that a large group of planes left BUKA at twelve twenty six. This looked like probable attack within the hour. Decided to continue on present course to open water east of Lengo Channel to provide maneuvering room and to proceed via established route toward Espiritu Santo and announced my intention to CTF 32 by despatch.
- 1420 - Cleared east end of Lengo Channel.
- 1430 - Cleared visual signal to CTF 31 requesting him to direct WARD rejoin her task unit (32.4.5 - ADHARA) now with me.
- 1430 - T.U. 36.1.3 - TAPPANHOCK, FARENHOLT, WOODWORTH overtaking from astern.
- 1450 - Received decode of CTF 32 despatch 070224/April directing departure Guadalcanal, Task Unit 32.4.5, KANAWIA and two submarine chasers and REID (from T.U. 32.4.14) to join Task Unit 32.4.4 and proceed toward Espiritu Santo. Acknowledged this despatch.

6

April 9, 1943.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

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- 1500 - Despatched radio to KANAWHA (my 070410) to join me  
vicinity east end of Lenge Channel. I desired to remain  
in unrestricted water and realized that KANAWHA had two  
to three knots speed advantage over my unit. This  
message cleared through radio Tulagi about 1527.
- 1510 - Observed large bomb splashes and heavy AA fire in vicinity  
of Langa and/or Koli Points.
- 1510 - Observed about 9 dive bombers position angle 40 degrees,  
bearing 170 degrees relative, altitude about 7000 feet.
- 1517 - Executed ship's right to 135° True, by emergency turn  
signal to bring maximum guns to bear.
- 1518 - Enemy aircraft divided into two groups of about three  
and six or seven planes. First group apparently starting  
attack on TAPPANANOCK, remainder on this formation.
- 1519 - Commenced firing on dive bombers attacking on starboard  
bow. Position angle about 050, angle of dive about the  
same.
- 1520 - Executed ships right 45 degrees by emergency turn signal  
to course 180 degrees true.
- About 1521 - Observed near misses on port bow and just under stern  
of TAPPANANOCK (very close).
- 1521 - Bomb fell 150 feet clear of starboard bow and another  
150 feet clear of port quarter.
- Observed very near misses on ADHARA.
- 1522 - Observed that FARENHOLT with ComDesRon 12 embarked had  
joined this unit to cover rear.
- 1524 - Ships left to 135 degrees by emergency simultaneous turn.  
All ships ceased firing.
- 1526 - Changed course to 090 by emergency turn signal.
- 1527 - Intercepted word over fighter control circuit that  
KANAWHA appeared to be abandoning ship.
- 1530 - Noted that LOUIS JOLIET was circling to right. Was  
informed that no damage had been sustained.
- 1545 - Slowed to 8 knots to permit JOLIET to rejoin and at  
1620 - Resumed standard speed of 10 knots.
- 1630 - Secured from General Quarters and set Condition II.
- 1600-1645 - Exchange of messages with ADHARA disclosed that she  
had three holes at water line, that pumps were holding,  
and that she could hold out to Espiritu Santo.  
Other ships of this unit reported no serious damage.  
In view of word received about KANAWHA decided to proceed  
without waiting.
- 1715 - Changed formation course to 125° True.
- 1730 - After advising ComDesRon 12 in FARENHOLT of composition  
and estimated location of other units, I further advised  
advised him of my intentions to proceed toward Espiritu



April 9, 1943.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

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- Santo and asked if he would assume command of the unit. In reply he directed me to retain tactical command, except of escort, and stated that he would remain (with FARENHOLT) at least until daybreak.
- 1900 - WARD and TAYLOR joined formation.  
1915 - Received desce of ComAirSect 070540. Looked like a good place not to be in.  
2500 - Changed formation course to 090° True.

9 April

- 0530 - Changed formation course to 120° True. ComDesRon 12 despatch 071215 included information this unit. No despatch was made by me.  
0545 - ComDesRon 12 in FARENHOLT left formation headed to southeast.  
About 1900 - ComDesRon 12, well clear of this unit, reported condition of ADHARA for me and stating my intention of sending ADHARA to Segund Channel should the remainder of the Task Unit be directed to return to Guadalcanal for unloading.  
About 1900 - Received STF 32 despatch 072356 to proceed to Espiritu Santo with Task Unit 32.4.4.

5. Summary of Reports from Ships.

- (a) Only six or seven dive bombers made attack on this unit. No ship of unit reported horizontal bombing attack referred to by ComDesRon 12 (possibly because of intense interest in the dive bombing attack at hand).
- (b) It appears that each dive bomber probably dropped two bombs of about 100 lbs. size, certainly not over 300 lbs.
- (c) Angle of dive 45 degrees to 50 degrees, starting about 5000 feet, bomb release about 800 to 1000 feet, and leveled off 300 to 500 feet. Most ships report standing.
- (d) Approach started from about starboard beam, ships then on course 135°, and bearing shifted forward to starboard bow as ships swung right to course 180.

April 9, 1943.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

(a) Damage Sustained.

BERRETT. Two 20mm hits from own guns, one 20mm from adjacent ship. One near bomb miss reported. Minor material damage.

LIBRA. Two misses, 150 feet. No material damage.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS. Two near misses. No material damage.

JULIET. One hit on boom (probably strafing) from first plane attacking. No serious material damage.

AMARA. Three near misses. Three holes, two holes starboard one port all at waterline, tank tops No.2 and No.3 holds and bulkhead between buckled, fuel oil in No.2 hold, three cargo booms broken, and splinter holes in 'tween deck area.

DONA NATI. Ship shaken by two bombs which fell well clear. No material damage.

(b) PERSONNEL CASUALTIES.

BERRETT. Reports one officer, five men with multiple shrapnel wounds lower extremities, one critical.

LIBRA. None.

WILLIAMS. None.

JULIET. None.

AMARA. One dead, one seriously wounded, seven wounded.

DONA NATI. None.

(c) Bombs Fired.

	5"/38	3"/50 3"/23	40mm	20mm
BERRETT	73		14	930
LIBRA		38		1300
WILLIAMS		3		400
JULIET		40		1500
AMARA				835
DONA NATI	(Data not received)			

3

April 9, 1943.

Subject: Action Report - 7 April 1943.

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(h) Damage Inflicted.

FARENHOLT reported one plane shot down. WILLIAMS reported 20mm hits in one plane and reported that it crashed later. DONA NATI reported hits in one plane and that plane continued to eastward showing smoke and losing altitude. It appears probable that only one plane was definitely brought down. LIBRA reports 20mm hits in one plane, but most rounds were low and behind. LIBRA took three planes under fire, WILLIAMS two, JOLIET four, DONA NATI two, ADRIANA did not report.

- (i) Condition of sea - smooth. Wind - East, Force 2.  
Ship's position - Lat. 9°-23' S.  
Long. 160°-34' E.
- (j) No casualties to armament were reported by any ship.  
LIBRA had one 20mm jam, quickly cleared.
- (k) Performance of all ships was splendid.

4. It is particularly desired to express appreciation for the performance of FARENHOLT under the direction of ComBaton 12. The attack developed just as Task Unit 36.1.3 was forward of the starboard beam. ComBaton 12 seeing a Task Unit of five slow poorly armed (except LIBRA) cargo ships protected by but one destroyer, left TAPPANNOCK and WOODWORTH (making high speed) and took station to protect the rear of my unit. I gladly concede the one plane brought down to FARENHOLT.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Advance Copy: COMINCH.  
CINCPAC.  
COMAIRSOL.  
COMAIR 3rdFLT.

(2)

(6)

14

CONFIDENTIAL.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday,

8

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY."

0000-0400 : Steaming on base course 090°T., standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) making 2/3 speed, 10 knots (55 RPM) LIBRA is OTU and guide of Task Unit 32.4.4, leading column No.1, followed by S.S. WILLIAM WILLIAMS and S.S. LOUIS JOLIET. U.S.S. ADHARA is guide, Second Section, leading column No.2, followed by S.S. DONA MATTI. Destroyers TAYLOR, WARD, FARENHOLT and STERRETT in position as screen. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use. 0350 C/C to 120°True. Av. steam 450; Av. RPM. 54.4.

*A.R. Barton*  
Lieut. A.R. BARTON, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on course 120°true. S/S 15.0 knots, 84 RPM., steaming at 2/3 speed. 0558 observed sunrise, lightened ship. 0600 U.S.S. FARENHOLT detached this unit and stood off to southward. Av. steam 450; Av. RPM. 54.3.  
0800 Position: Lat. 10°-24' S.  
Long. 163°-21' E.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on course 120° T. 121 G, 102 PSTGC. 2/3 speed, 10 knots (55 RPM). 0900 Crew mustered on stations. No unauthorized absentees. 1152 Escort made sound contact bearing 028°T., left position to attack. 1154 made emergency turn to 174°G, 175°T. Av. steam 450; Av. RPM. 55.0.  
1200 Position: Lat. 10°-47' S.  
Long. 163°-53' E.

*A.R. Barton*  
Lieut. A.R. BARTON, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on course 174°true, taking evading action on sound contact made by U.S.S. STERRETT. S/S 15 knots 84 RPM., steaming at 2/3 speed. 1212 C/C to 129°true. 1249 sighted unidentified aircraft bearing 265°true. 1314 C/C to 142°true, C/S to 8 knots, 43 RPM. 1316 C/S to 10 knots, 55 RPM. 1410 U.S.S. STERRETT rejoined screen after completing search. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, USNR.

1600-2000 : Steaming as before. 1801 darkened ship. 1830 changed course to 090°True 091 G, 065 PSTGC. 1945 changed course to 142°T, 143 G, 123 PSTGC. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.0.  
2000 Position: Lat. 11°-39' S.  
Long. 164°-51' E.

*A.R. Barton*  
Lieut. A.R. BARTON, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on course 142°T, 143 G, 123°PSTGC, standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) making 10 knots, 55 RPM. At 2000 changed course to 150°T, 151°G, 135°PSTGC., and slowed to 8 knots. At 2013 resumed speed. Av. RPM. 54.2; Av. steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

9

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.4 on base course 150°T. Standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM. Steaming at 2/3 speed. Formation line of section guides. LIBRA OTU., formation guide and 1st ship of section 1, with S.S. WILLIAM WILLIAMS 2nd ship, S.S. LOUIS JOLIET last ship. U.S.S. ADHARA section guide and 1st ship Section 2, with S.S. DONA MARI last ship. U.S.S. STERRETT and TAYLOR acting as screen ahead and U.S.S. WARD astern. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and Condition III is set. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 53.8.

*J. Borden*  
Ensign J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 150°T, 151°G at 2/3 speed (S/S 15kts) 0503 lightened ship. 0715 C/C to 140°T, 141°G. 0716 sighted friendly patrol bomber bearing 125°T. 0745 sighted U.S.S. SIOUX bearing 102°T. Av. steam 450; Av. RPM. 55/0.

0800 Position: Lat. 13°-26' S.  
Long. 185°-50' E.

*H. W. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on course 140°T. S/S 15.0 knots 84 RPM. Steaming at 2/3 speed. 0800 mustered crew on stations. No unauthorized absentees. 0812 sighted land bearing 065°T distance 40 miles (Torres Island). 0840 U.S.S. SIOUX joined this unit. 0900 C/C to 180°T. 0921 C/C to 140°T. 0935 C/C to 180°T. 1027 sighted one aircraft bearing 220°T, elevation 15°T, distance 18000 yards. All guns to the alert. 1045 all guns at ease. 1100 completed daily inspection of powder magazines and smokeless powder samples, made weekly test of sprinkler system, condition normal. 1117 sighted friendly patrol plane bearing 160°T. Elevation 50. AV. Steam 460; Av. RPM. 54.3

1200 Position: Lat. 14°-05' S.  
Long. 166°-00' E.

*J. E. Coloney*  
Boy's R. J. E. COLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on course 180°T, 181°G and 174° PSTGC. S/S 15 kts. steaming at 2/3 speed. At 1204 sighted Espiritu Santo Island bearing 143°T distance 48 miles. At 1215 U.S.S. SIOUX left formation and took station off port quarter of U.S.S. ADHARA. At 1245 sighted friendly patrol plane bearing 210°T. At 1300 U.S.S. WARD made sound contact. Changed formation course to 135°T, 136°G. At 1310 C/C to 090°T & 091°G. (Emergency Turn). At 1326 changed course to 135°T, 136°G. At 1330 C/C to 180°T & 181°G. (Turn signal). At 1345 U.S.S. WARD rejoined formation having lost contact. At 1415 Changed formation course to 135°T & 136°G. At 1430 changed formation course to 090°T & 091°G. At 1525 U.S.S. WARD delivered mail to this ship. At 1540 U.S.S. WARD resumed station in screen. Sighted several friendly patrol planes during watch. Av. steam 457; Av. RPM 55.0.

*William Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM LYONS, U.S.N.

1600-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 046°G, 045°T. S/S. 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. 1600 C/C and axis to 090°T, 091°G. C/S to 8 knots 43 RPM. 1611 C/S to 10 knots, 55 RPM. 1702 C/C and axis to 135°T, 136°G. C/S to 8 knots. 45 RPM. 1716 C/S to 10 knots 55 RPM. 1717 TAYLOR reported sound contact bearing 100°T. 1718 C/S to 65 RPM. 1722 C/C to 180°T, 181°G. 1725 TAYLOR reported contact as false. 1726 C/S to 10 knots, 55 RPM. 1734 C/C to 135°T, 136°G. 1744 U.S.S. ADHARA held burial services. 1800 C/C to 091°G, 090°T. 1812 TAYLOR reported contact bearing 125°T. 1816 C/C to 045°T, 046°G. 1830 C/C to 090°T, 091°G. 1943 TAYLOR rejoined formation. Av steam 450; Av. RPM. 53.0

2000 Position: Lat. 14°-27' S.  
Long. 166°-53' E.

*H. W. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on course 090°T/S/S 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. 2110 contacted unidentified object bearing 055°T from STERRETT, distance 14000 yds. Called all guns to the alert. 2111 sighted land (Guava Island) bearing 085°T, distance about 17 miles. 2131 STERRETT reported contact with object lost. All guns at ease. 2157 Changed course to 135°T. 2220 Changed course to 090°T.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.


CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 9 April 1943  
(Month) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -11REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WARDIARY"2000-2400 (Cont'd) :

2230 Changed course to 135°T. 2300 Changed course to 160°T. Av. stems 450; Av. RPM. 54.0.

  
Boat'n. J. J. MALONEY, U. S. N.Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

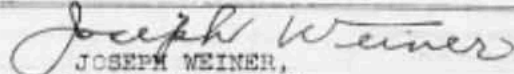
Received despatch orders from Commander Third Fleet assigning TAYLOR, REID, STERRETT to operational control Commander Transport Group as escort for LIBRA, movement to Guadalcanal departing Espiritu Santo about April 11.

  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Saturday

10

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.4 on course 180°T and 181°G. Standard speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. (OTU in LIBRA) Formation line of Section guides as follows: Section 1, LIBRA, W. WILLIAMS, and L. JOLIET. Section 2, ADHARA and DONA NATI. 2DDs and 1 AT screening ahead and 1 DD on station as after screen. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened. Condition III set. At 0212 changed formation course to 175°T and 176°G. At 0224 changed formation course to 170°T and 171°G. At 0225 sighted land on starboard bow. (Espiritu Santo Island). At 0247 sighted light bearing 208°T. at 0300 energized degaussing coils. At 0325 sighted Aole Island on port bow bearing 115°T. Av. RPM 55.0. Av. steam 450.7.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 170°T, 171°G. At 2/3 standard speed. (S/S 15 knots). 0450 C/C 180°T, 181°G. 0510 sighted Tutuba Island abeam to starboard. 0523 C/C 225°T & 226°G. C/S to 8 knots 45 RPM. 0535 C/S to 10 kts. 55 RPM. 0541 C/C 270°T & 271°G. 0550 Section 2 took position in column astern. 0608 C/C to 314°T, 315°G. 0615 Set special sea detail. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Captain at conn. entering Bogacio Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides. 0622 secured condition III. 0625 C/C to 324°T & 325°G. 0629 C/C to 329°T & 330°G. 0630 Bogacio Island abeam to port distance 600 yards. 0631 secured degaussing coils. On various speeds and courses conforming to channel proceeding to anchorage. 0739 back 2/3 speed. 0739 let go port anchor. 0740 Stop. 0741 Secure special sea detail. secure #1 boiler. Anchored in Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, berth 53, in 25 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "H" 231 T; Beacon "L" 284°T. Beacon "J" 332°T. Draft Fwd. 11'7". Aft. 23'. Av. steam 450 Av. RPM 53.5.

*J. W. Borden*  
Ensign J. W. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0800-1200 : Anchored as before. 0900 mustered crew on stations- no unauthorized absentees.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before. At 1400 Task Unit 18 stood in from sea and anchored.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1600-2000 : Anchored as before.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400 : Anchored as before.

*B. C. Swafford*  
B. C. SWAFFORD, CBM(AA), V6-USNR.

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

Upon approach to anchorage made arrival report for Task Unit 32.4.4 and arranged for emergency repairs for TAYLOR alongside DIXIE. Reported also condition of ships, working parties embarked and requirements.

Received, by hand, Commander Transport Group Despatch 090351/April reforming Task Unit 32.4.4- Comdr. Fletcher in LIBRA, DONA NATI, WILLIAM WILLIAMS, LOUIS JOLIET with TAYLOR, REID, STERRETT as escort. Depart Espiritu Santo local eleventh and arrive Guadalcanal local fourteenth. Orders also contain instructions for discharging and loading ships and for departure Solomons Area.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

11

April

19 45

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Anchored in berth 33, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides in 25 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on following bearings: Beacon "N" 231°T; Beacon "L" 284°T; Beacon "J" 332°T. Ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present: Various U.S. Naval and Merchant ships.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Anchored as before. At 0615 USN Oil Barge #8 moored to starboard side. At 0700 commenced fueling ship. Draft Fwd. 11'3", Aft. 23'5".

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0800-1200 : Anchored as before. At 1030 USN Oil barge #8 completed fueling, underway. Draft Fwd. 12'6", Aft. 23'.

*L. N. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. N. JORDAN, D-V(S) USNR.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before. At 1225 U.S.S. ENTERPRISE, SAN DIEGO, LARDNER, and WOODSWORTH stood in and anchored. At 1300 lighted fires under No.1 boiler. At 1330 secured fires under No.1 boiler. At 1400 lighted fires under No.1 boiler. At 1410 lifted safety on No.1 boiler by hand. At 1410 commenced making preparations for getting underway. Draft Fwd. 12'8", Aft. 23'. At 1430 lifted safety on boilers by steam. At 1440 set special sea detail Fourth Section. At 1450 commenced heaving short. At 1454 anchor aweigh, underway, shifting berths. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). At 1500 anchored in 27 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain on deck, 200 yards southwest of berth 33, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides Islands. At 1530 stationed special sea detail first section.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Bos' J. E. MOLOONEY, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : 1600 underway in company with Task Unit 32.4.4, LIBRA OTC and guide, S.S. DONA NATI, W. WILLIAMS, L. JOLIET and escort destroyers TAYLOR, REID and STERRETT. Steaming on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel. Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge. 1701 C/S to 2/3 speed (55 RPM) Standard speed 15 knots. 1706 held General Quarters. 1722 secured from General Quarters, set condition III. 1730 C/C to 090°T, 091°G. 1747 Darkened ship. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 41.8.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G) USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on course 090°True at S/S 15 knots (84 RPM) steaming at 2/3 speed. 1800 C/C to 355°T. 1815 destroyers took night screening stations. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 55.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Bos' J. E. MOLOONEY, U.S.N.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on course 355°T, 356°G. Standard speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. At 2201 passed Sakau Island on port beam. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

## Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

1600 - Underway in compliance Commander Transport Group, 3rd Fleet, despatch 090351/April.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

12

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.4 on course 355°T, 356°G. Standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM, steaming at 2/3 speed. Formation line of section guides. LIBRA CTU formation guide and 1st ship in Section 1, with S.S. DONA NATI second ship. S.S.W. WILLIAMS guide and first ship of section 2, with S.S. LOUIS JOLIET last ship. USS TAYLOR and REID acting as screen ahead and USS STERRETT astern. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened and condition III is set. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 55.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on course 275°T, 276°G. standard speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. 0500 C/C to 320°T, 321°G. 0545 escort took day screening stations. 0600 C/C to 355°T, 356°G. Light ship. 0600 Toga Island bearing 020°, distance 38 miles. 0645 Saddle Island bearing 006°T, distance 30 miles. 0650 sighted friendly aircraft bearing 235°T. 0700 C/C to 320°T, 321°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 54.3.

0800 Position : Lat. 13°-43' S.  
Long. 166°-19½' E.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 320°T, 321°G. (311°PSTIC.) standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM, steaming at 2/3 speed. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use. 0800 C/C to 270°T. 0815 mustered crew and passengers at quarters. No unauthorized absentees. 0922 strange aircraft sighted bearing 250°T. 1000 C/C to 315°T. 48 RPM 8 knots. 1000 made daily inspection of powder magazines, condition normal. 1008 making 55 RPM 10 knots. 1010 USS REID exercising at firing practice. 1029 USS REID secured from firing practice. 1030 Radar contact (aircraft) bearing 180°T reported by STERRETT. 1033 aircraft identified as our own. 1100 C/C to 000°T, 45 RPM, 8 knots. 1109 making 55 RPM, 10 knots. 1121 aircraft sighted bearing 260°T. 1135 unidentified aircraft disappeared at 180°T. 1200 Position : Lat. 13°-29' S.  
Long. 166°-49' E.

*J. B. Moloney*  
Boatman J. B. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on course 000°T, 001°G. Standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM, steaming at 2/3 speed. At 1245 USS STERRETT left position in screen to investigate object in water (Log). At 1300 changed formation course to 315°T, 316°G. At 1315 changed formation course to 270°T and 271°G. At 1340 USS STERRETT resumed position in screen. At 1440 went to General Quarters having sighted 11 unidentified planes bearing 180°T flying in a northwesterly direction. At 1458 secured from General Quarters. At 1500 changed formation course to 315°T, 316°G. At 1513 changed formation course to 000°T, 001°G. During watch sighted several friendly planes and 3 PBY patrol planes. Av RPM 84. Av. steam 457.5.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 000°T, 001°G. Standard speed 15 knots, 84 RPM, steaming at 2/3 speed. 1655 USS STERRETT reported unidentified aircraft bearing 240°T. 1747 set alert on all guns. 1751 observed sunset, darkened ship. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on course 000°T, 001°G. Standard speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. 1803 C/C to 315°T, 316°G. 1815 C/C to 270°T, 271°G. 1825 USS TAYLOR took station astern. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 55.  
2000 Position: Lat. 12°-46' S.  
Long. 166°-09' E.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Monday  
(Day)12  
(Date)April  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11


## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; VAR DIARY".

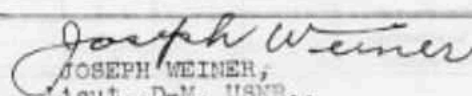
2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 270°T, 271°G. Standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM, steaming at 2/3 speed. Boilers No.1 & 2 in use. 2000 changed course to 315°T, 316°G. Changed speed to 45 RPM 8 knots. 2007 making 55 RPM, 10 knots. 2100 Changed course to 000°T. Changed speed to 45 RPM, 8 knots. 2107 making 55 RPM, 10 knots. 2300 Changed course to 315°T. Av.steam 457.5. Av.RPM. 54.4.

  
 J. E. MALONEY, U.S.N.

Approved:

  
 W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

13

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.4 on course 315°T, 316°G. Standard speed 15 knots. Steaming at 2/3 speed. (CTU in LIBRA) Formation line of Section Guides as follows: Section I. LIBRA and DONA KATI. Section II: S.S.W. WILLIAMS and LOUIS JOLIET. 2 DDs screening ahead and 1 DD on station after screen. Boilers #1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened. Condition III set. At 0000 changed formation course to 270°T, 271°G. At 0200 changed formation course to 315°T, 316°G. At 0300 Changed formation course to 000°T, 001°G. Av.RPM 54.1. Av.steam 452.5.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0600 : Steaming as before on base course 000°T, 001°G. Standard speed 15 kts. Steaming at 2/3 speed. 0500 C/C to 315°T, 316°G. 0545 USS TAYLOR took position ahead for day screening. 0617 observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0649 C/C to 345°T 346°G. Reduced speed to 45 RPM. 0656 C/S to 55 RPM, 10 knots. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 54.6.

0600 Position: Lat. 11°-25' S.  
Long. 164°-03' E.

*J. J. Borden*

Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 345°T, 346°G. Standard speed 15kts. Steaming at 2/3 speed. 0800 mustered crew and passengers on stations. No unauthorized absentees. 1000 C/C to 297°T, 298°G. 1155 USS TAYLOR received mail along-side starboard side. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 54.8

1200 Position: Lat. 10°-59' S.  
Long. 163°-35' E.

*H. M. Pepper*

Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 297°T, 298°G. Standard speed 15 kts. steaming at 2/3 speed. Boilers 1 & 2 in use. 1201 USS TAYLOR stood away from our starboard quarter after completing transfer of guard mail. 1205 sighted aircraft bearing 350°T, friendly. 1300 C/C to 300°T. 1305 USS TAYLOR sighted unknown merchant ships hull down bearing 310°T. 1400 USS REID made contact on starboard beam, left formation to make search. 1410 USS TAYLOR sighted light craft bearing 330°T, friendly. 1512 sighted Santa Anna Island bearing 267°T, distance approx. 40 miles. Av.RPM. 55.0. Av.steam. 452.5

*J. E. Moloney*

Ensign J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on course 300°T, 301°G. Standard speed 15 kts. steaming at 2/3 speed. At 1655 C/C to 296°T, 297°G. At 1750 USS TAYLOR tested 20mm guns on object in water (log). Av.RPM. 54.9. Av.steam. 450.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign, WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 297°G. S/S 15knots. steaming at 2/3 speed. Av.steam 452.5. Av.RPM. 55.0.

2000 Position: Lat. 10°-17' S.  
Long. 162°-24' E.

*J. J. Borden*

Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 297°G. standard speed. 15 knots. Steaming at 2/3 speed. 2155 sighted ULAWA Island bearing 330°T. approx. distance 20 miles. 2300 sighted Aliti Island bearing 261°T. approx. distance 8 miles. 2215 sighted friendly vessel bearing 035°T. 1302 Aliti Island abeam to port. 2305 C/C to 278°T, 279°G. Av.steam 452.8. Av.RPM. 55.0.

*H. M. Pepper*

Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiser*  
JOSEPH WEISER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

14

April

1945

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.4 on base course 278°T, 279°G. Standard speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. Formation line of Section Guides LIBRA leading Section I as formation guide and CTU, followed by S.S. DONA NATI. S.S.W. WILLIAMS leading Section II, followed by S.S. LOUIS JOLIET. USS REID on starboard bow, USS TAYLOR on port bow, and USS STERRETT astern acting as screen. Ship darkened and in Condition of readiness III. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0200 C/C to 307°T. Reduced speed to 8 knots. 0205 increased speed to 10 knots, 55 RPM. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 55.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign H. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on course 307°T, 308°G. Standard Speed 15 knots, steaming at 2/3 speed. At 0520 set all guns on alert. At 0525 sighted Task Unit 32.6.2 on starboard quarter bearing 120°T. At 0600 USS STERRETT assumed position in forward screen. At 0605 changed formation course to 300°T, 301°G. At 0607 sighted 4 friendly planes bearing 230°T. At 0615 sunrise. Lighted ship. Reset condition III. At 0711 with Nara Island abeam to port distance 5000 yds, changed formation course to 282°T, 283°G., and formed column in line in following order: LIBRA (Guide), W. WILLIAMS, LOUIS JOLIET and DONA NATI. C/S to 12 knots to take station as column guide. At 0725 C/S to 10 knots. Sighted several flights of friendly planes during watch. Av. RPM. 55.7. Av. steam. 457.5.  
 0800 Position: Lat. 9°-27' S.  
 Long. 160°-41' E.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 282°T, 283°G. Standard speed 15 kts. Steaming at 2/3 speed. 0815 mustered crew and passengers at quarters. No unauthorized absentees. 0817 Rua Sura Island abeam to port distance 2.8 miles. 0911 C/C to 285°T, 286°G proceeding into Lengo Channel. 1045 DONA NATI left formation proceeding to assigned anchorage. Various courses conforming to channel proceeding to anchorage. 1149 Stop- let go port anchor. 1150 Anchored off Lunga Point with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "D" 127°T. Beacon "E" 163°T. Beacon "F" 260°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 51.8.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1800 : Anchored as before. At 1205 USS GILMER stood in and anchored. Discharging cargo from holds Nos. 2 and 4. At 1400 secured working holds #2 & 4. At 1401 USS GILMER underway. At 1440 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1457 underway to shift berth steering various courses. Standard speed 15 knots. Captain at conn, Navigator on bridge. At 1457 set course at 090°T, 071°G. At 1505 C/C to 090°T, 091°G. At 1505 commenced steering various courses making various speeds approaching anchorage. At 1545 anchored off Togoma Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 213°T. Beacon "B" 253°T. Beacon "J" 127°T. At 1630 USS TAYLOR moored to port side. At 1645 commenced fueling USS TAYLOR.

*[Signature]*  
 Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2400 : Anchored as before. USS TAYLOR moored alongside port side receiving fuel. 1817 Darkened ship. 1939 completed fueling TAYLOR. Draft of LIBRA. 11'6" Forward, 23'03" Aft. 1955 TAYLOR underway from alongside. 2018 USS REID moored alongside port side. 2038 commenced fueling REID. 2259 completed fueling REID. Draft 10'11" Forward, 22'6" Aft. 2320 USS REID underway from alongside port side.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

Received Commander Transport Group, 3rd Flt. despatch 140552 modifying loading of LIBRA and destination upon departure (modifies his 090351) and adding GEORGE M. BIBE to Task Unit 32.4.4.

Approved: *[Signature]*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined: *[Signature]*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday 16 April 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0600 : Anchored off Togoma Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 215°T, Beacon "B" 253°T and Beacon "J" 127°T. Boiler No.1 and 2 in use, with main engine in standby condition. USS STERRETT moored to port side. Ship darkened (Modified) Discharging cargo from holds Nos.1, 3, 4, & 5. At 0005 commenced fueling STERRETT. Draft Fwd.10'11"; Aft 22'6". Ships present; various U.S. naval and merchantships. At 0315 completed fueling STERRETT. At 0535 USS STERRETT cast off from port side. Draft Fwd.10'3"; Aft.22'0".

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0600-1200 : Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from holds 1, 3, 4, & 5. 0800 Mustered crew on stations. No absentees. 0825 Received PAB 6 alongside port side. 0845 USS VIREO shoved off with PAB 8. 0900 made daily inspection of magazines. Condition normal. 1114 USS VIREO stood out.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut.(jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800 : Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from holds Nos.1, 3 & 4 and loading cargo into hold #2.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2400 : Anchored as before. Discharging cargo from holds Nos.1, 3 and 4. 1817 darkened ship. 2015 completed unloading # 3 hold. 2020 completed unloading No.1 hold. 2115 completed unloading No.4 hold.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut.(jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

S.S. GEORGE M. BIEB joined Task Unit 32.4.4 in compliance orders of Commander Transport Group, Third Fleet.

Periscope reported east of Karmasiki Island at 1140 Local.

Periscope sighted west of Russell Islands at 1330 Local.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator. U.S.N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

16

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0600-0600 : Anchored off Togona Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following bearings: Beacon "A" 213°T; Beacon "B" 253°T; Beacon "J" 127°T. Boilers Nos. 1 and 2 in use. Main engine in a standby condition. Ship darkened with 2 groups of 30mm manned. Ships present: Various U.S. Naval vessels and merchant ships. At 0600 commenced making all preparations for getting underway and at 0630 underway to shift anchorage steaming various courses making various speeds. Standard speed 15 knots. Captain at conn; Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. Av. RPM. 43.8. Av steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0600-1200 : Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds. Captain at conn; Navigator on bridge. 0621 Anchored off Tenaru Beach, Guadalcanal, in 20 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "C" 132°T; Beacon "D" 207°T; Beacon "E" 282°T. 0625 secured special sea detail. 0700 commenced loading cargo in all holds. 0800 mustered crew on stations. No absentees. 0900 made daily inspection of magazines, weekly sprinkler tests and fortnightly test of smokeless powder samples. Conditions normal. Av Steam 450. Av. RPM. 43.8

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before. Loading cargo into all holds. At 1630 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1700 secured working all holds. At 1709 underway enroute Tulagi Harbor. Steaming various courses, standard speed 15 knots. Captain at conn; navigator on the bridge. At 1714 set course 020°T. 021°G. Av. RPM. 67.8. Av. steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds standing into Tulagi Harbor. Captain at conn. Navigator on bridge. 1845 moored port side to starboard side ERSKINE PHELPS in Berth A4, Tulagi Harbor. 1900 commenced discharging fuel oil into ERSKINE PHELPS. Draft 12'0" Fwd; 20'6" Aft. 1921 Condition "Red". 1949 shore AA batteries opened fire on enemy plane. 1952 shore batteries ceased firing. Av steam 450. Av. RPM. 9.8.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored port side to oil barge ERSKINE PHELPS in berth A-4, Tulagi Harbor, discharging fuel oil into ERSKINE PHELPS. Standing by to get underway. 2002 observed AA fire on Guadalcanal. 2006 firing ceased on Guadalcanal. 2105 USS TAYLOR moored starboard side to ERSKINE PHELPS. 2215 TAYLOR stood away from ERSKINE PHELPS.

*J.E. Koloney*  
Bqs. W. J. E. KOLONEY, U.S.N.

## Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

- 1410 - Received Com3rdFleet despatch 160145 warning of possible air raid on Solomons or Papua during day.
- 1415 - Received ComTransGroup, 3rdFlt., despatch 160004 concerning unloading cargo ships of this group.
- 1600 - Received despatch assigning RUSSELL to CTU 32.4.4 (from 32.4.1) upon arrival later unit about 19th.
- 1700 - Received warning of possible submarine southwest of Florida Island.

W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday

17

April

1945

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Moored port side to oil barge ERSKINE PHELPS in berth A-4, Tulagi Harbor, Solomons Islands, with five manila lines out. Boilers Nos. 1 and 2 in use. Engine room standing by. Ship darkened.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before fueling ERSKINE PHELPS. 0445 completed fueling ERSKINE PHELPS. Draft Fwd. 11'-8". Aft. 19'-10". 0530 made all preparations for getting underway. 0551 underway standing out of Tulagi Harbor at various courses and speeds. Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge. USS TAYLOR underway and screening ahead. 0719 anchored off Tenaru Beach, Guadalcanal in 20 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "D" 210°T. Beacon "E" 264°T. Beacon "F" 277½°T. 0730 commenced loading all holds. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 59.2.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G) USNR.

0800-1200 : Anchored as before. Loading cargo into all holds. At 0800 mustered crew on stations. Absentees: None. At 0900 made daily inspection of magazines. Conditions normal. At 1130 finished loading cargo.

*William C. Lyon*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYON, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before. 1353 set special sea detail 1st Section. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Captain at conn. 1357 heaving up anchor. 1402 Anchor aweigh, underway at 1/3 speed. Standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Chopped speed to 2/3 standard speed. 1406 ahead at standard speed, course 070°G, 069°T. 1407 mustered crew and passengers on stations. Absentees: None. 1416 changed course to 084°T. 1432 changed course to 089°T. 1517 cleared Lengo Channel. 1518 commenced Zig Zagging on base course 103°T, Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams) 1550 General Quarters. 1553 all stations manned and ready. Set Condition III, Section II. Av. steam 445. Av. RPM. 82.8.

*J. E. Kolomey*  
Boat'n. J. E. KOLOMEY, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 103°T, 104°G, at standard speed 15.5 knots. Zig Zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1611 ceased Zig Zagging and resumed base course. 1618 Commenced Zig Zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1725 ceased Zig Zagging. 1730 C/C to 123°T, 124°G. 1732 commenced Zig Zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1735 sighted San Cristobal Island bearing 150°T, distance approx. 45 miles. Av. steam 440. Av. RPM. 86.8.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 123°T. 124°G. Zig Zagging on Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams), standard speed 15.5, 87 RPM. 1812 Sunset, darkened ship. Av. steam 445. Av. RPM. 86.8.

2000 Position: Lat. 9°-49'S.  
Long. 161°-28.5'E.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on course 123°T. 124°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15.5 knots 87 RPM. At 2000 changed course to 097°T. 098°G. At 2000 sighted Ulawa Island bearing 075°T, distance 23 miles. At 2055 changed course to 105°T. 106°G. At 2130 Passed Ulawa Island on port beam distance about 4 miles. At 2200 changed course to 118°T. 119°G. Av. RPM. 87.0. Av. steam 450.

*William C. Lyon*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYON, U.S.N.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Sunday 18 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY."

0000-0400 : Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.15, consisting of U.S.S. LIBRA (Guide and CTU) and U.S.S. TAYLOR as escort. Standard Speed 15.5 knots 87RPM. Steaming at standard speed. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened and in condition readiness III. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 119°G, at standard speed 15.5 knots. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0400 Ceased Zig Sagging and resumed base course. 0530 commenced zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0610 Lighted ship. 0710 C/C to 157°T, 158°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

0800 Position: Lat. 11°-12'S.  
Long. 164°-19'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G., at standard speed 15.5 knots. Zig sagging on plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0800 Mustered crew on stations. Absentees None. 0810 sighted friendly aircraft bearing 090°T. 1020 sighted friendly aircraft bearing 020°T. 1045 sighted friendly ships (Task Units 11.6 and 32.4.1), bearing 163°T. 1104 ceased zig sagging steadied on course 157°T, 158°G. 1110 commenced zig sagging on plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

1200 Position: Lat. 12°-07'S.  
Long. 164°-43'E.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G. Standard speed 15.5 kts. 87 RPM. Z/Z in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). At 1236 sighted friendly observation plane. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G. standard speed 15.5 kts. 87 RPM., making standard speed. Z/Z in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G. at standard speed. 15.5 knots. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams) Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 87.

2000 Position: Lat. 13°-58.5'S.  
Long. 165°-27.5'W.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G. S/S 15.5 knots, making standard speed. 2135 U.S.S. TAYLOR made sound contact bearing 080°T. Commenced search. 2136 C/C 226°T. 226°G. 2145 Resumed base course 157°T. and commenced Z/Z in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 2222 U.S.S. TAYLOR resumed position in convoy. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

## Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

About 1300 received ComTransGroup, 3rd Fleet, despatch 172211/April to detach TAYLOR about Lat. 15° South and direct her to proceed Espiritu Santo arriving daylight 19 April.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.

Approved: *W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday  
(Day)

19  
(Date)

April  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming in company Task Unit 32.4.15. LIBRA, OTU and guide, U.S.S. TAYLOR escort patrolling station ahead. Base course 157°T, 158°G. Standard speed 15.5 knots, 87 RPM. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #2 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers No. 1 and No. 2 in use. Ship darkened. Condition III set. Av. RPM. 87. Av. steam 450.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 158°G. Standard speed 15.5 knots, 87 RPM. Steaming at standard speed. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #2 (1940 Diagrams) Boilers No. 1 & 2 in use. 0400 U.S.S. TAYLOR detached this Task Unit proceeding as previously directed. 0540 sighted Espiritu Santo Island bearing 090°T, distance approx. 30 miles. 0600 changed base course to 134°T. 0604 Sunrise. Lighted ship. 0700 changed base course to 159°T, 160°G. Zig sagging on plan #2 (1940 Diagrams) Changed standard speed to 15 knots, 84 RPM. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 86.2.

0800-Position: Lat. 16°-34'S.  
Long. 166°-39'E.

*J. E. McLaughlin*  
Bos'n. J. E. McLAUGHLIN, U.S.N.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 160°G., at standard speed 15 knots. Zig sagging in accordance with plan #2 (1940 Diagrams). 0800 mustered crew and passengers on stations. No absentees. 1100 made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples. Conditions normal. Av. steam 452.5. Av. RPM. 84.0.

1200-Position: Lat. 17°-28'S.  
Long. 166°-57'E.

*H. O. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. O. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 160°G. Z/Z on plan #2 (1940 Diagrams). S/S 15 knots, 84 RPM., making standard speed. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 160°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #2 (1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15 knots. (84 RPM). At 1738 Sunset. Darkened ship. Set all guns on the alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 160°G. Standard speed 15kts. 84 RPM. Steaming at standard speed. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #2 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

2000-Position: Lat. 19°-15'S.  
Long. 167°-44'E

*J. E. McLaughlin*  
Bos'n. J. E. McLAUGHLIN, U.S.N.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 160°G., at standard speed 15 knots. Zig sagging in accordance with plan #2. (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.0.

*H. O. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. O. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

38

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

20

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming singly as Task Unit 32.4.15, on base course 180°T, 180°G. Zig zapping in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15 knots 84 RPM. Making standard speed. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and Condition III set. 0123 sighted ship(Liberty type cargo vessel) bearing 190°T, approx. distance 8 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*J. W. Borden*  
Ensign J. W. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 180°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15 knots. 84 RPM. At 0458 set sun crews on the alert. At 0525 Noon set. At 0558 Sun rise. Lighted ship. Set Condition III. Av. RPM 84. Av. steam 450.

0800-Position: Lat. 21°-53'S.  
Long. 168°-48.5 E.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 180°G. Standard speed 15 kts. Steaming at standard speed. Zig zapping in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). 0800 Changed course to 180°T, 181°G. Mustered crew and passengers on stations: No absentees. 0935 Walpole Island sighted bearing 170°T, distance approx. 20 miles. 1100 completed daily inspection of powder magazines and smokeless powder samples. Conditions normal. 1125 Walpole Island abeam to port distance 7 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

1200 Position: Lat. 22°-49'S.  
Long. 168°-51'E.

*J. E. Coloney*  
Ensign J. E. COLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 181°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15 knots. 84 RPM. Steaming at standard speed. 1200 changed course to 169°T, 170°G. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T, 170°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 15 knots. 84 RPM. Steaming at standard speed. 1600 changed standard speed to 13.5 knots. 75 RPM. Condition alert set at 1726. Sun set at 1738. Darkened ship. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 79.5.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T, 170°G., on Zig Zap Plan #2, (1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 13.5 knots. 75 RPM. 1830 changed course to 199°T, 200°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.0.

2000 Position: Lat. 24°-31.5'S.  
Long. 169°-08' E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 199°T, 200°G., at standard speed 13.5 knots. (74 RPM) Zig zapping in accordance with plan #2(1940 Diagrams). 2000 changed course to 169°T, 170°G. Av. steam 457.5 Av. RPM 75.0.

*J. E. Coloney*  
Ensign J. E. COLONEY, U.S.N.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Wednesday 21 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY."

0000-0400 : Steaming singly as Task Unit 32.4.15 on base course 169°T.170°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 13.5 knots(75RPM) Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and Condition III set. Av.steam 460. Av RPM. 75.0.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W.CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. 159°PSTGC. Zig Zag Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Standard speed 13.5 knots(75 RPM). Sunrise 0559. Set condition alert 0555. Set condition III at 0700. Av.steam 452.5. Av.RPM.75.0.  
0800 Position: Lat. 26°-54'S.  
Long. 169°-45.5'E.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D.JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Zig Zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) 0800 changed standard speed to 14.5 knots(81RPM) Av.steam 452.5. Av.RPM. 81.0

1200 Position: Lat. 27°-53'S.  
Long. 169°-56'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Standard speed 14.5 knots. (81 RPM). Steaming at standard speed. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.0

*H. J. E. Koloney*  
Sub. H.J.E.KOLONEY, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Standard speed 14.5 knots. 81 RPM. Steaming at standard speed. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). Changed standard speed to 14 knots(78 RPM) at 1600. 1715 Sunset. Darkened ship. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 78.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W.CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Standard speed 14 kts. 78 RPM. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) At 1630 Changed course to 199°T.200°G. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) Steaming at standard speed. 14 knots. (78RPM). Av.steam.450. Av.RPM. 78.

2000 Position: Lat. 29°-34'S.  
Long. 170°-06'E.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D.JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 199°T.200°G. Steaming at standard speed of 14 knots.(78RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) At 2000 C/C to 169°T. 170°G. 157°PSTGC. Av.steam.450. Av.RPM. 78.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. V., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA10)Thursday  
(Day)22  
(Date)April  
(Month) 1913

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming singly as Task Unit 32.4.15 on base course 169°T.170°G. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams) Standard speed 14 knots, 78RPM Steaming at standard speed. Boiler No.1 and No.2 in use. Darkened ship and in Condition III. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.78.0.

*J. H. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. H. MOLOONEY, U. S. N.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. at standard speed of 14 knots (78RPM) Z/Z in accordance with Plan #2(1940 Diagrams). 0500 set condition of alert on all guns. 0601 Sunrise. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.78.0.

0800 Position: Lat. 31°-53'S.  
Long. 171°-02'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Zig zagging in accordance Plan #2(1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 14 knots(78RPM). 0800 changed to Zig Zag Plan #11. Mustered crew on stations, absentees none. 0900 Made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples. Condition normal. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 78.0.

1200 Position: Lat. 32°-45'S.  
Long. 171°-13'E.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan 11(1940 Diagrams) standard speed 14 knots. (78RPM). Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM. 78.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Standard speed 14 kts (78 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagrams). 1630 sighted Three Kings Islands bearing 140°T, distance 40 miles. 1702 Sunset, darkened ship, and set all guns on the alert. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 78.

*J. H. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. H. MOLOONEY, U. S. N.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. at standard speed 14 knots(78RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagrams). 1859 passed Three Kings Islands abeam to port, distance about 18 miles. Av.steam 450. av.RPM.78.0.

2000 Position: Lat. 34°-39'S.  
Long. 171°-50'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 169°T.170°G. Standard speed 14 knots (78RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.78.0.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA

Friday

23

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 12

## REMARKS

"Operational Remarks & War Diary"  
0000- 0400 Steaming singly as task unit 32.4.15 on base course 169<sup>OT</sup>, 170<sup>OG</sup>. S.S. 14 knots (78 RPM), steaming at standard speed. Zig zaging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Boiler #1 and #2 in use. Ship is darkened, and in condition of readiness III. At 0100 advanced clocks one hour to zone -12 time. Average steam 452.5 and RPM 87.0.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. Jordan, D-V(S), USNR

0400 - 0800 Steaming as before on base course 169<sup>OT</sup>, 170<sup>OG</sup>. Standard speed 14 kts. 78 RPM. Steaming at S.S., zig zaging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0500 sighted ship (U.S.S. ADHARA) bearing 125 T. Average steam 460, average RPM 78.0  
0800 position: Lat. 36-57 S, Long 172-21 E.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Bos'n. J. E. Moloney, USN

0800 - 1200 Steaming as before on base course 169<sup>OT</sup>, 170<sup>OG</sup> at standard speed 14 kts (78 RPM) Z.Z. in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams) U.S.S. ADHARA visible throughout watch. 0800 changed base course to 160<sup>OT</sup>, 161<sup>OG</sup>. 0800 Mustered crew on stations, no absentees. 1130 made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples and weekly inspection of sprinkling systems and made monthly powder test, conditions normal. Average steam 450, RPM 78.0  
1200 position: Lat. 37-49 S, Long 172-47 E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ens. D. W. Childs, D-V(G), USNR

1200 - 1600 Steaming as before on base course 160<sup>OT</sup>, 161<sup>OG</sup>. Z.Z. plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Standard speed 14 kts, 78 RPM, average steam 450, average RPM 78.0.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. Jones, D-V(G), USNR

1600 - 1800 Steaming as before on base course 160<sup>OT</sup>, 161<sup>OG</sup>; Z.Z. plan #11 (1940 diagrams), standard speed 14 kts (78 RPM), average steam 450. average RPM 78.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. Jordan, D-V(S), USNR

1800 - 2000 Steaming as before on base course 160<sup>OT</sup>, 161<sup>OG</sup>. Standard speed 14 kts, 78 RPM. Steaming at standard speed, zig zaging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1800 Sighted Cape Egmont light bearing 120<sup>OT</sup>. 1856 Egmont light abeam to port, distance 6 miles. Average steam 450, average RPM 78.0  
2000 position: Lat. 39-32½ S, Long. 173-44½ E.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Bos'n. J. E. Moloney, USN

2000 - 2400 Steaming as before on base course 160<sup>OT</sup>, 161<sup>OG</sup>, at standard speed 14 kts (78 RPM). Z.Z. in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 2000 Changed base course to 154<sup>OT</sup>, 154.5<sup>OG</sup>. 2000 Changed standard speed to 12 kts (67 RPM). Average steam 457.5, average RPM 67.0

*D. W. Childs*  
Ens. D. W. Childs, D-V(G), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER,  
D-M, USNR, U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBEA (AKA12)

Saturday 24, April, 1943  
(1942) (1943) (1944)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

## REMARKS

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; NAV DIARY\*

0000-0400 : Steaming singly as Task Unit 32.4.15 on base course 154°T, 154.5°G. Zig zaggling in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagram) Standard speed 18 knots (67 RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and in Condition III. 0300 C/O to 180°T, 130.5°G. Ceased zig zaggling. 0324 sighted Jackson Head light bearing 307°T. 0340 C/O to 180°G, 159.5°T. 0345 C/O to 135°G, 134.5°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 87.0.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on course 135°T, 155.5°G, 3/3 18 knots, 87 RPM. Making standard speed. 0415 changed course to 180°T, 180.5°G. 0440 sighted land dead ahead, distance (approx) 11 miles. Further check showed that the light with the characteristics of Jackson Head was Brothers light. Changed course to right, stepped engines. 0442 backed 2/3. 0443 stopped. 0444 engines ahead 1/3. 0445 steamed on course 370°T. 0449 ahead standard, proceeded on soundings. 0517 sighted Karori Hook light bearing 133°T. 0526 sighted Baring Head light bearing 111°T. 0530 passed Karori light, abeam to port, distance 3 1/2 miles. 0601 changed course to 065°T, 065.5°G. 0613 changed course to 030°T, 030.5°G, sighted small vessel bearing 070°T distance 5 miles. 0620 changed course to 049.5°T, 050°G. 0636 changed course to 074.5°T, 075°G. 0639 changed standard speed to 10 knots (64 RPM) steaming at standard. 0701 changed course to 089.5°T, 030°G. 0703 changed speed to 2/3 standard, 10 knots (65 RPM). 0705 made preparations for entering port, set special sea detail. Captain at conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds to anchorage. 0713 Pencarrow light abeam to starboard, distance 0.5 miles. 0729 Steeple Rock light abeam to port, distance 0.3 miles. 0739 Hope Shoal light abeam to starboard, distance 0.4 miles. 0740 passed thru submarine nets. 0757 Pilot McLeod boarded ship. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 88.8.

*J. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. J. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1000 : Proceeding to anchorage as before. 0805 lowered the first tier of boats to the water edge. 0808 anchored in the outer anchorage of Lambton Harbor, Wellington, New Zealand, in eleven fathoms of water, mud bottom, with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Somes Is. 073°T; Jerrington Pt. 194°T; ~~Hatfield~~ Pt. 189°T. 0802 anchor awl with proceeding to Berth 4, Astor Quay. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Pilot McLeod conning. 0820 let go starboard anchor one shackle at the hawse pipe. 0832 moored port side to in Berth 4, Astor Quay, Wellington, N.Z., with the following lines: 3 lines doubled and a wire hawser fwd.; 3 lines doubled and a wire hawser aft. Av. steam 480. Av. RPM. 9.4.

*J. J. P. P. P.*  
Ensign J. J. P. P. P., U.S.N.

1000-1200 : Moored as before. At 1015 commenced discharging cargo from all holds 1045 U.S.S. ANHARA stood in from sea and moored.

*William C. Jones*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. JONES, U.S.N.  
~~Hawes~~ (U.S.N.).

1200-1600 : Moored as before. Unloading cargo from Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 holds. Taking on water. No. 3 boiler cut out. No. 1 boiler in use.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000 : Moored as before. 1635 completed unloading No. 4 hold. 1730 completed unloading No. 1 hold. 1745 completed unloading No. 5 hold. 1850 completed unloading No. 3 hold.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10)

Saturday 24  
(Day) (Date)

April 1943  
(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

2000-2400 : Moved as before, unloading No.2 hold. 2350 completed unloading No.2 hold.

*J. D. [Signature]*  
JOSEPH D. [Signature], U.S.N.

Approved:

*J. S. [Signature]*  
U.S. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

25

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Moored as before port side to Aotes Quay, Berth 4, Wellington, N.Z., with following lines, one wire bow line, one wire stern line and following 8" manila lines doubled: one forward bow spring, one after bow spring, one bow breast, one after quarter spring, one forward quarter spring and one quarter breast. Receiving telephone service and fresh water from dock. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT (SOPA) and various naval auxiliaries.

*J. E. Coloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. COLONEY, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Moored as before. 0646 British merchant ship standing in.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before. 1105 commenced fueling ship. Draft Fwd. 9'. Draft Aft. 19'-3".

*J. E. Coloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. COLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Moored as before.

*L. V. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. V. JORDAN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000 : Moored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Monday 26 April 1945  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

## REMARKS

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY\*

0000-0400 : Moored port side to Acton Quay, Berth #4, Wellington, N.Z. with following lines: one wire bow line, one wire stern line and the following 8" manila line doubled: one fwd. bow spring, one after bow spring, one bow breast, one after quarter spring, one fwd. quarter spring and one quarter breast. Receiving telephone service and fresh water from dock. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present: USS HUNTER LIGGETT (SOPA) and various naval auxiliaries. 0020 completed fueling ship. Draft after fueling: 11'-5" Forward, 20'-04" Aft.

*L. J. Jordan*  
Lieut. (jg) L. J. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before. 0915 mustered crew at quarters. No absentees. 0930 U.S.S. MAURY stood out. 1015 U.S.S. TRYON stood out.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Moored as before.

*J. S. Borden*  
Ensign J. S. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

1600-2000 : Moored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph H. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday  
(Day)

27  
(Date)

April  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY\*.

0000-0400 : Moored port side to Aotea Quay, Berth #4, Wellington, New Zealand with standard lines. Receiving telephone and fresh water from the dock. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before. 0701 observed sunrise. 0730 USS ADHARA shifted berth.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Moored as before. At 1445 commenced loading cargo into #3 hold.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1600-2000 : Moored as before. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored as before. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

Additional remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

Received Commander Transport Group despatch 210254, concerning loading of landing craft.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph H. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP AKA12 LIBRA.

Wednesday

28

April

1943.

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Moored port side to Aetna Quay, Berth 4, Wellington, New Zealand, with following lines: One wire bow line, one wire stern line and following 8" manila line: Three lines forward and three lines aft. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving telephone and fresh water service from dock. Ships present: U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT (SOPA) and various other U.S. naval ships. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0400-0800 : Moored as before. At 0702 Sunrise. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold.

*William C. Lyons*

Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0800-1200 : Moored as before. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold.

*L.M. Jordan*

Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600 : Moored as before. Continued loading cargo into #3 hold. 1600 completed loading cargo into #3 hold.

*Carl D. Jones*

Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000 : Moored as before.

*J.J.E. Moloney*

Ensign J.J.E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

2000-2400 : Moored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*

Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Thursday, 29, April, 19 43  
(Day) (Year) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY."

0000-0400 : Moored port side to Berth 4, Aotea Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, with wire bow and stern lines, bow, breast and spring lines of 8" manila forward and stern, breast and spring of 8" manila aft. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present: USS HUNTER LIGGETT(SOPA), USS ADHARA and various merchant vessels.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Boatswain J. E. MOLONEY, U. S. N.

1200-1600 : Moored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, B-V(G), USNR

1600-2000 : Moored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer.

Received Commander Transport Group despatches 272327/April regarding loading and departure and 282338/April concerning additional items to be loaded.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Friday 30 April 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Moored port side to berth #4, Aotea Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, with wire bow and stern lines and three 8" manila lines fwd. and aft. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present: USS HUNTER LIGGETT (SOPA), USS ADHARA and various merchant and district craft.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600 : Moored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-2000 : Moored as before.

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400 : Moored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12)

07798

Saturday 1 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Moored port side to berth #4, Aotea Quay, Wellington, New Zealand, with wire bow and stern lines and three 8" manila lines fore and aft, doubled up. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ships present. USS HUNTER LIGGETT (SOPA), USS ADHARA and various merchant and district craft.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Moored as before. 0410-lit off #1 Boiler.

*D.W. Childs*  
Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Moored as before. 0800 set special sea detail and made all preparations for getting underway. 0805 Pilot D.M. Todd aboard. 0815 commenced taking in all lines. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0837 all clear of dock. Underway. Pilot Todd conning. Various speeds and courses proceeding to anchorage. 0850 let go starboard anchor. 0857 Pilot left ship. Anchored in 11 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Halswell Point 119°T. Jerning Hama Point 168°T. Sommes Is. 078°T. 1042 commenced heaving up anchor. 1053 anchor aweigh. Underway on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel. Captain at conning, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots. 1113 Degaussing officer aboard, Lieut. Mains. 1117 commenced making north run on degaussing range off Sommes Island. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 32.5.

*J.J. Borden*  
Ensign J.J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on various courses on degaussing range, steaming at 2/3 standard speed. 1355 completed degaussing runs and Lieut. Mains, Degaussing officer, left ship. 1418 commenced calibrating Radio Direction Finder with USS HUNTER LIGGETT as transmitting ship. 1525 completed calibrating of Radio Direction Finder. 1531 proceeding out of harbor on various courses and at various speeds. 1542 proceeding at standard speed. 1545 General Quarters. 1551 secured from General Quarters and set Condition III. 1557 C/O to 200°T. 1558 energized degaussing coils. Av steam 450. Av. RPM. 42.2.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 200°T., at standard speed 15 knots, (84 RPM). 1802 C/O to 197°T. Pencarrow Lt. abeam to port, distance 600 yards. 1812 C/O to 255°G, 254.5°T. 1833 C/O to 287°G, 286.5°T. 1708 C/O to 000°G, 359.5°T. 1728 darkened ship at sunset. 1756 passed Brothers' Islands Light abeam to port distance 2.7 miles. 1759 sighted Jackson Head bearing 307°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 000°G, 159.5°T. Standard speed 15 knots. (84 RPM). 1805 sighted Stephen Island Light bearing 311°T. 1820 passed Jackson Head light abeam to port, distance 8 miles. 1840 C/O to 335.5°G., 335°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.  
2000 Position: Lat. 40°-33.5' S.  
Long. 174°-18' E.

*J.E. Moloney*  
Ensign J.E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 335°T, 335.5°G., at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 2000 passed Stephen Island light abeam to port, distance 15 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*D.V. Childs*  
Ensign D.V. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. Navy Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Saturday 1 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -12REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:

1600 - Took departure Pencarrow Head en route Noumea, N.C., in compliance Commander Transport Group despatch 272327/ April. Sent departure report 302559/April reporting estimated position daylight May 4, and estimated time arrival.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Sunday

2

07738

May

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Steaming singly on base course 335°T, 335.5 G., at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Ship darkened, Condition III set. Boilers 1 & 2 in use. 0022 sighted Egmont light bearing 019°T, distance about 16 miles. 0102 with Cape Egmont light abeam to starboard, distance 9.5 miles, changed course to 340°T, 340.5 G. 0237 sighted flare bearing 140°T. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 84.0.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 340.5 G., at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 0400 (Moonrise) commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams) 0607 set guns on the alert. 0707 observed sunrise. Lighted ship. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 84.

0800 Position: Lat. 37°-43' S.  
Long. 172°-43' E.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming singly as before on course 340°T, 340.5° G. Steaming at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) in accordance with zig zag plan #11 (1940 diagrams) 0800 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (75 RPM) 1043 ceased zig zagging. Resumed base course 340°T, 340.5 G. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 75.

1200 Position: Lat. 36°-55.5' S.  
Long. 172°-19.5' E.

*R. J. E. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 340.5 G. at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*D. W. Childs*  
Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 340.5°G, at standard speed of 13.5 kts. (75 RPM). 1749 observed sunset darkened ship, set all guns on the alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 340.5°G., at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). 1849 Secured from condition alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

2000 Position: Lat. 35°-09.5' S.  
Long. 171°-26.5' E.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 340.5°G., at standard speed of 13.5 kts. 75 RPM. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*R. J. E. Moloney*  
Boat'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 3 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -12 & -11.

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming singly on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $340.5^{\circ}G$ . at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Ship darkened. Condition III set. Boilers 1 & 2 in use. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $340.5^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM). 0600 commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17, (1940 Diagrams). 0610 called all gun crews to alert. 0710 observed sunrise, lighted ship. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

0800 Position: Lat.  $32^{\circ}-32' S$ .  
 Long.  $170^{\circ}-18' E$ .

*L.W. Jordan*  
 Lieut. L.W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $341^{\circ}G$ . at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

1200 Position: Lat  $31^{\circ}-46.5' S$ .  
 Long.  $169^{\circ}-59' E$ .

*Carl D. Jones*  
 Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $341^{\circ}G$ . S/S of 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17, (1940 Diagrams). 1400 Clocks retarded one hour to comply with -11 time zone. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*J.E. McElroy*  
 Bos'n. J. E. MCELROY, U.S.N.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $341^{\circ}G$ . at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 1706 Sunset. Ship darkened. All guns on the alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Ensign D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $341^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagram). 1830 ceased zig zagging resumed base course. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 75.

2000 Position: Lat.  $29^{\circ}-57' S$ .  
 Long.  $169^{\circ}-24' E$ .

*L.W. Jordan*  
 Lieut. L.W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400 + Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T$ ,  $341^{\circ}G$ . at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 75.

*Carl D. Jones*  
 Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP USS LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 4 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming singly on base course  $340^{\circ}T, 341^{\circ}G$ , at 13.5 kts. (75RPM) standard speed. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and in Condition of redness III. Av.steam. 450. Av.RPM. 75.

*J. E. Moloney*  
 Bos'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T, 341^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75RPM). 0514 set all guns on alert. 0530 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 0614 Sunrise. Secured from alert. Av.steam. 450. Av.RPM. 75.

0800 Position: Lat.  $27^{\circ}-20' S$ .  
 Long.  $168^{\circ}-16' E$ .

*D. W. Childs*  
 Ensign D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course  $340^{\circ}T, 341^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM). Zig zag Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 0800 Changed course to  $338^{\circ}T, 339^{\circ}G$ . 1032 sighted USS HUMPHRIES. 1100 USS HUMPHRIES took position as escort.

1200 Position: Lat.  $26^{\circ}-30' S$ .  
 Long.  $167^{\circ}-52' E$ .

*L. M. Jordan*  
 Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course  $338^{\circ}T, 339^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM) zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams) Av.steam. 450. Av.RPM. 75.

*J. J. Borden*  
 Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course  $338^{\circ}T, 339^{\circ}G$ . Standard speed 13.5 knots. (75RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). At 1721 Sunset. Darkened ship. Set guns on the alert. At 1725 changed to 2/3 speed. At 1726 changed to 1/3 speed (Reason: Lost steam pressure due to water in oil). At 1734 Changed to 2/3 speed. At 1735 resumed standard speed. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 53.7.

*William C. Lyons*  
 Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course  $338^{\circ}T, 338.5^{\circ}G$  at standard speed 13.5 knots. (75RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 1830 ceased zig zag, resumed base course. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 75.

2000 Position: Lat.  $24^{\circ}-49' S$ .  
 Long.  $167^{\circ}-15' E$ .

*J. E. Moloney*  
 Bos'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course  $338^{\circ}T, 338.5^{\circ}G$ , at standard speed 13.5 knots. 2002 Changed course to  $335^{\circ}T, 335.5^{\circ}G$ . Av.steam. 450. Av.RPM. 75.

*H. M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

5

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## \*OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY\*

0000-0400: Steaming on base course 335°T, 335.5°G, at standard speed 13.5 knots (75RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and condition III set. USS HUMPHRIES acting as escort and screen.

*J. J. Borden*  
Ensign J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 335°T, 335.5°G, at standard speed 13.5 knots (75RPM). At 0915 changed course to 000°T, 000.5°G. At 0525 sighted land bearing 020°T, distance about 25 miles. At 0526 set all guns on alert. At 0527 sighted 1 DD and 1 AT bearing 030°T. At 0553 sighted Amedee Light House bearing 037°T, distance 15 miles. At 0554 changed course to 035°T, 035.5°G. At 0603 sighted friendly patrol plane. At 0615 energized degaussing coils. At 0621 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Secured all guns from alert. At 0645 set special sea detail. Commenced steering various courses. Captain at the conn. Navigator on bridge, making all preparations for entering port. At 0704 passed through Bulari Northern Passage. At 0711 passed Amedee Light abeam to port, distance 875 yards. At 0714 secured from condition III. At 0718 slowed to 1/3 speed passing mine sweeper. At 0719 changed to standard speed 13.5 knots. Sighted various U.S. naval ships in watch. Av. steam 452.5. Av. RPM. 74.5.

*William C. Lyons*  
Ensign WILLIAM C. LYONS, U.S.N.

0800-1200: Steaming at 13.5 knots (75RPM) at various courses to conform with channel. 0808 ahead one third speed. 0812 stopped. 0825 steaming at various courses and speeds in proceeding to anchorage. 0818 anchored in Berth A-12, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia in 5½ fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: BNK 357½°T; BNJ 301°T. Chimney 110°T. 1033 commenced making preparations for getting underway. 1115 set special sea detail. 1123 underway at standard speed of 15 knots. Captain coming, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Steaming at various courses and speeds in approaching Berth #6 Nickle Docks. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 27.8.

*J. E. Moloney*  
Bo's'n. J. E. MOLONEY, U.S.N.

1200-1600: Underway from berth A-12 approaching Nickle Dock. 1308 moored port side to pier Six, Nickle Dock, Noumea, New Caledonia with seven lines doubled. 1500 commenced unloading cargo from holds #3 and #4. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 20.9

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Unloading holds #3 and #4. 1800 secured from unloading hold #4.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Unloading Hold #3.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

6

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored port side to Pier #6, Nickle Dock, Noumea, New Caledonia, with standard 8" manila lines fore and aft. Unloading cargo from #3 hold. No.1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. Unloading cargo from #3 hold. 0645 USS SARATOGA stood out.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before unloading cargo from #3 hold.

*L.E. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Unloading cargo from #3 hold.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Unloading cargo from #3 Hold.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. 2000 completed unloading #3 hold.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Friday 7 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored port side to Pier Six, Nickle Dock, Noumea, New Caledonia, with standard 8" manila lines out fore and aft. No.1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0400 lighted off #2 boiler. 0600 made all preparations for getting underway. 0621 cast off all lines, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Executive Officer at the conn. 0622 Underway on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel proceeding to anchorage. 0725 Anchored Berth #8, Dumbes Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor in 9 fathoms of water on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon C, 039°T; Beacon B, 352.5°T; Beacon "A", 256°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 20.3.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 1030 Fortnightly powder test and weekly magazine sprinkler tests were made. Conditions normal.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lieut. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1724 Darkened ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

8

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday

8

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in Berth #8, Dumbea Bay, New Caledonia with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor in 9 fathoms of water on the following bearings:- Beacon "C", 059°T; Beacon "B" 352.5°T; Beacon "A", 256°T. Boiler #2 in use. Various naval and merchant ships present.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*S.N. Berry*  
Lieut. (jg) S.N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1726 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Sunday

9

May

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY

0000 - 0400 Anchored in berth 8 Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 9 fathoms of water. 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Bearings as follows: Beacon "C" 038°T.; "B" 352.5°T.; Beacon "A" 256°T.; S.H. 325°T. Number 2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes.

*C. D. Jones*

C. D. Jones, Ensign D-V(G), USNR

0400 - 0800 Anchored as before, 0616 observed sunrise and set light ship.

*C. D. Jones*

C. D. Jones, Ensign D-V(G), USNR

0800 - 1200 Anchored as before. 1100 U.S.S. SARATOGA, U.S.S. SAN JUAN, U.S.S. SAN DIEGO, U.S.S. CASE and U.S.S. KING stood in and anchored in the harbor.

*J. E. Moloney*

J. E. Moloney, Pos'n, USN

1200 - 1800 Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*

H. M. Pepper, Lt. (JG), USNR

1600 - 2000 Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*

H. M. Pepper, Lt. (JG), USNR

2000 - 2400 Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*

H. M. Pepper, Lt. (JG), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 10 May 1943  
 (Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Anchored in berth 8, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor in 9 fathoms of water on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "B", 352.5°T; Beacon "C", 039°T; Beacon "A" 256°T. #2 Boiler in use for auxiliary purposes.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0500 made all preparations for getting underway. 0445 out in No.1 Boiler. 0530 Set special sea detail. 0553 underway. Steaming on various courses at various speeds. Standard speed 15 knots. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge. Standing out of Dumbea Bay for Port Noumea. 0652 Anchored in Port Noumea in 6 fathoms of water, 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Pt. Lambert 351°T; Beacon "L" 330°T; Semaphore 064.5°T. 0755 YO-24 moored alongside port side. Draft before fueling 11'3" Fwd. 20'8" aft.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0945 Finished fueling ship. Commenced loading cargo of boats and vehicles. 0949 YO-24 cast off port side. 1150 USS TALAMANCA underway. Draft after fueling ship: 11'10" forward, 21'06" aft.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lieut. (Jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. At 1300 oil barge YO-24 moored alongside port side. At 1320 commenced fueling. At 1400 finished fueling. At 1410 YO-24 cast off. Draft after fueling 12'6" forward; 22'04" aft. Total amount of fuel received 66,948 Gals.

*J.E. Nesworthy*  
 Ensign J.E. NESWORTHY, J-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading all hatches.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lieut. (Jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. 2105 No.4 hold secured. 2150 No.5 hold secured.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lieut. (Jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AK12)Tuesday 11 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in Port Noumea, New Caledonia in 6 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Pt Lambert 351°T; Beacon "L" 330°T; Semaphore Station, 064.5°T. Boiler No.1 steaming for auxiliary purposes. Loading #1, 2, 3 holds. 0015 secured No.1 hold. 0330 secured No.2 hold.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0410 lit off #2 boiler. 0610 finished loading #3 hold.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: 0812 hoisted last boat. 0814 completed preparations for getting underway. Captain and Navigator on the bridge. Captain at conn. 0815 underway on various courses at various speeds. 0915 General Quarters. 0922 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. 0934 passed through Bulari Passage. 0942 C/C to 300°T, 300°PSTGC, standard speed 15 knots(84 RPM). 1000 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan #40(1940 diagrams). 1011 ceased zig zagging resumed base course 300°T, 300°G. 1125 resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #40(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.80.1.  
1200 Position: Lat. 22°-15' S.  
Long. 165°-54' E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 300°T, 300°G. Standard speed 15 kts (84 RPM). Zig Zagging plan #40(1940 Diagram). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.84.

*J.J. Sorden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.J. SORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 300°T & G. at standard speed 15 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #40(1940 Diagram). 1734 Sunset. Darkened ship. Set all guns on the alert. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 84.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 300°T & G. at standard speed 15 kts. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #40(1940 Diagram). 1834 secured guns from alert. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 84.  
2000 Position: Lat. 21°-15½' S.  
Long. 164°-01' E.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 300°T, at standard speed 15 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #40(1940 Diagrams). 2000 changed course to 327°T, 327°G. Changed speed to 14.5 knots(81RPM), Changed zig zag plan to plan #17 (1940 Diagram). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

## Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

0815 Underway enroute Guadalcanal via route west of New Caledonia in compliance Commander Transport Group despatch 101413/May. 1430 Received Comdr. Transport Group 102346/May designating rendezvous with WARD and forming Task Unit 32.4.5. Also further instructions discharge and loading and return to Noumea.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12)Wednesday 12 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming singly on base course 327°T & G., at standard speed 14.5 kts. (81 RPM). On zig zag plan #17 (1940 Diagrams) Under Boiler No. 1 and #2. Ship darkened and condition III is set. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 327°T & G., at standard speed 14.5 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagram). 0629 Light ship. 0700 Changed base course to 000°T & G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.  
0800 Position: Lat. 18°-54' S.  
Long. 162°-29' E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 000°T & G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagram) at standard speed 14.5 knots. (81 RPM). 1010 Secured degaussing coils. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.  
1200 Position: Lat. 18°-03½' S.  
Long. 162°-22' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 000°T & G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagram) at standard speed of 14.5 knots. (81 RPM). 1230 changed base course to 015°T & G., changed standard speed to 15 knots. (84 RPM), changed Z/Z plan to Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) 1335 sighted unknown vessel, distance about 12 miles. All guns called to alert. 1344 vessel identified as USS WARD. Alert secured. 1400 formed Task Unit 32.4.5. 1418 USS WARD took station ahead as screen. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.5.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 015°T & G. Zig zagging on Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) Standard speed 15 knots. (84 RPM). 1746 observed sunset. Darkened ship. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 015°T & G., at standard speed 15 kts. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #12. (1940 Diagrams) Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.  
2000 Position: Lat. 18°-11' S.  
Long. 162°-39' E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 015°T & G., at standard speed 15 kts. (84 RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) At 2400 ceased Z/Z and resumed base course. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Postgrad.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Thursday, 13 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WARDIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.5, consisting of LIBRA, OTC and guide, and USS WARD acting as escort and screen patrolling station ahead. Steaming at standard speed of 15 knots. (84RPM). on base course 015°T & G. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened and Condition III set. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 015°T & G, at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). 0530 commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 0620 Sunrise. Lighted ship. 0700 changed base course to 020°T, 020.5°G. Av. steam 458.5 Av. RPM. 84.

0800 Position: Lat. 13°-21'S.  
Long. 163°-08'E.

*J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 020°T, 202.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Z/Z plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 0838 Friendly aircraft (Liberator) sighted at 090°T. 1157 USS WARD reported strange plane at 170°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

1200 Position: Lat. 12°-25'S.  
Long. 163°-19'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 020°T, 020.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 1205 Enemy plane, identified as Kawanaski 97, bearing 210°T, dropped three bombs, which landed about 1500 yards off starboard bow and quarter. Sounded General Quarters and commenced firing. 1207 turned hard left. 1208 turned hard right. Ceased firing. 1210 resumed base course 020°T. 1214 secured from General Quarters. 3" shells expended 7 rounds. 20mm MGs expended 62 rounds. No casualties. 1218 resumed zig zagging Plan #11, 1940 Diagrams). 1346 Unidentified plane sighted bearing 085°T- disappeared into clouds. 1350 USS WARD signalled radar contact at 224°T. 1355 USS WARD signalled contact lost at 15 miles.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 020°T, 020.5°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11, (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1740 changed base course to 296°T, 296.5°G. 1751 darkened ship. Set guns on the alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 297°G. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) Standard speed 15 knots. 84RPM. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

2000 Position: Lat. 10°-52½'S.  
Long. 163°-24'E.

*J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 297°G. at standard speed 15kts. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 2018 changed base course to 302°T, 303°G. 2145 Energized degaussing coils. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

## Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:

At 1245 cleared my despatch 123559/May reporting attack by twin engine Kawanaski 97. 1300 received OTU despatch reporting attack by twin engine bomber at 1230L. Position 11°-07'S, 164°-29'E. 2200 received report of SM at 10°S 161°E. (By DF fix) at 1328L. Received ComNavBase, Lunga, 130432/May directing LIBRA unload at Lunga Point.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS.

Location of Ship Lat. 12° 26' N. Long. 143° 10' E U.S.S. LIBRA (AK53)  
Date 13 May 1941

NOTES.

- (a) Repel Attack First - then collect data for this report!  
(b) Do not "gun deck" this report- if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.  
(c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.

1. Surprise attack (~~Yes~~-or No) No.
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye) not in  
(If by Radar state type of set USS 4430, then by flag hoist  
to LIBRA who then sighted with binoculars.
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles,  
less 5 miles ) 5 Miles.
4. Number of planes one.
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive-bomber) Mitsubishi 00  
Type of attack Horizontal.
6. Speed & altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low  
and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow,  
intermediate and intermediate
7. Guns firing 4 Size 3" Number 2  
Method of control \_\_\_\_\_ Method spotting \_\_\_\_\_
8. Ammunition expended 3", 7 rounds; 20mm, 62 rounds.
9. Percent service allowance expended 3", .8%; 20mm, .001%.
10. Approximate time tracking to first shot 1 minute
11. Approximate time of first hits no hits
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot 1 minute
13. Approximate position angle open fire 65°
14. Approximate position cease fire 80°
15. Approximate bearing first shot 300° Relative
16. Approximate bearing last shot 200° Relative

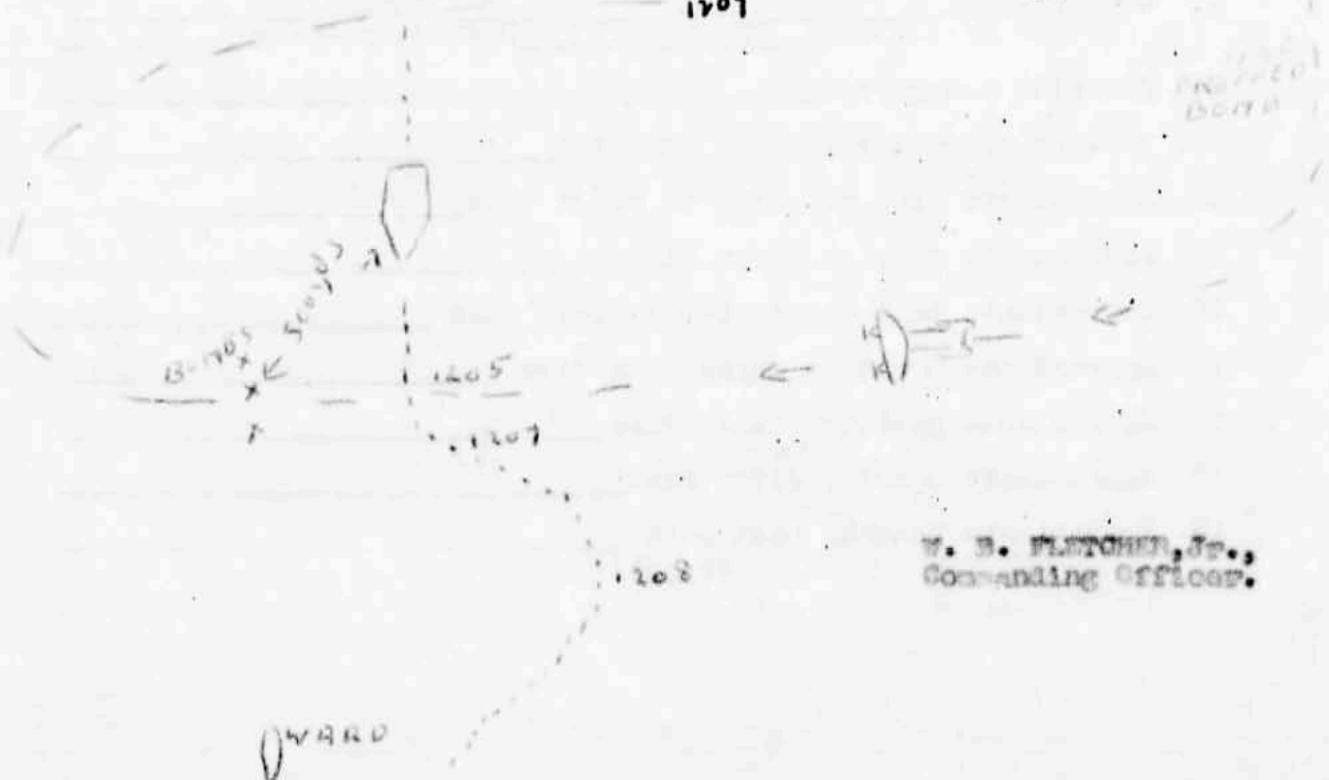
(over)

17. Approximate range first shot 1000 yards
18. Approximate range last shot 4000 yards
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release 2000' Type bomb 500 lb
20. Approximate range torpedo release \_\_\_\_\_  
Size of torpedo \_\_\_\_\_
21. Hits on ship none Was ship strafed No Size Gun 0
22. Number ~~near~~ bomb misses 3 Casualties from near misses none
23. Planes shot down 0 Sure 0 Possible 0 Damaged 0  
By what size gun \_\_\_\_\_
24. Details of Damage to target by gunfire if available \_\_\_\_\_  
no hits
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor)  
Excellent
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small excessive) Large

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.  
(b) Show relative position of sun.  
(c) Indicate own maneuvers.

1709



W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commanding Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 14 May, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS  
 "OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.5 on base course 302°T, 303°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11(1940 D).Libra OTC and guide with USS WARD acting as escort and screen patrolling station ahead. Steaming at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened. Condition III set. 0100 ceased Z/Z and resumed base course. 0110 sighted San Cristobal Is. bearing 240°T, distance about 10 miles. 0216 sighted Aliiti Is. bearing 251°T, distance 6 miles. 0220 changed course to 276°T, 277°G. 0246 sighted Ulawa Is. bearing 0°T distance 12 miles. 0255 Aliiti Is. abeam to port distance 5 miles. 0320 sighted Ugi Is. bearing 203°T and Bio Is. bearing 224°T, distance 7 miles. 0543 Ugi Is. abeam to port distance 6 miles. Degaussing coils energized throughout watch. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 276°T, 277°G, at standard speed of 15 knots(84RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0440 changed course to 309°T, 310°G. 0546 commenced Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagram). 0550 sighted Guadalcanal Island bearing 340°T, distance about 28 miles. 0618 sighted unidentified plane bearing 200°T, challenged same. 0622 observed sunrise. Lighted ship. 0625 plane passed out of sight bearing 200°T challenge unanswered. 0640 sighted one aircraft bearing 050°T, challenged. 0644 sighted two planes bearing 229°T. 0652 sighted Nura Island bearing 305°T distance about 22 miles. 0715 changed base course to 302°T, 303°G. 0749 sighted Florida Island bearing 310°T, distance about 30 miles. 0800 ceased Z/Z on course 277°T, 278°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.  
 0800 Position: Lat. 09°-33' S.  
 Long. 160°-53' E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
 Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 277°T. S/S of 15 knots. 84 RPM. 0810 Changed course to 306°T. Commenced Zig Zag Plan #11(1940 Diagram) 0832 ceased Z/Z on course 295°T. 0836 Changed course to 329°T, 330°G. 0849 Passed Rua Sura Island abeam to port distance 1 mile. 0853 changed course to 286°T, 287°G. 1010 changed course to 269°T, 270°G. 1014 passed Pari Pile abeam to starboard distance 3 miles. 1048 changed course 260°T, 261°G. Various speeds and courses proceeding to anchorage. 1113 anchored off Lunga Pt., Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 25 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "E" 227°T; Beacon "F" 267°T; Beacon "D" 143°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 76.4.

*J.J. Borden*  
 Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. Unloading cargo from all hatches. 1520 #5 hatch completed unloading.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Unloading cargo from holds #1, 2, 3 and 4. 1645 made all preparations for getting underway. 1705 underway on various courses standard speed 15 knots standing towards Tulagi. Captain at conn. Navigator on bridge. 1708 completed unloading #4 hold. 1851 anchored in Tulagi Harbor in northeastern edge Berth #3 in 27 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following anchorage bearings: FR 060°G. Beacon "E" 332.5°G. Tan. 207°G. Tan. 306°G. 1903 received USS WARD alongside port side for fueling. Draft fwd. 12'00" Art. 20'10". 1945 commenced fueling USS WARD. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 74.4.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. Continued fueling USS WARD. 2116 short circuit in battery #3 hold started small fire which was put out with no damage. 2345 searchlight observed over Guadalcanal Island.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
 Navigator. U.S.N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

14

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:

About 0200 received report of enemy submarines by direction finder at 1124 Z in position 09°-30' S; 164° E., and at 10°S, 160°E. This latter position possibly the one reported previously at 10°S, 161°E. CROSBY with SS MATTHEW THORNTON reported at 140210 that they had been bombed by high level plane in Lat. 10°-45' S, Long. 164°-10' E., at 1039 local time.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

18



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Saturday  
(Date)15  
(Date)May  
(Month) 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in Tulagi Harbor in 27 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: FR. 060°G., Beacon "E" 332°T, E. Tan. Tulagi Is. 206°T, N. Tan. Tulagi Is. 306°G. S.H. 160°G. Ship darkened and boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. #5, 6 and 9 20mm batteries manned. 0305 completed fueling USS WARD (86,000 gals) Draft after fueling: Fwd. 11'10"; Art. 20'09".

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0425 made preparations for getting underway. 0430 set special sea detail. 0442 USS WARD cast off. 0455 Anchor aweigh, Captain at the conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds conforming to channel. 0512 passed thru submarine net. 0521 changed course to 201°G, 200°T, heading for anchorage off Lunga Point. 0636 anchored off Lunga Point in 25 fathoms of water, with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 267°T. Beacon "E" 209°T; Beacon "D" 139°T. 0640 commenced discharging cargo from #1 and #3 holds. 0645 commenced discharging cargo from #2 hold. 0735 completed unloading No. 1 hold. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 41.6.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0820 completed unloading #2 hatch. 0835 commenced loading number one hatch. 0900 completed unloading #3 hatch. 0910 commenced loading number three hatch. 0930 commenced loading No. 4 hatch. 1010 commenced hoisting boats aboard No. 2 & 5 hatches. 1049 received USS BALLARD alongside port side. 1059 commenced pumping fuel to BALLARD. Draft Fwd. 10'9"; Art 21'4". 1155 completed loading number four hatch. Boats aboard and secured on No. 5 hatch.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1215 completed loading hatch #2. 1305 completed loading No. 4 and No. 1 hatches. 1315 completed loading Hatch #3. 1320 USS TITANIA standing out. 1530 completed fueling USS BALLARD. Delivered 81,400 gals. Draft after fueling: Fwd. 9'8"; Art. 22'03". Made all preparations for getting underway. 1545 USS BALLARD underway from alongside port side. 1548 Underway. Captain at conn. Navigator on bridge. Steaming on various courses at various speeds standing out of anchorage. Standard speed 15 knots. 1552 ahead standard. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 58.1.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming on various courses at standard speed standing out of Lunga anchorage in company with USS WARD. 1622 Changed course to 081°G, 090°T. Entered Lengo Channel. 1651 Pari Pile abeam to port distance 3 miles. 1700 passed Nugu Is. abeam to port, distance 8 miles. 1713 passed out of Lengo Channel, changed course to 104°T, 105°G. Commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940D) Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

2000 Position: Lat. 09°-32'S.  
Long. 161°-03½'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 121°T, 122°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). 2000 changed standard speed to 16 knots (90 RPM). 2123 USS WARD signalled plane picked up by radar bearing 215°T. All guns were put on the alert. 2130 USS WARD lost contact. 2209 passed Maramasike Island abeam to port distance 5 miles. 2210 changed course to 100°T, 101°G. 2230 sighted Ulawa Island bearing 080°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 89.9.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL.  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Saturday 15 May, 1943  
(Date) (Day) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:

1300 Task Unit 32.4.17 (TITANIA -STACK) departed from Koli. This unit permitted to proceed independently in order to preclude a forty-eight hour delay in carrying out the remainder of their schedule which would be caused by any further delay in departure.

1500 cleared departure report for this unit (TU 32.4.6) and at 1545 cleared cargo loading report.

No information concerning air cover received.

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.  
U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Sunday, 16 May, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 32.4.5 consisting of LIBRA, CTU and guide and USS WARD acting as escort and screen, on base course 100°T, 101°G, at standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940D). Ship darkened and condition III set. 0004 Ulawa Island abeam to port; distance approx. 5 miles. 0010 changed course to 117°T, 118°G. 0110 challenged by aircraft bearing 325°T. 0243 observed moonset. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 117°T, 118°G, at standard speed of 16 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940D) 0614 Light ship. 0658 changed course to 124°T, 126°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

0800 Position: Lat. 10°-52'S.  
Long. 163°-52'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 124°T, 125°G. At standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940D) 0805 sighted one unidentified aircraft bearing 210°T. All guns on alert. 0809 Aircraft passed out of sight. Ordered guns at ease. 0837 signal from WARD that strange aircraft bearing 100°True. Sounded General Quarters. 0839 commenced firing on unidentified aircraft bearing 085°T. 0839 ceased firing. Aircraft identified as being friendly. 10 rounds 3"/50 cal. - 180 rounds 20mm expended. 0900 changed base course to 193°T, 194°G. 1015 sighted object, apparently plane, bearing 300°T. All guns on alert. 1022 all guns at ease. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

1200 Position: Lat. 11°-42'S.  
Long. 163°-52'E.

*J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 193°T. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). 1239 aircraft sighted bearing 120°T. 1252 General Quarters, taking necessary action to evade high level bombing attack by single plane. 1253 bomb dropped, USS WARD, 1000 yds. ahead of LIBRA. 1258 resumed Z/Z, plane out of sight but reported to be in the vicinity by WARD. 1329 escort reported contact definitely lost; secured from General Quarters. 1344 escort reported plane bearing 000°T. General Quarters; plane sighted bearing 340°T, taking necessary evading action. 1353 resumed Z/Z. Plane out of sight. 1415 Set condition II, Sections 1 & 2. 1555 set condition III. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, U.S.N.R.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 193°T, 194°G, standard speed 16 kts. (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11, (1940 Diagrams) Boilers 1 and 2 in use. 1749 Observed sunset, darkened ship, set guns in condition of alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 193°T, 194°G, at standard speed 16 knots (90RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 D) 1830 changed course to 163°T, 164°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

2000 Position: Lat. 13°-36'S.  
Long. 163°-25'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 163°T, 164°G. Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagram) at standard speed 16 knots. 2000 changed base course to 193°T, 193.5°G. Continued Z/Z on plan #11. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

Approved: *W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.  
*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS.

Location of Ship 11°-20'N, 103°-30'W. U.S.S. LIBRA (AK53)  
Date 2-10 1943.

NOTES.

- (a) Rebel Attack First - then collect data for this report!
- (b) Do not "gun deck" this report- if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.
- (c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.

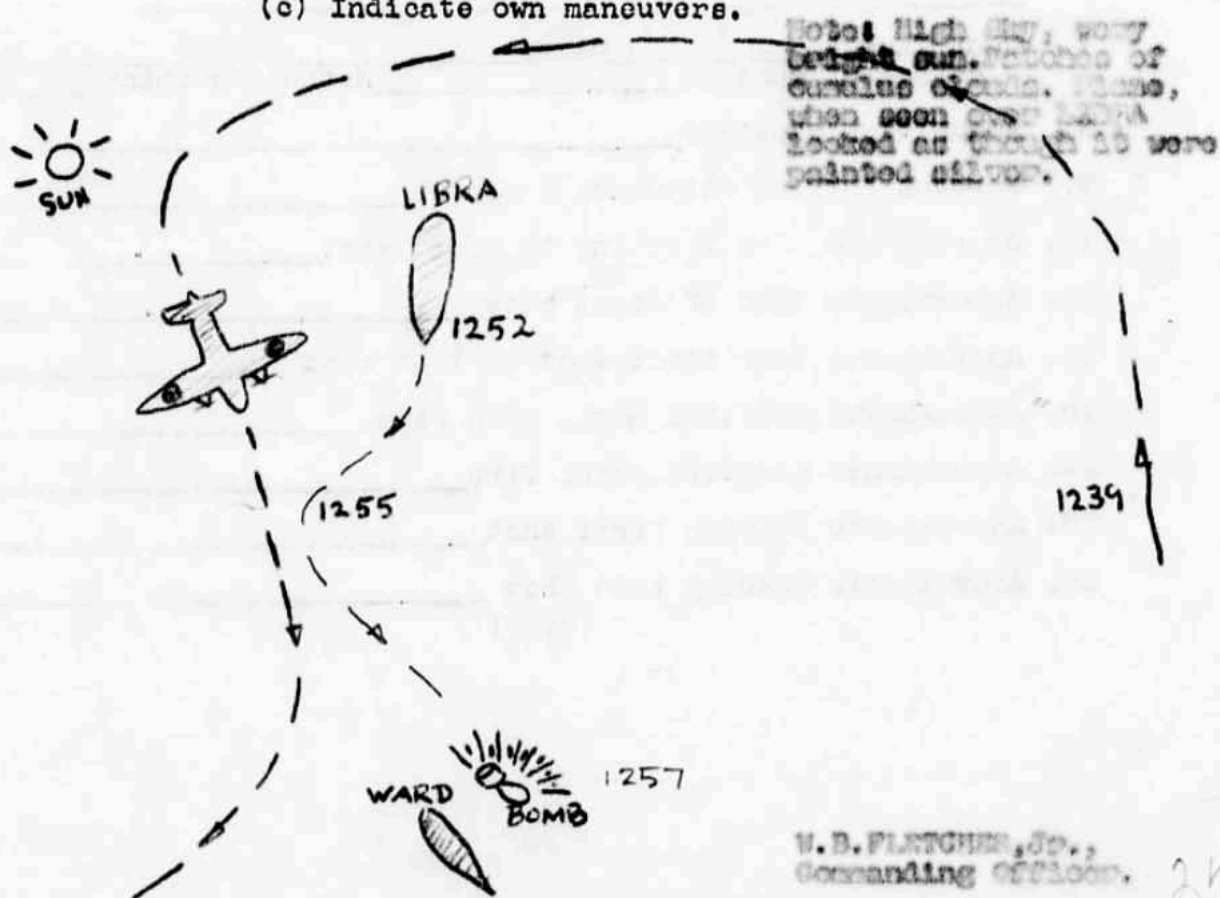
- 1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) no.
- 2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye) binoculars at 1000  
(If by Radar state type of set binoculars at 1000.)
- 3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) 10 miles.
- 4. Number of planes one.
- 5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive-bomber) unidentified  
Type of attack Horizontal High level.
- 6. Speed & altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow, High and Fast.)
- 7. Guns firing None Size None Number None  
Method of control None Method spotting None
- 8. Ammunition expended None
- 9. Percent service allowance expended None
- 10. Approximate time tracking to first shot 2 min.
- 11. Approximate time of first hits None
- 12. Approximate time first shot to last shot did not fire
- 13. Approximate position angle open fire did not fire
- 14. Approximate position cease fire did not fire
- 15. Approximate bearing first shot did not fire
- 16. Approximate bearing last shot did not fire

(over)

17. Approximate range first shot did not fire
18. Approximate range last shot did not fire
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release 10-20000 type bomb 0000
20. Approximate range torpedo release 0  
Size of torpedo 0
21. Hits on ship None Was ship strafed No Size Gun 0
22. Number near bomb misses 0 Casualties from near misses 0
23. Planes shot down 0 Sure 0 Possible 0 Damaged 0  
By what size gun 0
24. Details of Damage to target by gunfire if available did not fire
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor) 0
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small excessive) 0

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.  
(b) Show relative position of sun.  
(c) Indicate own maneuvers.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12)

Monday

17

May

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400 : Steaming in company Task Unit 32.4.5, LIBRA, CTU and guide, USS WARD acting as escort and screen on base course 193°T, 193.5°G., at standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11 (1940D) Ship darkened and Condition III set. Boilers #1 and 2 in use. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Steaming as before on base course 193°T, 193.5°G., at standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 0525 set all guns in condition alert. 0623 observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0700 changed base course to 185°T, 185.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

0800 Position: Lat. 16°-37'S.  
Long. 162°-40'E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200 : Steaming as before on base course 185°T, 185.5°G., at standard speed of 16 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 D). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

1200 Position: Lat. 17°-39½'S  
Long. 162°-32'E.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Steaming as before on base course 185°T, 185.5°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 16 knots (90RPM). 1320 changed base course to 177°T, 177.5°G., continued Z/Z Plan #11. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*J.S. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.S. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800 : Steaming as before on base course 177°T, 178°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 16 knots (90RPM). 1730 changed base course to 147°T, 148°G. 1742 Sunset-Darkened ship. Set all guns on alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000 : Steaming as before on base course 147°T, 148°G., at standard speed of 16 knots (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

2000 Position: Lat. 19°-33'S.  
Long. 162°-51½'E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400 : Steaming as before on base course 147°T, 148°G., at standard speed 16 knots (90 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 D.) Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Tuesday  
(Day)18  
(Date)MAY  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.5 LIBRA, OTU and guide, with USS WARD acting as escort and screen on base course 147°T, 143°G, at standard speed 16 kts (90RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and condition III set. 0230 changed course to 125°T, 124°G, continued Zig zag Plan #11. 0340 sighted land bearing 085°T. Distance approx 25 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 125°T, 124°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940 D) at standard speed of 18 knots (90RPM). 0523 all guns put on the alert. 0623 Sunrise - Secured guns from alert. 0700 changed base course to 125°T, 126°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.  
0800 Position: Lat. 21°-43'S.  
Long. 165°-10'E

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 125°T, 126°G. standard speed 16kts. (90RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #11 (1940D) 1003 sighted plane bearing 308°T, challenged and answered properly. 1045 sighted 4 vessels bearing 212°T, challenged and answered properly. 1128 sighted 4 aircraft bearing 103°T, elevation 7°. 1140 plane circled ship. Challenged and answered properly. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.  
1200 Position: Lat. 22°-20'S.  
Long. 166°-06'E

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming as before on base course 125°T, 126°G. Z/Z in accordance with plan #11 (1940D) at standard speed 18 knots. (90RPM). 1208 sighted Amedee Is. Light-house bearing 115°T. Distance 20 miles. 1234 ceased Z/Z and remained on course 135°T, 136°G. 1307 Changed course to 99°T, 100°G. 1310 set special sea detail Captain at the conn. Navigator on the bridge. Steered 050° True through Bulari Passage. 1328 passed Amedee Lighthouse abeam to port. 1420 anchored off Little Entrance Port Noumea, New Caledonia in 10 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Nackle Works Chimney 039°T.; Beacon "S" 326°T.; Beacon "X" 137°T. Secured special sea detail and hoisted out boats. 1540 H.M.S. VICTORIOUS stood out. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 64.9

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1600 made all preparations for getting underway. 1602 anchor aweigh. Underway on various courses at various speeds shifting berths to moor alongside USS PASIG to fuel. 1640 Moored port side to USS PASIG, Berth #42, Dumbea Bay, New Caledonia with standard lines out on the following bearings: Beacon "I" 070°G.; Beacon "O", 117°G. Beacon "P" 141°G. 1703 commenced fueling from USS PASIG. 1718 Sunset. Darkened ship. Draft before fueling Fore 9'6"; Aft. 20'6". Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 44.4.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Receiving fuel from USS PASIG.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

At 1400, upon arrival Noumea, Task Unit 32.4.5 dissolved, WARD directed proceed independently.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 19 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored port side to USS PASIG with 6 - 8" lines doubled up in berth #52, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia. Ship darkened. Receiving fuel. 0130 completed fueling ship having received on board 220,000 gallons of fuel oil at 60°F. Draft of ship Fwd. 12'9"; Aft. 20'6". Boiler #2 in use for general purposes.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0600 lit off No.1 Boiler. 0630 set special sea detail. 0645 singled up all lines. 0653 Underway, to Berth #8. Captain at the conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0712 let go anchor in berth #8, Dumbea Bay, with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor in 8 fathoms of water on the following bearings: Beacon "C" 038.5°T; Beacon "F" 081°T; Beacon "G" 107°T; SH 358.6°T. 0725 Secured No.1. boiler.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*J.J. Borden*  
 Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1330 commenced discharging cargo from holds #1 and #4. 1550 completed discharging cargo from No.4 hold.

*L.M. Jordan*  
 Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Finished discharging cargo from No.1 hold at 1620.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lieut. (jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lieut. (jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Commander, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
 Navigator.  
 U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Thursday 20 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in berth #8 with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "C" 039.5°T; Beacon "F" 081°T; Beacon "G" 107°T; SH 358.6°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (JG) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (JG) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*S.N. Berry*  
Lieut. (JG) S.N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (JG) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Mustangier.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Friday

21

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS


## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 : Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in Berth #8 with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor in 8 fathoms of water on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "C" 032.5T; Beacon "F" 081°T; Beacon "G" 107°T; SH 358.6°T. No.2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes.



Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800 : Anchored as before.



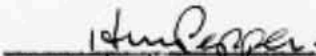
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200 : Anchored as before. 0825 USS CUSHING stood in. 0935 USS TITANIA stood out. 1130 USS TALAMANCA stood in.



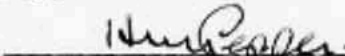
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600 : Anchored as before.



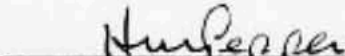
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000 : Anchored as before. 1721 Darkened ship.



Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 : Anchored as before.



Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

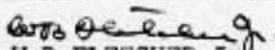
## Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

Upon receipt of Commander Transport Group, South Pacific 200014/May LIBRA reported to CTF 32 for operational control.

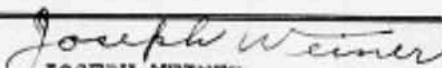
1500 Received CTF 32 mailgram 200342/May concerning loading at Noumea and prospective movements.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., DVM, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Saturday 22  
(Day) (Date)

May  
(Month)

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Anchored in berth #8 Dumber Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings:- beacon "C" 032.5°T; beacon "P" 081°T; beacon "G" 107°T S.H. 034°; #2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G)USNR

0400-0800 Anchored as before. 0821 Lighted ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G)USNR

0800-1200 Anchored as before. 1120 USS PRESIDENT HAYES, USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, USS BAGLEY, AND USS MUGFORD stood in.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S)USNR

1200-1600 Anchored as before. 1215 HMS ENGADINE stood in. 1405 Loaded 20 rounds of 3" and 2,100 rounds of 20mm ammunition at #1 hatch. 1445 USS HAYES underway. USS McALLA stood out. 1450 USS MUMARGO stood out. 1500 USS BAGLEY and WHARTON stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G)USNR

1500-2000 Anchored as before.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G)USNR

2000-2400 Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G)USNR

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer.

1030 Received ComTransGroup Despatch 210331/May to embark 28 enlisted (boat crews) for transportation. 1630 Received Port Directors despatch to shift to berth alongside pier seven at 0630 May 23rd.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIHEA(AKAL2)Sunday 23 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -31REMARKS  
OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY.

0000-0400: Anchored in Berth 8, Dumbes Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "C" 052.5°T; Beacon "F" 081°T; Beacon "G" 107°T. SH 034°T. Ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0300 lit off No.1 boiler.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0545 made all preparations for getting underway. Set special sea detail. 0615 Underway on various courses and speeds. Captain at the conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0658 moored port side to Nickle Works dock Berth #7, with six 8" lines doubled up. 0710 Secured #2 boiler. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 28.1

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. 0835 commenced loading #5 hold. 0900 commenced loading #1 hold. 0923 commenced loading #2 and #3 holds. 1000 commenced loading #4 hold.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Taking on cargo in all holds.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Taking on cargo in all holds.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Taking on cargo in all holds.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

24

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored to Noumea Hickle Works Dock #7, port side to with standard mooring lines out. Loading hatches #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. Completed loading #5 hold. Continued loading #1, #2, #3 and #4 holds.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. 1125 USS SAN JUAN stood in from sea. 1125 completed loading #4 hold. 1140 completed loading #1 hold.

*J. H. Pepper*  
Lieut. (JG) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Continued loading #2 hold. Completed loading #3 hold at 1230.

*S. M. Berry*  
Lieut. (JG) S. M. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Continued loading #2 hold.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Continued loading #2 hold.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

0930 Received CTF 32 Movement Order A6-43. Upon departure LIBRA joins Task Unit 32.8.1.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. J. M., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 25 May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored port side to dock #7, Noumea, New Caledonia, (Hackle Works) with standard 8" manila lines. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Loading No. 2 hatch.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0430 completed loading #2 hatch. 0500 out in #2 Boiler. 0545 made all preparations for getting underway. Set special sea detail 0607 Underway. Captain at Conn. Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds, standard speed 15 knots, standing out of Great Roads to anchorage in Dumbea Bay in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor at the water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 255°G; Beacon "B" 333°G; Beacon "C" 019°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 33.0

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*S.N. Berry*  
 Lieut. (Jg) S.N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1335 USS PREBLE standing in. 1430 USS TALBOT, APD7 standing out.

*Carl D. Jones*  
 Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1823 Observed sunset. Darkened ship.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
 Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*Carl D. Jones*  
 Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
 Captain, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
 Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

26

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored as before in berth 17, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water, sand and coral bottom with 45 fathoms of chain to the waters edge, to port anchor. Ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 256°T; Beacon "B" 333°T; Beacon "C" 019°T.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Anchored as before. 0623 observed sunrise. USS McCALL, D400, standing in.

*Carl D. Jones*  
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200: Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1720 darkened ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (JG) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (JG) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

1630 Received CTF despatch 250524/May - sortie orders, Task Unit 32.8.1.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.  
E. S. H., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP. LIBRA (AXA12)Thursday 27 May 1913  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth 17, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water, sand and coral bottom, with 45 fathoms of chain to the water's edge, to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 255°T; Beacon "B" 333°T; Beacon "C" 019°T. Ship darkened. Boiler No. 2 in use.

*L. K. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. K. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0650 USS DUNLAP, USS FANNING, USS CRAVEN, USS MAURY stood out. 0650 USS SAN JUAN, USS SAN DIEGO stood out. 0705 USS SARATOGA stood out. 0750 USS PRES. ADAMS underway. 0735 USS PRES. JACKSON underway.

*L. K. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. K. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1545 USS TALBORT stood in to anchorage.

*J. B. Bordet*  
Lieut. (Jg) J. B. BORDET, D-M, USNR.

1200-2000: Anchored as before. 1600 USS JOHN PENN stood in. 1735 observed sunset. Darkened ship.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:

0845 : Received CTF 32 despatch 261955 delaying sailing of Task Unit 32.2.1 until further orders.

1800 : Received CTF 32 despatch 270602 stating that ALGORAB, LIBRA pass to control of ComTransGroup today (27May).

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Friday 28 May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY

0000-0400 Anchored in berth #17 Dumber Bay, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon A 255°T, Beacon B 333°T, Beacon C 019°T. Ship darkened and boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*J. J. Borden*  
J. J. BORDEN, Lt. (jg), D-M, USNR.

0400-0600 Anchored as before. 0630 USS PRESIDENT HAYES and PRESIDENT ADAMS underway. 0730 USS STANLEY stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
J. J. BORDEN, Lt. (jg), D-M, USNR.

0800-1200 Anchored as before. 0815 USS McCALLA and FOMALHAUT stood in. 0900 HMS LEANDER stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
D. W. CHILDS, Lt. (jg), D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600 Anchored as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
S. N. BEERY, Lt. (jg), D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000 Anchored as before. 1723 observed sunset, darkened ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
H. M. PEPPER, Lt. (jg), D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400 Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
H. M. PEPPER, Lt. (jg), D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W. E. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. E. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt., USN,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR

U.S.N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Saturday

29

May

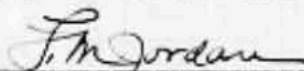
1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

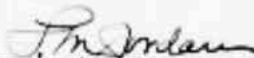
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Anchored in berth 17 Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 255°T; Beacon "B" 333°T; Beacon "C" 019°T. Ship darkened and Boiler No.2 in use.



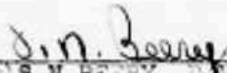
Lieut. L.N. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.




Lieut. L.N. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 1048 USS SARATOGA, SAN JUAN, SAN DIEGO, standing in. 1120 USS CRAVEN, DUNLAP, FANNING, MAURY, PATTERSON, CASE, DRACO, PRES. POLK standing in.



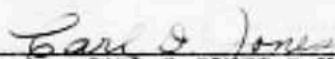
Lieut. (JG) S.N. BEERY, D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1525 USS MAYFORD standing in.



Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1724 observed sunset and darkened ship.



Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.



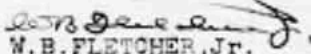
Ensign CARL D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

## Additional Remarks by the Commanding Officer:-

1830 : Received ComTransGroup mailgram 282345, May, forming Task Unit 32.3.1 (Southern Section ALGORAB, LIBRA, MONOGANELA, PATTERSON, TALBOT) (Northern Section JOHN PENN - CTU-, TRYON HOPKINS, KILTY, JENKINS). Also containing departure, routing, unloading, and return instructions.


2130 : Received ALGORAB - ComSouthernSection - sortie orders.

2348 : Received CTF 32 Movement order A7-43 which supercedes his A3-43.

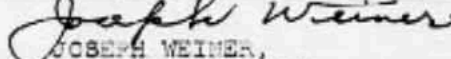


W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday  
(Day)

30  
(Date)

May  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth 17, Dumbear Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia, in eight fathoms of water, coral and sand bottom with forty-five fathoms of chain to the water's edge, out to Port anchor. Anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 285°T; Beacon "B" 333°T; Beacon "C" 019°T. Boiler No. 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened. 0020 out in No. 1 boiler.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0500 made preparations for getting underway. 0530 set special sea detail. 0602 underway in accordance with ComTransGroup mailgram 282345 of May. Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, standard speed 15 knots (64 RPM), proceeding at various speeds and courses, conforming to channel. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 33.6.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds standing out of channel. Captain at the Conn, Navigator on the bridge. 0812 changed speed to standard (15 knots) 0820 Tabu Reef light abeam to starboard. 0824 Amedee light abeam to starboard, distance 900 yards. 0841 Passed the rough Bulari Northern Passage. 0900 set base course 307°T, 307.5°G. Commenced zig zagging on Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). Formed cruising disposition of 2 columns, ALGORAB, MONONGAHELA in left column, LIBRA right column, PATTERSON and TALBOT screening formation, forming Task Unit 32.8.1. 1003 changed course to 305°T, 305.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 46.1.

1200 Position: Lat. 22°-04' S.  
Long. 165°-45' E.

*H.K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 305°T, 305.5°G. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams), standard speed 15 knots (64 RPM). 1212 TALBOT made radar contact on aircraft bearing 290°T. 1323 MONONGAHELA exercised at battle practice. 1430 TALBOT made radar contact on aircraft bearing 025°T. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 37.8.

*J.F. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.F. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 305°T, 305.5°G. 2/2 in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 15 knots (64 RPM). 1727 darkened ship. Set all guns on the alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 37.45.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 305°T, 305.5°G., in accordance with 2/2 plan #38 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots (64 RPM). 1800 ceased zig zagging, resumed base course 305°T, 305.5°G. 1830 secured guns from alert. 1900 changed base course and axis to 316°T, 316.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 37.4.

2000 Position: Lat. 20°-56' S.  
Long. 164°-02' E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 316°T, 316.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 37.26. 24 RPM.

*H.K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Monday  
194731  
(1947)Nov  
(1947)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.8.1 on base course 316°T, 316.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) in cruising disposition of two columns. ALGORAB and MONONGAHELA in left column, LIBRA right column. PATTERSON and TALEOT screening formation ahead. ALGORAB is OTC and Guide. Steaming under boilers #1 and #2. Ship darkened and condition III is set. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 87.8.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 316°T, 316.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 0400 changed base course and axis to 336°T, 336.5°G. 0414 commenced Z/Z in accordance with plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). 0457 ceased Z/Z. 0500 changed base course and axis to 356°T, 356.5°G. 0505 resumed Z/Z plan #38 (1940 D). 0537 Set all guns on the alert. 0637 Secured from the alert. 0658 ceased Z/Z. 0700 changed base course and axis to 016°T, 016.5°G. 0704 resumed Z/Z plan #38, (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM 86.5.  
0800 Position: Lat. 18°-26' S/  
Long. 162°-18' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 016°T and Gyro, zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). Steaming at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM) 0905 changed course and axis to 026°T and Gyro. 0907 changed to zig zag Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 87.5.  
1200 Position: Lat. 18°-26' S.  
Long. 162°-18' E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 026°T and Gyro, zig zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 D). 1255 PATTERSON reported radar contact with aircraft bearing 082°S, distance 28 miles. 1241 PATTERSON reported radar screen clear. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 87.3.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 026°T and Gyro, zig zagging on plan #12 (1940 Diagrams), standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 87.7.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 026°T and Gyro at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Z/Z in accordance with plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) 1835 ceased Z/Z and resumed base course. 1841 Secured from alert. 1936 commenced Z/Z in accordance with plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 87.6.  
2000 Position: Lat. 17°-29' S.  
Long. 162°-42' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 026°T and Gyro, steaming at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 86.8.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiker*  
JOSEPH WEIKER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

1

JUNE

19 48

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.8.1, cruising disposition two columns, ALGORAB and MONONGAMELA in column one, LIBRA in column two, PATTERSON and TALBOT screening formation. Base course 026°T and G. steaming at standard speed 15 knots. Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened. Boilers No. 1 and 2 in use. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.9.

*H. H. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. H. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 026°T and G. Standard speed 15 knots (64 RPM). Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 0617 Sunrise. Light ship. 0635 strange ship sighted bearing 040°T. 0641 changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 0643 five planes sighted bearing 335°T, friendly. 0645 sighted two DDs and cargo vessel bearing 070°T, distance approx. 15 miles, friendly. 0702 changed base course to 048°T and G. Commenced zig sagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 0702 sighted friendly aircraft carrier and four escorts bearing 040°T, distance approx. 15 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 83.5.

0800 Position: Lat. 12°-53' S.  
Long. 164°-51' E.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 048°T and G. 2/Z in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 0830 ceased 2/Z and resumed base course. 0831 changed base course and axis to 016°T and G. 0832 sighted USS JOHN PENN, TRYON and one DD, one APD and one DMS bearing 061°T on the horizon. 0842 commenced 2/Z in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 0917 changed standard speed to 15 knots (64 RPM). 0919 ceased 2/Z and resumed base course. 0921 changed base course to 353°T and G. 0929 changed base course to 335°T and G. 0940 formed in column astern of USS ALGORAB, MONONGAMELA astern of LIBRA on base course 335°T and G. 0942 changed course to 345°T and G. 0950 changed course to 355°T and G. 1001 changed course to 016°T and G. 1003 changed course to 335°T and G. 1008 changed speed to 10 knots. 1015 joined the Northern part of Task Unit 32.8.1. Task Unit 32.8.1 now consisting of USS JOHN PENN (CTU and Guide) and TRYON in the first section, ALGORAB, LIBRA and MONONGAMELA in the second section. Escort consisting of HOPKINS (ComEscort), PATTERSON, JENKINS, TALBOT and KILTY. 1015 changed standard speed to 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Changed base course and axis to 327°T and G. 1023 commenced 2/Z in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 1155 Received guard mail on starboard quarter from USS KILTY. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 83.3.

1200 Position: Lat. 12°-11' S.  
Long. 164°-39' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 327°T and G, steaming at standard speed of 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Zig sagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 D.) 1221 changed course and axis to 327°T & G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.9.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 327°T and G, at standard speed 15.5 knots, zig sagging in accordance with Plan #39. 1748 Darkened ship. 1750 ceased zig sagging and resumed base course. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.6.

*H. H. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. H. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 327°T and G., zig sagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 15.5 knots. 1900 changed base course to 297°T and G. Changed speed to 13 knots (72 RPM). 1910 commenced zig sagging in accordance with Plan #39, resumed standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.6.

2000 Position: Lat. 10°-46' S.  
Long. 163°-20' E.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.  
*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER  
Lieut. D-N, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N. Navigator.

5150

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKALZ) Thursday 1 JUNE 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

**REMARKS**

"OPERATION REMARKS AND WAR DIARY".

011325

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 297°T and 9., at standard speed of 15.5 knots (87 RPM). 1/2 in accordance with plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 2000 changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (78 RPM). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.2.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Captain, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

June 19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY."

011325

0300-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.3.1 on base course 297°T and G. Zig zapping in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). Task Unit disposed in two columns. USS JOHN PENN (3TU and GUIDE) and TRYON in right column; ALCORAB, LIBRA and MONONGAHELA in left column. LIBRA second ship in left column. Escort consisting of USS HOPKINS (ComEscort), PATTERSON, JENKINS, TALBOT and KILTY. Steaming at standard speed of 14.5 knots (78 RPM). Boilers No. 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened. Condition III set. Interval 1000 yds, distance 600 yards. 0300 ceased zig zapping and resumed base course. 0303 changed course to 274°T and G. Sighted Alliti Is. to port, bearing 340°T. 0322 commenced Z/2 on plan #39 (1940 Diagrams) 0327 Alliti Island abeam to port, distance 4 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.7.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 274°T and G. Zig zapping in accordance with plan #39 (1940 Diagrams) 0405 Energized degaussing coils. 0427 Bio Is. abeam to port, distance 8.5 miles. 0532 ceased zig zapping and resumed base course. 0533 Changed course and axis to 309°T and G. Cape Recherche, San Cristobal Is. abeam to port, distance 11 miles. 0542 commenced zig zapping in accordance with plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 0627 Sunrise. Light ship. 0637 Guadalcanal Island bearing 290°T, distance 23 miles. 0755 Changed course and axis to 318°T and G. Changed standard speed to 15.5 knots (84 RPM). 0755 Malapa Is. abeam to port, distance 11 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 80.9.

0800 Position: Lat. 9°-41' S.  
Long. 161°-03' E.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 318°T and G. Zig zapping on plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). Steaming at standard speed 15.5 knots (84 RPM). 0854 changed base course and axis to 335°T and G. 0855 sighted Kura Island bearing 330°T, distance approx. 8 miles. 0922 passed Kura Island abeam to port, distance 5.5 miles. 0928 ceased zig zapping and remained on course 317°T and G. 0934 changed course and axis to 275°T and G. Changed speed to 13 knots (72 RPM). 0942 resumed zig zapping on Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams) 0950 Changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1000 sighted Rua Sura Island bearing 230°T and G., approx. distance 7.5 miles. 1018 passed Rua Sura Island abeam to port, distance 3.5 miles. 1021 ceased Z/2 and returned to base course. 1034 commenced Z/2 on plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 1050 sighted three ships bearing 340°T. 1105 ceased Z/2. 1108 changed base course to 265°T and G and changed to 1/3 speed. 1110 formed in single column as follows: USS JOHN PENN, TRYON, ALCORAB, LIBRA, and MONONGAHELA. 1115 changed course and axis to 272°T and G. 1120 changed speed to standard 15 knots. 1125 passed Muga Island abeam to starboard, approx. distance 6 miles. 1127 Changed speed to 18 knots (87 RPM). 1138 changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1143 Entered Lengo Channel. 1146 passed Pari File abeam to starboard, distance approx. 3.5 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 79.9.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

1200-1500: Steaming as before on various courses and various speeds standing through Lengo Channel. Captain at Conn. Navigator on the bridge. 1241 anchored off Metapan River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 19 fathoms of water with 35 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "C" 192°T; Beacon "K" 133.5°T; Beacon "A" 261.5°T. 1241 commenced lowering all boats. 1314 commenced unloading #3 hatch. 1325 commenced unloading #5 hatch. 1335 commenced unloading #2 hatch. 1340 commenced unloading Hatches #1 and #4. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 20.5.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-N, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Wednesday 2 June 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

011325

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1606 Underway to shift berth. Steaming on various courses at various speeds. Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge. 1722 Anchored off Taguana Point in 21 fathoms of water with 31 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings:- Beacon "J" 125°T; Beacon "A" 170°T; Beacon "B" 231°T. Continued unloading cargo from all holds. 1803 observed sunset. Darkened ship. 1834 USS TALBOT alongside port side to receive fuel. 1845 commenced fueling USS TALBOT. 1850 Secured from unloading holds #1, 4 and 5. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 15.5.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. Unloading holds #2 and #3. Fueling USS TALBOT alongside port side. 2108 completed fueling USS TALBOT. (80,300 gals.) 2130 secured from unloading #3 hold. 2145 USS TALBOT underway from alongside port side. 2250 USS KILTY alongside port side to receive fuel. 2320 commenced fueling USS KILTY.

*H. K. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.  
U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday

5

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

011325

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY\*

0000-0600: Anchored in Berth 55 off Tagaona Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 21 fathoms of water with 31 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "J" 125°T; Beacon "A" 170°T; Beacon "B" 231°T; Ship's Head 240°T. Discharging cargo from No. 2 hatch. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Ship in modified darkened condition with combat cargo handling crews on stations. 0100 completed fueling USS KILTY (27,300 Gals). Draft forward 12'-00". Ast. 20'-06". 0200 USS KILTY cast-off from alongside.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lieut. (Jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200: Anchored as before. 0630 USS ALGORAB underway to shift berths. 0630 commenced unloading #3 hold. 0845 commenced unloading Holds #1, 4 and 5. 1030 completed unloading hold #5. 1045 completed unloading #4 hold. 1100 USS MERCURY CASSIOPEIA, OMNI, CHEVALIER and 2 merchant ships standing in (T.V. 32.8.4)

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before. Unloading Holds #1, 2, and 3. 1335 completed unloading No. 3 hold. 1338 USS TRYNX underway for Lunga Point. 1400 completed discharging cargo from #2 hold. 1555 completed discharging all cargo. Making all preparations for getting underway.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-1900: Anchored as before. 1647 Set special sea detail. 1835 Underway. Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds (Standard speed 15 knots) standing out of anchorage in company with USS JOHN PENN (CGU 32.8.11). LIBRA in position astern of JOHN PENN. Task Unit screened by USS JENNINS, TALBOT and KILTY. 1712 Ahead standard speed. 1721 entered Lengo Channel. 1742 Beacon "N" abeam to starboard, distance 1.8 miles. 1743 Pari Pile 1/2 abeam to port, distance 3.5 miles. 1750 set condition III. 1755 Nugu Is. abeam to port, distance 6.5 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 41.5.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1900-2000: Steaming as before on various courses conforming to channel at standard speed 15 knots (54 RPM), in company with Task Unit 32.8.11. 1903 Sunset. Darkened ship. 1903 changed course to 090°T and G. 1905 cleared Lengo Channel. 1930 USS TRYNX took position in column astern of LIBRA. 1937 changed course to 070°T and G. 1745 changed course to 090°T and G, Base course. 1951 commenced zig zagging on plan #17 (1940 Diagrams), changed standard speed to 15.5 knots. 1905 observed searchlights on Guadalcanal Island. 1938 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1942 changed course and axis to 123°T and G. 1952 commenced zig zagging on plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 76.9.  
2000 Position: Lat. 9°-26'S.  
Long. 160°-50'E.

*J. B. Schden*  
Lieut. (Jg) J. B. SCHDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 123°T and G, at standard speed of 15.5 knots (57 RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 2009 change speed to 16 knots (60 RPM). 2010 changed to Zig zag plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 2304 changed course and axis to 098°T and G. Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 88.8.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Thursday,  
(Day)3  
(Date)June  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

At 1400 received warning to be prepared for possible enemy air raid between 1500 and 1900.

At 1645 in compliance CTF 32 serial 00263 and CTU 32.8.1 despatch 030130/June, detached Task Unit 32.8.1 and formed Task Unit 32.8.11 composed of JOHN PENN (CTU), TRYON, LIBRA, JENKINS, KILTY, TALBOT.

W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.  
U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (ATA 12)Friday 4 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.9.11, formation in column, USS JOHN PENN (OTC and Guide), LIBRA and TRXON, distance 800 yards. Screen consisting of JENKINS ahead, KILTY starboard bow, and TALBOT port bow. Base course 098°T and G, steaming at 16 knots (90 RPM), standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Zig saggings in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers No. 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened and condition III set. 0042 ceased zig saggings resumed base course. 0045 changed course to 128°T and G. 0052 changed course to 118°T and G. 0100 resumed zig saggings in accordance with plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 0105 ceased zig saggings resumed base course. 0106 passed Ulawa Island abeam to port, distance about 5 miles. 0200 changed course to 110°T and G. 0240 changed course and axis to 118°T and G. 0304 commenced zig saggings in accordance with plan #12, (1940D). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 88.88.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 118°T and G, at standard speed 15.5 knots, zig saggings in accordance with plan #12. 0617 observed sunrise. Light ship. 0715 USS TRXON took position bearing 270° relative from the guide. Av. steam. 450. Av. RPM. 90.4.  
0800 Position: Lat. 10°-41' S.  
Long. 163°-38' E.

*H.N. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.N. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 118°T and G, standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM), steaming at 16 knots (90 RPM). Zig saggings in accordance with plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 0915 sighted aircraft bearing 151°T, distance 3½ miles. (challenged - no reply). 1015 ceased zig saggings and resumed base course. 1019 changed course and axis 148°T and G. 1027 commenced zig saggings in accordance with plan #12. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.7.  
1200 Position: Lat. 11°-21' S.  
Long. 164°-18½' E.

*J.C. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.C. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 148°T and G., at 16 knots (90 RPM), standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM). Zig saggings in accordance with plan #12 (diagrams). 1202 changed to zig saggings plan #16 (1940D). 1605 sighted two friendly planes, bearing 225°T. 1607 sighted Task Group 11.6 USS SCARGON and four DDs. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 91.2.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 148°T and G, zig saggings in accordance with plan #16 (1940 Diagrams), at 16 knots (90 RPM). Standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM). 1600 changed to zig saggings plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 1739 sunset. Darkened ship, set guns in condition of alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 91.8.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 148°T and G., zig saggings in accordance with plan #39, standard speed 15.5 knots, steaming at 16 knots (90 RPM). 1803 changed course and axis to 180°T and G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 90.7.  
2000 Position: Lat. 13°-03' S.  
Long. 165°-00' E.

*H.N. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.N. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 180°T and G. Zig saggings in accordance with plan #39 (1940D) standard speed 15.5 knots, steaming at 16 knots (90 RPM). 2220 USS TRXON with 1 DD, USS JENKINS as escort left convoy and proceeded as previously directed. Av. steam 447. Av. RPM. 88.8.

Approved:

Examined:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*J.C. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.C. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.  
*Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR.,  
U. S. N. Navigator,  
Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 5 June 1943  
 (Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

\*OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR, DIA "Y".

0000-0400: Steaming in company Task Unit 32.8.11; formation in column. USS JOHN PENN (OTC and Guide), LIBRA second ship, distance 800 yards. USS TALBOT and USS KILTY screening ahead. Steaming on base course 180°T and G, at 16 knots (90RPM). Standard speed 16.5 knots (87 RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). Ship Carried. Condition III set. Boilers No. 1 and 2 in use. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 88.1.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 180°T and G, zig zagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams), at 16 knots (90RPM), standard speed 16.5 knots (87RPM). 0618 called all guns to alert. 0618 observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0702 changed base course and axis to 235°T and G. 0705 took position 370° relative from JOHN PENN, distance 1000 yards. 0710 changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 0730 in position slowed to standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 87.4.

0800 Position: Lat. 15°-38' S.  
 Long. 154°-40' E.

*J. M. Jordan*  
 Lieut. E. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 235°T and G, zig zagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 D), steaming at standard speed 15 knots. 1000 ceased zig zagging on Plan #39 and commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #16 (1940 Diagrams). Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.7.

1200 Position: Lat. 16°-06' S.  
 Long. 153°-58' E.

*H. W. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming as before on base course 235°T and G, zig zagging on Plan #16 (1940 Diagrams), steaming at standard speed 15 knots. 1247 sighted plane bearing 210°T, passed out of sight to Northwestward. 1257 USS KILTY made radar plane contact bearing 255°T, distance 31 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 82.2.

*J. J. Jordan*  
 Lieut. (Jg) J. J. JORDAN, D-W, USNR.

1800-1800: Steaming as before on base course 235°T and G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Z/Z in accordance with Plan #16 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 82.5.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 235°T and G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #16 (1940 Diagrams). 1800 formed column astern of JOHN PENN, distance 600 yards. Commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 83.45.

2000 Position: Lat. 17°-00' S.  
 Long. 152°-29' E.

*J. M. Jordan*  
 Lieut. E. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 235°T and G, at standard speed 15 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 2230 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 2200 Changed course to 180°T and G. 2210 commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 82.6.

*H. W. Pepper*  
 Lieut. (Jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*M. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
 M. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
 Captain, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

6

June

1945

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & 'AS DEARY'"

0000-0400 Steaming in company with task unit 38.3.11 in column formation. USS JOHN PERRY, O.S.O. and guide, LIBRA in column astern 800 yds. TALBOT AND HILTY acting as escorts, screening on each bow. Base course 180°T & S, zig tagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagrams) Standard speed 15 knots (34RPM) steaming at standard speed under boilers 1 and 2. S.M. Darkened and condition III is set. 0350 Ceased S.S. and resumed base course 180°T & S. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 34.4

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-1, USNR

0400-0800 Steaming as before on base course 180°T & S at standard speed 15 knots, 34 RPM. S.S. in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 0430 Changed course on axis to 180°T & S. 0410 Resumed S.S. in accordance with plan #17. 0530 All guns on the alert. 0600 Secured from alert and set condition III. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 35.4.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-7(G), USNR

0800 Position: Lat. 20°-11'S  
Long. 162°-38'E

0800-1200 Steaming as before on base course 180°T & S, zig tagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). S.M. Formed on line of bearing 50° relative from guide, 1000 yards distance. 1000 changed base course to 180°T & S, changed zig tag plan to #18. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 35.4

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. L. JORDAN, D-7(S), USNR

1200 Position: Lat. 20°-11'S  
Long. 162°-38'E

1200-1600 Steaming as before on base course 140°T & S at standard speed 15 knots, zig tagging in accordance with plan #18. 1407 Sighted Key Caledonia bearing 075°T, sp. 1000. Distance 8 miles. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 35.9.

*H. W. O'Farrell*  
Lt. (jg) H. W. O'FARRELL, D-7(G), USNR

1600-1800 Steaming as before on base course 140°T & S at standard speed 15 knots, (34 RPM) S.S. in accordance with plan #18 (1940). 1709 Observed sunset, darkened ship, all guns alert. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 36.4.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-1, USNR

1800-2000 Steaming as before on base course 140°T & S at standard speed 15 knots, (34 RPM) S.S. in accordance with plan #18 (1940 Diagrams). 1800 Formed in column 180° relative from guide, distance 800 yards. Commenced S.S. in accordance with plan #17 (1940). 1820 Secured from alert. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 36.1

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-7(G), USNR

2000 Position: Lat. 21°-34'S  
Long. 164°-03'E

2000-2400 Steaming as before on base course 140°T & S, zig tagging in accordance with zig tag plan #17 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM) Boilers 1 and 2 in use for steaming purposes. 2150 Ceased zig tagging resumed base course. 2200 Changed base course to 120°T & S. 2210 Resumed zig tagging in accordance with plan #17. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 37.77.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. L. JORDAN, D-7(S), USNR

Approved:  
*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt, USN,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:  
*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-1, USNR,  
Officer of the Deck.

9

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Monday

7

June

1945

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Steaming in company with Task Unit 38.8.11 USS JOHN PENN, OTC and guide leading ship in column, LIBRA, second ship in position, 600 yards astern. USS TALBOT and KILTY screen. On base course 130°T&G, zig zapping on plan #17 (1940 diagrams), steaming at 15 knots, standard speed. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened, condition III set. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 37.6

*H. R. Puffer*  
Lt. (jg) H. R. PUFFER, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0800 Steaming as before on base course 130°T&G at standard speed 15 knots, Z.E. in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 0500 Ceased Z.E. resumed base course. 0600 changed course 080°T&G. 0606 changed course 050°T&G; commenced Z.E. plan #17. 0651 Observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0650 Took position 90° relative bearing on port side guide, distance 1000 yards. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 35.1  
0800 Position: Lat. 22°-40' S  
Long. 160°-11' E

*J. J. Jordan*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

0800-1200 Steaming as before on base course 050°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM) Z.E. in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 0810 Lighted Anodes Light bearing 030°T&G distance 10 miles. 0815 Energized degaussing coil. 0830 changed to Z.E. plan #38 (1940). 0900 Formed stern of USS JOHN PENN bearing 130° relative, steaming at various speeds on various courses to make entrance through Sulari passage. 0905 Set special sea detail and made all preparations for entering port. Captain at the conn and Navigator on the bridge. 0931 Passed through Sulari passage and proceeded at various courses and speeds to anchorage. 0937 Passed Anodes Light abeam to port, distance 1000 yards. 0950 Passed wreck abeam to port. 0955 Secured degaussing coils. 1111 Anchored in berth #8, Dumbca Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: "Bacon" "C" 030°T, Beacon "H" 330°T, Beacon "A" 220°T, S.W. 010°T. 1115 Secured special sea detail. 1116 Secured #1 boiler. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 73.9

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(5), USNR.

1200-1800 Anchored as before. 1216 USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, HAYES, ADAMS, McCAULEY, FAIRHOLT, MUSHAMAN, McCALLA, and TALBOT underway and stood out.

*H. R. Puffer*  
Lt. (jg) H. R. PUFFER, D-V(5), USNR.

1800-2000 Anchored as before.

*J. J. Jordan*  
Lt. L. J. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

2000-2400 Anchored as before.

*J. J. Jordan*  
Lt. L. J. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

## Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:

1000 In accordance SIP 38 movement order A7-43 and OIU 38.8.1 despatch 032120 Task Unit 38.8.11 dissolved.

1800 Received ComTransGroup mailgram 07-888/June regarding loading to commence June 8.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt. USN,  
Commanding Officer,

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.

D. W. Childs, Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

(Date)

June

(Month)

1945

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; 'AS STAY'"

0000-0400: Anchored in berth 3, Dumboa Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia in 9 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "C" 089°T, Beacon "B" 365°, Beacon "Q" 259°. Ship darkened. No. 2 boiler in use.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0430 lit off No.1 boiler. 0600 made all preparations for getting underway. 0610 set special sea detail. 0637 Underway. Captain at Conn. Navigator on the bridge. Steaming on various courses at various speeds standing into Great Roads. 0845 USS SAN JUAN and SAN DIEGO stood out. 0925 heeled port side to Rickle Rocks?, Noumea, New Caledonia with standard 8" manila lines fore and aft. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 52.5.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Heeled as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Heeled as before. 1300 USS TREVER and GRAVEN stood in.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Heeled as before. 1900 started loading holds No.1, 3, 3, and 4.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Heeled as before. Loading.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-N, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

9

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Moored port side to Nickle Dock No.7, Noumea, New Caledonia with standard 8" manila lines. Loading cargo in holds No.1, 2, 3, and 4. Boiler No.1 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0040 secured from loading all holds.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. 0815 continued loading all holds. 0932-Y024 moored to starboard side. 0955 began receiving fuel oil from Y024. 1150 ceased loading all holds.

*S.N. Beery*  
Lieut. (jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. 1255 finished receiving fuel from Y024. 1255 clears starboard side. 1305 commenced loading all holds. (Fuel received 163800 gallons).

*S.N. Beery*  
Lieut. (jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Loading cargo in all holds.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. 2030 Secured from loading hold #5.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday 10  
(Day) (Date)June 1943  
(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Moored port side to Nickle Dock #7, Noumea, New Caledonia, with standard 8" manila lines. Loading cargo in holds 1, 2, 3, and 4. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0120 secured loading holds 1, 2, 3, and 4.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0900 Moored as before. 0500 Cut in number 2 boiler.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0900-1200 Moored as before. 0910 Commenced loading #1 and #2 holds. 0920 USS MUGFORD underway. 0925 USS BAGBY underway. 0930 Commenced loading #3 hold. 0947 USS FULLER standing in. 1020 USS CIMMERON standing out. 1023 USS RENSHAW standing in. 1055 RADFORD standing in. 1110 ALDERBARAN standing in. 1155 Secured loading #3 hold. 1100 Commenced loading cargo in holds #4 and #5.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1200-1600 Moored as before. 1215 Completed loading at Nickle Dock #7 and commenced making all preparations to shift berth. 1220 Completed taking on fuel from Y.O. 44, received 8,434 gallons of diesel oil. 1237 Cast off all lines. 1240 Underway to change berth from Nickle Dock #7 to port side of USS CALAMARES, proceeding at various speeds and courses. 1323 Moored starboard side to USS CALAMARES in berth A-5, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia in 6 fathoms of water with standard mooring lines. 1415 Commenced loading #3 hold.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR

1600-2000 Moored as before. 1720 USS SAN JUAN, SAN DIEGO stood in. 1721 Observed sun set, darkened ship. 1730 USS SELFRIDGE and CRAVEN stood in. 1945 Secured loading in #3 hold, commenced loading in #5 hold.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

2000-2400 Moored as before. 2220 Secured loading #5 hold.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt., U.S.N.,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR

B. M. N. N. N.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

11

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Moored starboard side to the USS CALAMARES berth A5, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia in 8 fathoms of water with standard mooring lines, ship in modified darkened condition and boiler #1 in use.

*C. B. Jones*  
Ens. C. B. JONES, D-V(G), USNR

0400-0800 Moored as before. 0500 Set special sea detail and made all preparations to get underway. Captain at the cor~~v~~ Navigator on the bridge. 0637 Let go port anchor in berth A5 with 20 fathoms of chain to water's edge <sup>on</sup> following bearings Beacon J 189°T, Semaphore Station 103°T, Chimney 082°T. 0600 Let go lines to USS CALAMARES. 0602 CALAMARES underway. 0604 Veered chain to 30 fathoms at water's edge. 0631 Observed sunrise. 0640 USS HENLEY standing out. 0655 USS FANNING standing in.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

0800-1200 Anchored as before. 0805 USS DUNLAP shifted berth. 0855 USS SWALLOW shifted berth.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1200-1600 Anchored as before. 1210 USS RENSRAW standing out. 1445 USS KILTY underway. 1535 General Quarters on signal "Condition Yellow". 1550 Set condition II.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1600-2000 Anchored as before. 1640 Commenced loading cargo in No. 5 hatch. 1825 Condition "Red". 1850 Secured from Condition II.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

2000-2400 Anchored as before. 2345 Finished loading cargo in No. 5 hatch.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt., USN,  
Commanding

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR

Dr. W., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Saturday 12 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Anchored in berth A5, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 6 fathoms of water with thirty fathoms of chain to the water's edge on the following bearings; Beacon "J" 189°T, Semaphore Station 103°T, Chimney 092°T. 0330 Commenced loading lumber and cargo in holds #4 and #5. Ship in modified darkened condition. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

0400-0800 Anchored as before. 0805 Finished loading cargo in #4 and #5 holds.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

0800-1200 Anchored as before. 0830 USS McCALL stood out. 0915 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1000 Underway to shift berth. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds. 1015 Anchored in berth A12, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 5 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings, Beacon "X" 328°T, Beacon "L" 183°T, Beacon "M" 215°T. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 15.6.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

1200-1800 Anchored as before. 1435 HMS LEANDER, USS WARRINGTON, USS SAMPSON, USS DYSON, USS CLAXTON, USS SOUTHARD, SS BRAZIL stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

1600-2000 Anchored as before. 1719 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR

2000-2400 Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:-

1500 Received ComTransGroup, SoPac, despatch 120008/June forming task unit 32.4.8 (Libra, Woodworth) to depart Noumea 1800 Love June 15 for Undine Bay and thence to Espiritu Santo, loading in compliance orders previously issued. 2300 Received Comdr. 3rd. Fleet 120450 requesting special arrangements for Woodworth at Efate.

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr., Capt., USN,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. Fletcher, Jr., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12)Sunday 13 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth A-12, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia in five fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on the following anchor-  
age bearings: Beacon "K" 328°T; Beacon "L" 183°T; Beacon "M" 215°T; SH 082°T.  
Ship darkened and boiler No.1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0700 USS GRIDLEY, STANLEY and CRAVEN stood out.  
0720 USS NORTH CAROLINA underway, standing out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0820 USS KILTY stood out of dry dock and anchored.  
0900 USS WARRINGTON stood out. 1110 USS KILTY stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1225 USS WARRINGTON stood in. 1300 lit off #2  
boiler. 1317 USS SELFRIDGE underway. 1500 Ship's boats hoisted aboard. 1500  
commenced making all preparations for getting underway. 1543 set special sea  
detail. 1558 Underway. Set standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). Captain at the Conn,  
Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Various courses and speeds leaving  
Great Roads. Formed Task Unit 32.4.6, LIBRA - WOODWORTH.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lieut. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before at various speeds and courses conforming to the  
channel, proceeding to sea via North Bulari Passage. Standard speed 15 knots (84RPM).  
1601 USS WOODWORTH underway. 1652 USS WOODWORTH took position ahead as escort.  
1708 Passed wreck abeam to starboard. 1709 sounded General Quarters. 1719 secured  
from General Quarters and set condition III. Set the alert on all guns. Darkened  
ship. 1725 passed Amedee Light to starboard; distance 1000 yards. 1732 passed  
through Bulari Passage. 1745 set course 180°T and G. Commenced zig zag accord-  
ing to Plan #14 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 77.4.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 180°T and G, zig zagging in accord-  
ance with Plan #14 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Ship  
darkened and in condition of readiness III. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 80.95.

2000 Position: Lat. 23°-03' S.  
Long. 166°-24' E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: steaming as before on base course 180°T and G, Zig zagging in accord-  
ance with plan #14, (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). 2030  
changed course to 135°T and G. 2230 USS WOODWORTH reported radar contact bearing  
160°, distance 7 miles. 2238 sighted merchant ship with PC escort bearing 200°T.  
2315 changed course to 095°T and G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.0.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

14

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.6 - Libra OTC and Guide. Woodworth acting as escort and screening ahead. Base course 085°T&G, standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging on plan #14 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers #1&2 in use. Ship darkened and condition III set. 0215 Changed base course to 038°T&G. 0250 Woodworth reported submarine contact, took evasive action, all guns called to the alert. 0252 Steadied on course 330°T&G. 0258 Changed course to 000°T&G. 0300 Resumed base course and zig zag plan #14. 0302 Woodworth reported contact as false. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 84.0

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR

0400-0600 Steaming as before on base course 038°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance plan #14 (1940 Diagrams). 0526 All guns set on alert. 0626 Secured from alert. 0700 Changed base course to 032°T&G; speed to 18 knots (90 RPM); Zig zagging plan to #11 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 85.3.

0600 Position - Lat. 22°-43'S  
Long. 168°-24 'E

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR

0600-1200 Steaming as before on base course 032°T&G, standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), steaming at 15 knots (90 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 0930 Sighted land bearing 128°T, Walpole Island, distance approximately 20 miles. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 90.0.

1200 Position - Lat. 21°-58'S  
Long. 168°-57'E

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1200-1800 Steaming as before on base course 032°T&G at 18 knots (90 RPM), standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 1300 Changed course to 347°T&G. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 90.0.

*H. W. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR

1800-1800 Steaming as before on base course 347°T, 348.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Making 18 knots (90 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 90.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR

1800-2000 Steaming as before on base course 347°T, 348.5°G at standard speed 15 knots, Making 18 knots (90 RPM) Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 1812 Secured guns from alert. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 90.

2000 Position - Lat. 19°-59'S  
Long. 168°-37 'E

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR

2000-2400 Steaming as before on base course 347°T, 348.5°G, standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), steaming at 18 knots (90 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av. RPM 90.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

With My Handwritten



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AZAL2)

Tuesday 15

June

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400 Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.6, Libra O.T.C. and Guide, Woodworth in position screening ahead. On base course 347°T, 346.5°S steaming at 16 knots (standard speed 15 knots, 84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened, boilers #1 and #2 in use. Condition III set. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 90.0.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

0400-0600 Steaming as before on base course 347°T, 346.5°S, at 16 knots (90 RPM) standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging on plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) 0450 Energized degaussing coils. 0520 Sighted Efate Island bearing 110°T, distance about 15 miles. 0537 Changed base course to 045°T, 044.5°S. 0602 Changed base course to 080°T, 039.5°S. 0611 Changed base course to 105°T, 104.5°S. 0617 Observed Sunrise, lighted ship. 0620 Sighted friendly aircraft bearing 335°T. 0636 Ceased zig zagging, remained on course 115°T. 0638 Changed course to 130°T. Woodworth released to carry out special instructions. 0645 Set Special Sea Detail, entering Undine Bay, Efate Island, New Hebrides, various speeds and courses conforming to channel entering harbor. 0702 Pilot Lt(jg) GARRETT aboard. 0721 Passed north tangent of Verso Island abeam to starboard, distance 500 yards. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 79.3.

*J. J. Sorden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. SORDEN, D-M, USNR

0600-1200 Steaming as before at various speeds and courses conforming to the Channel, proceeding to anchorage. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 0810 Anchored in Palao Bay, Efate, New Hebrides in 17 fathoms of water with 48 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings:- Beacon "A" 066°T, beacon "B" 105.5°T, beacon "C" 135°T, beacon "D" 237°T; ship heading 138°T. 0811 Secured main engines and special sea detail. 1050 Commenced loading #1 hold. 1130 Commenced loading #3 hold.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

1200-1600 Anchored as before. 1415 Secured loading #3 hold.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lt. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1600-1800 Anchored as before. Loading cargo on #1 hold. 1635 Secured from loading #1 hold. 1640 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1657 Underway, Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds, standard speed 15 knots (72 RPM) standing out of Undine Bay, YMS 98 sweeping channel ahead. 1711 Set Condition III. 1718 Darkened ship. 1737 Changed course to 270°T&G. 1742 Changed speed to standard. USS WOODWORTH joined and took screening position ahead. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 34.0.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

1800-2000 Steaming as before on base course 270°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (72 RPM). 1800 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) 1830 Sighted two white flares bearing 250°T. 1845 Changed base course to 000°T&G, continued zig zagging plan #11. 1907 Sighted one white flare bearing 250°T.

*J. J. Sorden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. SORDEN, D-M, USNR

Approved:  
*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. Navy



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AK-12)

Tuesday

15

June

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

2000-2400 Steaming as before on base course 000°T&G at standard speed 13 knots (72 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). 2145 Sighted Epi Island bearing 045°T; distance 9 miles. 2245 Passed Epi Island abeam to starboard, distance 5 miles. 2300 Sighted Malekula Island bearing 305°T; distance 13 miles. 2345 Sighted ~~Amboyna~~ <sup>Amboyna</sup> Island bearing 000°T; distance 11 miles. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 72.0.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

Duty War Navigator.

(Original (ribbon) copy of this page to be sent to Bureau of Navigation monthly)

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Wednesday 18 June 1945  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.6, LIBRA, OTC and guide, WOODWORTH as escort screening ahead, on base course 000°T & G, standard speed 13 knots (72 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11(1940 diagrams)with boilers No.1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. 0000 changed base course to 320°T & G. 0105 passed N.W. tangent of Ambrim Island, abeam to starboard, distance 7 miles. Av.Steam 455. Av.RPM. 72.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 320°T & G. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11, at standard speed 13 knots. 0430 changed course to 050°T&G. 0505 changed course to 294°T&G. 0530 changed course to 320°T&G. Ceased zig-zagging. Set special sea detail. 0544 Changed course to 330°T. 0551 Tutuila abeam to starboard, distance 0.3 mile. 0553 Bogacio I abeam to port distance 0.2 miles. Entered swept channel, Captain at con, Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds to conform to channel. 0600 Secured Condition III. 0615 Passing through net entrance. 0648 Anchored in berth #6, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides in 15 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor on the following bearings:- beacon "E" 0290T; beacon "D" 111°T; beacon "G" 2630T; beacon "F" 168°T. 0710 Secured special sea detail. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 58.8.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0800 USS TAYLOR underway. 0950 USS WOODWORTH underway. 0957 USS PATHFINDER shifted berth. 1115 USS MERCURY underway. 1145 Received oil barge YO 20 alongside port side.

*C. Jones*  
Ens. C. JONES, D-V(G), USNR

1200-1600: 1207 Commenced taking on fuel oil. Anchored as before. 1345 Completed fueling from YO 20 amount of fuel received 50,694 gallons. 1355 YO 20 got underway. 1415 MOJAVE and RENSHAW stood in. 1450 FLETCHER underway. 1430 Commenced loading cargo in #1 hold.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1615 USS CHICKASAW stood in. 1625 USS HOWEY underway. 1640 USS RENSHAW underway. 1729 Sunset, darkened ship. Working cargo #1 hold intermittently throughout the watch.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(Jg). J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR

2000-2400: Anchored as before, continued loading #1 hold.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday 17

June 19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Berth #6, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides in 15 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to water's edge to starboard anchor on the following bearings:- beacon "E" 029°T; beacon "D" 111°T; beacon "O" 283°T; beacon "F" 188°T. Boiler #1 in use. Continued loading #1 hold. Ship in modified darkened condition.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. Continued loading #1 hold. 0545 Condition "Yellow" signalled from ashore. Darkened ship, secured loading #1 hold. 0610 Condition "Green" signalled from shore. Commenced loading #1 hold.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. Continued loading #1 hold. 0900 Commenced loading #3 hold. 0910 HMS LEANDER stood in. 0930 Commenced loading #4 hold. 1000 USS JENKINS stood in. 1115 Commenced loading 2,100 rounds of 20 mm A.A. ammunition.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, and #4.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, and #4. 1650 USS PINKNEY stood in. 1915 Secured loading all holds.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph H. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

-Encl. No. Waikgaw.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

18

June

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #6, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, in 15 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor at the waters' edge on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 029°T; Beacon "C" 111°T; Beacon "G" 233°T; Beacon "F" 168°T. Ship darkened. Boiler No.1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0607 Observed sunrise, light ship.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1437 U.S.S. ANTARES with SC 889 as escort stood in to anchorage.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1730 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D-11-11-11-11-11

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Saturday 19 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #6, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides in 15 fathoms of water with 50 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 029°T; Beacon "F" 168°T; Beacon "G" 283°T. Ship darkened and boiler No.1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut.(jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0640 U.S.S. McKEAN and U.S.S. FLETCHER stood out. 0710 U.S.S. STRONG stood in.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lieut.(jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut.(jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1645 French destroyer MAURICE CHEVALIER underway.

*S.M. Berry*  
Lieut.(jg) S.M. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*S.M. Berry*  
Lieut.(jg) S.M. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

Additional Remarks by Commanding Officer:

Received Commander Transport Group, South Pacific despatch 181100/June to form Northern Section Task Unit 32.8.3 (WOODWORTH, JENKINS as escort) proceed on June 22 and rendezvous TU 32.8.3.

W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.

Approved:

*W.B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. Navy, Strategist.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

20

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #6, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, in 15 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "E" 029°T, beacon "F" 168°T, beacon "G" 283°T. Ship darkened and Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0650 USS NICHOLAS standing out to sea. 0715 USS PINKNEY standing out to sea.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

Lt. D. W. Navigator



UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

01

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; MAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #6, Segund Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, in 15 fathoms of water, with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 029°T, beacon "F" 188°T, beacon "G" 283°T. Ship darkened and boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Various Naval and Merchant ships present.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0825 LCI 61 underway. 0831 LCI 62 underway. 0920 USS ALDEBARAN stood in to anchorage, with USS NICHOLAS as escort.. 1032 USS MONONGAMELA underway. 1145 USS NICHOLAS underway.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1356 LCI 62 moored alongside to port. 1523 USS PATHFINDER standing out.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1727 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12)Tuesday  
(Date)22  
(Date)June  
(Month)

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #6, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, in 15 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 029°, Beacon "F" 169°, Beacon "G" 283°. Ship darkened and boiler No. 1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Various naval and merchant ships present.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 1050 out in #2 boiler. 1130 set special sea detail. Made all preparations for getting underway. 1136 USS JENKINS underway. 1150 USS WOODWORTH underway. 1152 Underway in compliance ComTransGroupSoPac. 181100/June, formed Northern Section Task Unit 32.9.3, LIBRA (Unit Commander) escorted by JENKINS and WOODWORTH. Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge, steaming on various courses at various speeds standing out of Segund Channel.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds conforming to Segund Channel. 1210 passed through submarine nets. 1234 Bogacio Island abeam to starboard, distance 800 yards. 1237 energized degaussing coils. 1242 changed course 090°T, 089.5°G. 1246 commenced zig zagging, plan #8 (1940 Diagrams) 1300 changed base course to 045°T, 044.5°G. 1309 set condition III. 1330 changed base course to 000°T, 359.5°G., continued zig zagging on plan #8. 1338 secured degaussing coils. 1450 passed Aca Island abeam to starboard distance approx. 25 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 000°T & 359.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1636 changed base course to 310°T, 309.5°G. Changed to standard speed of 14.5 knots, (81 RPM). 1730 sunset. Darkened ship and set all guns on the alert. Av. steam 450 Av. RPM. 81.9.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 310°T, 309.5°G, at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1800 passed northern tip of Gaua Island to starboard, distance about 10 miles. 1830 secured guns from alert. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 81.0.

2000 Position: Lat. 14°- 19' S.  
Long. 166°- 43' E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 310°T, 309.5°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 2005 changed speed to 14 knots. 2120 sighted convoy dead ahead, distance 4 miles, on parallel course. 2147 ceased zig zagging. 2157 changed course to 300°G. 2200 resumed base course. 2224 commenced zig zagging on plan #8. Av. steam 457. Av. RPM. 78.1.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Sr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.  
E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Wednesday 23 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Northern Section Task Unit 32.8.3, LIBRA, OTC and Guide. Escort by JENKINS and WOODWORTH on base course 310°T, 309.5°G. Standard speed 14.5 knots. Steaming at 14 knots under boilers #1 & 2. Zig zagging on plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened and condition III is set. Av. steam 458. Av. RPM. 78.0.

*J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 310°T, 309.5°G, at 14 knots (78 RPM). Standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940D). 0521 Set alert on all guns. 0805 sighted Task Unit 32.8.3 (Southern Section) consisting of USS ALGORAB, TRYON, FULLER, JOHN PENN (OTU), escort USS GWIN, PATTERSON, TALBOT, KILTY, McKEAN. 0814 changed base course to 335°T, 334.5°G. Changed standard speed to 16 knots (90 RPM). 0821 secured from the alert. 0845 changed zig zag plan to #11 (1940 D). 0722 changed base course to 300°T, 299.5°G. 0750 changed base course to 320°T, 319.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM 83.1.  
0800 Position: Lat. 12°-33' S.  
Long. 164°-38' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 320°T, 319.5°G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams), steaming at standard speed 16 knots (84 RPM). 0802 changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 0806 changed course to 330°T, 329.5°G. 0814 changed zig zag plan to #39 (1940 Diagrams). 0815 joined Task Unit 32.8.3 now consisting of USS JOHN PENN, OTC and guide, USS FULLER and LIBRA in first column; USS ALGORAB and USS TRYON second column, escort consisting of USS GWIN, (Comescort); USS PATTERSON, KILTY, TALBOT, JENKINS, WOODWORTH and McKEAN. 0821 commenced zig zagging on plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 0855 sighted friendly aircraft carrier CHEMANGO, and four escorts to port bearing 260°T, distance approx. 9 miles. Friendly planes in the air. 1000 changed course to 335°T, 337.5°G. 1025 USS KILTY came alongside to starboard delivered guard mail. Av. steam 451. Av. RPM. 80.9.

*L. N. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. N. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 335°T, 337.5°G, at standard speed of 15 knots, zig zagging in accordance with plan #39. 1203 changed zig zag to plan #21. 1237 sighted friendly AV bearing 060°T. 1552 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Av. steam 454. Av. RPM. 81.8.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before on base course 335°T, 337.5°G. Zig zagging on plan #21 (1940 D), at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1600 Changed course to 296°T, 1612 commenced zig zagging on plan #21. 1752 Sunset, darkened ship. Av. steam 453. Av. RPM. 81.0.

*J. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 295.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #21 (1940D). 1800 sounded General Quarters. 1900 secured from General Quarters and set condition III. 1915 energized de-mussing coils. 2000 changed base course to 304°T, 303.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 80.5.  
2000 Position: Lat. 10°-39.5' S.  
Long. 162°-58' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 296°T, 295.5°G. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #21 (1940D). At standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). 2010 changed course to 304°T, 303.5°G. 2013 USS PATTERSON made S/M contact and attacked. 2017 PATTERSON lost contact. 2020 Right emergency turn. 2026 Left emergency turn. 2028 Resumed zig zag on base course 304°T, 303.5°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 82.5.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*L. N. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. N. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.  
*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday 04 June 1945  
(1945) (1945) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -31

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with T.U.32.8.3 on base course 304°T, 303.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #21. USS JOHN PENN, OTC and Guide, FULLER and LIBRA in first column. ALGORAS and TRKON in second column. Formation screened by USS GWEN, KILTY, McKEAN, WOODWORTH, PATTERSON, TALBOT, JENKINS. Ship darkened, boilers 1 and 2 in use. Condition III set. 0028 ceased zig zagging. 0030 changed course to 270°T, 289.5°G. 0040 commenced zig zagging on plan #21. 0040 sighted Ulawa Island bearing 308°T, approx. distance 20 miles. Sighted Alitti Island bearing 251°T, approx. distance 17 miles. 0100 Ulawa Island abeam to starboard, distance 12 miles. 0127 changed course to 280°T, 279.5°G. 0157 Alitti Island abeam to port, distance 6 miles. 0300 sighted Namasike Island bearing 336°T, approx. distance 19 miles. 0356 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Av. steam 458. Av. RPM. 80.8.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 280°T, 279.5°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 0400 changed course to 309°T, 308.5°G. 0410 commenced zig-zagging on plan #21. 0500 sighted Guadalcanal Island bearing 270°T. 0520 sighted Malaita Island bearing 350°T, distance approx. 17 miles. 0631 sunrise. Lighted ship. 0650 sighted NURA Island bearing 284°T, distance approx. 17 miles. 0706 changed zig zag plan to #39 (1940 D). 0734 sighted Rua Sura Island bearing 279°T, distance approx. 20 miles. 0740 sighted Florida Island bearing 320°T, distance approx. 38 mi. Av. steam 452. Av. RPM. 81.3.  
 0800 Position: Lat. 9°-28'S.  
 Long. 160°-54'E

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 308°T, 301.5°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 D). 0806 ceased zig zag and resumed base course. 0908 changed base course to 285°T, 284.5°G. 0810 resumed zig zag. 0820 passed Nura Island abeam to port, distance 5 miles. 0900 changed base course to 270°T, 289.5°G. 0913 Passed Rua Sura Islands abeam to port, distance 5.5 miles. 1000 changed base course to 280°T, 279.5°G. 1020 sounded General Quarters. Ceased zig zag and proceeded on various courses at various speeds proceeding to Koli Point, independently, on signal from Task Unit Commander. 1115 stopped at Koli Point to lower LCV boats. Secured from General Quarters, took Debarkation stations. 1127 proceeded to Lunga Point. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.9.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming as before, standing in toward Lunga anchorage. 1206 anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 38 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "D" 268°G; Beacon "E" 222°G; Beacon "F" 145°G. 1203 all LCM(S) lowered to water's edge. 1230 commenced unloading Hold #3. 1245 commenced unloading Hold #1. 1253 commenced unloading hold #5. 1300 commenced unloading hold #2. 1329 commenced unloading hold #4.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. (jg) H. K. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Anchored as before. 1812 observed sunset. 1815 Secured discharging cargo from hatches #1 and #3. 1828 secured discharging cargo from hatches #2 and #5. 1833 secured discharging cargo from hatch #4. 1853 S/M contact by CROSBY off Koli Point, attack made with depth charges. 1915 S/M contact by CROSBY lost.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*[Signature]*  
 W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
 Captain, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA19)

Friday

25

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in 26 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain out to port anchor on the following bearings:- Beacon "E" 228°G; beacon "C" 336°G; beacon "F" 145°G. Skis darkened. Boiler #1 and #2 in use for general purposes. 0002 Condition "Yellow" over Guadalcanal. 0028 Condition "Green".

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0416 Condition "Red". 0500 Condition "Green". 0529 Commenced unloading hatches #2, and #4. 0651 Commenced unloading hatches #1 and #5. 0742 Commenced unloading hatch #3.

*H. E. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. E. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1000:- Anchored as before. Unloading cargo from all hatches. 0818 Completed unloading #2 hold. 0849 USS FLETCHER, PATTERSON, MCCARTHER and SMITH stood in and took screening stations. 0910 USS PAMMEL stood out. 1040 PT 158 anchored port side #2 hold. 1100 PT 158 underway from alongside port side.

*H. E. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. E. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before, discharging cargo from #1, #3, #4, and #5 hatches. 1208 Completed unloading cargo from #5 hold at Lunga. 1300 Completed unloading #4 hold at Lunga. 1315 Condition "Red" Russell Islands. 1336 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1341 General Quarters. Air attack expected, all stations manned and ready. 1548 Condition "Green", secured from General Quarters, veered to 30 fathoms of chain, port anchor. 1412 TALBOT reported sound contact. 1430 Completed unloading #1 hatch at Lunga. 1451 Completed unloading provisions from #3 hold. 1530 Set Special Sea Detail, made all preparations for getting underway. #3 hold completed unloading for Lunga. 1702 Underway for Koli Point at various courses and various speeds, Captain at the conn, Navigator on the bridge. 1738 Anchored berth 66 off Koli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the water's edge to the starboard anchor on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "B" 236°G; beacon "A" 139°G; beacon "J" 113°G, ship head 131°T. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 60.2.

*C. E. Mesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. MESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1811 Observed Sunset, darkened ship. 1908 USS ALGCRAB underway.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.  
U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKAL9)

Saturday

26

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; MAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Anchored off Koli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 139°T; Beacon "B" 236°T; Beacon "J" 113°T. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened.

*Sm Berry*  
Lieut. (Jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Anchored as before. 0446 condition Red at Tulagi and Guadalcanal. 0652 Condition Green.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Ensign JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200: Anchored as before. At 0720 commenced discharging cargo from 1, 3 and 5 Hatches. At 0735 completed unloading No. 5 hold. 0915 condition Red at Russells. 0925 Completed unloading No. 1 hold. At 0938 condition Green at Russells. At 1030 completed unloading cargo from No. 3 Hold. At 1100 Task Unit 32.8.3 composed of USS JOHN PENN, TRYON, FULLER and escorts stood out to sea. 1120 completed unloading No. 5 hold of refrigeration stores.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Ensign JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before. 1520 commenced loading holds #2 and #3. 1650 commenced loading #4 hold. 1730 Commenced loading #1 hold.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Anchored as before. 1808 Darkened ship. 1810 Holds #1 and 2 secured from loading. 1930 Holds #4 and #5 secured. USS ALGORAB shifted berths to Koli Point.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, JR.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR.,  
Navigator.

D. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

27

June

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Koli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in seventeen fathoms of water with thirty fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor. Ship darkened. Anchorage bearings:- Beacon "A" 138°T; beacon "B" 236°T; beacon "J" 113°T. Boilers one and two in use.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0825 Commenced loading holds #2 and #5. 0907 Commenced loading #1 hold. 0925 Commenced loading #4 hold. 0938 Commenced loading #3 hold.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before, continued loading holds #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5. 1352 USS MONONGAMELA and escort stood out to sea. 1614 Condition "RED" at Tulagi. 1845 Condition "GREEN" at Tulagi.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1805 Numbers 1 and 2 holds secured from loading. 1809 Ship darkened. 1840 Number 4 hold secured from loading. 1850 Number 1 hold secured from loading. 1914 Number 3 hold secured from loading.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt.(Jg) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt.(Jg) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:  
*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: *Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER,  
Lieut.D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

28

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: - Anchored off Keli Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in seventeen fathoms of water with thirty fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 139°T; beacon "B" 238°T; beacon "J" 113°T. Ship darkened and boilers #1 and #2 in use.

*J. J. Gordon*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. GORDON, D-M, USNR.

0400-0600: - Anchored as before. 0625 Observed sunrise, lighted ship.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: - Anchored as before. 0923 USS SCHLEY stood in.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: - Anchored as before.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Cdr. J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: - Anchored as before. 1810 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: - Anchored as before.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10)Tuesday 29 June 1945  
(Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400: Anchored off Koli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in 17 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "A" 139°T; Beacon "B" 236°T; Beacon "J" 113°T. Ship darkened. Boilers No. 1 and 2 in use for general purposes.

*L. H. Child*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(3), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Ensign JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(3), USNR.

0800-1200: At 0945 received troops aboard. 0945 USS McCAWLEY, PRES. HAYES, PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS and escorts standing in.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Ensign JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(3), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1445 all boats hoisted clear of water. 1515 made all preparations for getting underway. 1541 Captain at conn. Navigator on the bridge. 1545 Underway, steaming on various courses at various speeds, standing out Lengo Channel. Formed Task Unit 31.1.3 in accordance with OTC 31 OpOrder A9-45 and took cruising disposition A-3. McCAWLEY OTC and guide, followed by USS PRES. HAYES and USS PRES. ADAMS in first section. Second section USS PRES. JACKSON, ALGORAB and LIBRA, screen USS BUCHANAN, FARMHOLT, JENKINS, RADFORD, MACALLA, RALPH TALBOT, GWIN, and WOODWORTH.

*S. M. Berry*  
Lieut. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(3), USNR.

1600-1800: Underway as before in company with Task Unit 31.1.3, OTC in McCAWLEY on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel. 1614 exercised at General quarters. 1800 secured from General quarters. 1823 changed course to 345°T and G. 1832 changed course to 318°T. 1838 changed speed to 14 knots (standard) 78 RPM. 1700 changed course to 290°T and G. 1703 changed course to 320°T&G. 1709 changed speed to 2/3. 1711 changed course to 272°T and G. 1715 changed speed to standard. 1729 changed course to 292°T and G. 1740 changed course to 252°T&G. 1749 changed course to 290°T and G.

*J. C. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. C. BORDEN, D-V, USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 292°T and G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM). 1808 changed course to 302°T and G. 1814 darkened ship, set guns on alert. 1850 changed course to 272°T & G. 1844 changed course to 254°T&G.  
2000 Position: Lat. 8°-10'N.  
Long. 159°-30'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(3), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 255°T, 254.5°G., at standard speed of 14 knots. 1959 sighted Russell's Island bearing 307°T, approx. distance 7 miles. 2003 changed course and axis to 270°G, 271°PT&G. 2013 changed course to 230°G. 2023 changed course to 270°G. 2321 changed course and axis to 292°G. 2355 formed with division guide bearing 226°T from Guide. Av. speed 450. Av. RPM. 76.8.

*H. M. McFar*  
Lieut. (jg) H. M. MCFAR, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

*W. E. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. E. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Commanding, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-V, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA-2)Wednesday 30 June 1949  
(Date) (Time) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.1.3, USS McCRAWLEY, GTC and guide, USS PRES. JACKSON, ADAMS, HAYES, ALGORAB and escort consisting of USS McALLA, RALPH TALBOT, GWIN, WOODMORTH, RADFORD, JENKINS, FARENHOLT and BUCHANAN on course 290°T&G at standard speed of 14 knots (74RPM). Ship darkened. Degaussing coils set. Condition III set. Boilers No. 1 & 2 in use. 0157 USS RALPH TALBOT reported over TBS three unidentified surface craft bearing 328°, distance 7 miles. 0201 Unidentified aircraft passed overhead. 0208 Ships turned to course 270°T. 0231 ships turned to course 292°T&G. 0330 changed course to 300°T&G. 0345 sighted Tetiarua Island bearing 340°T&G, distance 4 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 74.0.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-1 (S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on course 300°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (74RPM) 0410 passed Cape Heron abreast port, distance one mile. 0423 changed course to 322°T&G. 0530 named battle stations. 0606 sighted signal light bearing 287°T on Rendova Island. 0622 took Condition I-A, Debarcation stations. 0625 changed course to 270°T&G. 0628 approaching debarcation point off Rendova Entrance, Rendova Harbor at various speeds and courses. 0647 stopped. 0649 lowered boats. 0704 began discharging cargo. 0707 screen opened fire on shore batteries, shore batteries returned fire. 0710 one Destroyer GWIN, reported hit in after Engine Room. 0715 Friendly planes overhead. 0717 all holds open and discharging cargo. Destroyer laying smoke screen to northward. Lying to, using rudder and engines to maintain position. 0727 firing continued from destroyers; one shore battery reported silenced. 0754 Destroyer reports silencing second shore battery. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.7.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-1 (S), USNR.

0800-1200: Maintaining position off Rendova Entrance, Rendova Island, discharging cargo from all holds. 0808 Destroyers report remaining shore batteries silenced. 0809 firing ceased from destroyers. Friendly planes overhead. 0835 Two Destroyers opened fire on Munda Pt. 0858 Unidentified planes bearing 285°T, General Quarters. 0900 Planes reported approaching from 280°T, distance 12 miles. 0903 ahead at standard speed 14 knots (74RPM), took position in formation ASA, maneuvering on signal from CTF 31.1. 0908 lost contact with unidentified planes bearing 285°T. 0929 approaching debarcation point. 0937 secured from General Quarters, took Debarcation stations I-A. 0957 boats coming alongside, resumed discharging cargo. 1103 signal prepare to repel air attack from CTF 31.1. 1104 additional unidentified planes reported. 1107 General Quarters. 1110 Underway, maintaining position in formation ASA. 1118 Enemy planes overhead, one plane seen to crash astern, pilot landed by parachute west of Rendova Entrance. 1131 observed plane crash at 290°T. Maneuvering on signal from CTF 31.1. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.17.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-1 (S), USNR.

1200-1200: Maneuvering as before, approaching debarcation station. 1206 secured from General Quarters, took debarcation station I-A. 1216 boats alongside, resumed discharging cargo. 1236 Observed own planes bombing target bearing 300°T, distance seven miles. 1237 completed discharging cargo from No. 3 hold. 1240 completed discharging cargo from No. 5 hold. 1248 completed discharging cargo from No. 1 hold. 1250 completed discharging cargo from Hold No. 4. 1255 completed discharging cargo from Hold No. 2. Unloading time 4 hours, 2.4 minutes. 1230 By hoist from OTU "LIBRA Well Done". 1445 made preparation for getting underway. 1505 Underway on signal from CTF 31.1, forming cruising disposition A-3, at various speeds and courses. 1510 Assumed position in column astern of ALGORAB. 1535 General Quarters, prepared to repel air attack. Large group of planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 48 miles. 1540 Planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 24 miles. 1543 Planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 19 miles. 1545 Planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 15 miles, estimated 18 to 20 planes. Planes sighted bearing 335°T. 1546, 25 planes coming in low bearing 285°T. 1548 Planes reported to be possibly enemy fighters but proved

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-1, USNR.,  
Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10)Wednesday 30 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

1200-1600 (Cont'd):

to be enemy torpedo planes. 1550 observed one plane crash at 340°T. All ships opened fire at approaching planes. 1553 maneuvering on signal. Planes attacking from all quarters. 1555 Fire in No. 2 hold caused by hot shrapnel falling in pile of cargo nets. Damage Control party extinguished fire immediately. 1557 ship jarred by underwater explosions. USS McCAWLEY struck by torpedo and disabled. Torpedo passed astern of ship. 1558 observed six enemy planes burning in water. 1559 Torpedo passed under ship Port to Starboard under forefoot. About 1559 PRES. ADAMS assumed tactical command of Task Group. 1600 ceased firing, no enemy planes visible, friendly planes overhead. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 28.45.

*L. H. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. H. JORDAN, D-1(9), USNR.

1600-1800: Steaming as before, maneuvering on signal from USS PRES. ADAMS. 1602 In compliance with order from OTG 31.1 prepared to take USS McCAWLEY in tow. Maneuvering to go alongside. 1621 came alongside starboard side USS McCAWLEY, and passed messenger. During proceeding action expended 93 rounds 3" AA and 2100 rds. of 20mm ammunition. Casualties None. This vessel made hits on 4 enemy torpedo planes, which were seen to crash. 1625 Pulled slowly ahead of USS McCAWLEY and passed towing cable, going ahead slowly to take strain. 1640 USS RALPH TALENT alongside USS McCAWLEY to disembark personnel. 1643 lowered ship's boats No. 1 and 2 to disembark McCAWLEY personnel. 1658 Ship's boats returned and were hoisted aboard, not needed by McCAWLEY. 1711 Increased speed slowly trying to turn McCAWLEY, which does not respond, reporting that her rudder is jammed hard right. 1718 Sudden dive bomber attack, opened fire on enemy planes overhead. 1720 ceased firing, no enemy planes in sight. 1731 Task Unit ahead reported USS PANTEE standing in. Action: During action expended 16 rounds 3" AA and 1020 rounds 20mm ammunition. Casualties: None. Possible hits on two planes. 1740 still trying to turn McCAWLEY without success. 1741 Planes reported bearing 290°T to 310°T. Observed plane crash on beach, Bendova Island. 1753 Planes reported 270°T, distance 18 miles, blazing. 1753 Planes reported at 270°T, 13 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 29.7.

*L. H. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. H. JORDAN, D-1(9), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before trying to swing McCAWLEY to tow. 1809 Increased speed slowly, McCAWLEY answering very slowly. 1813 Large group of unidentified planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 54 miles. 1813.5 McCAWLEY reports rudder freed and midships, increased speed slowly. 1817 changed course left to 155°T. 1820 changed course to 160°T. 1822 changed course to 148°T. McCAWLEY towing nicely but settling aft. 1821 sighted USS PANTEE bearing 126°T, increased speed gradually. 1900 USS McCALLA alongside port side USS McCAWLEY, took aboard remaining personnel. 1931 USS McCAWLEY reports ship abandoned. 1938 USS PANTEE came alongside port side midships. 1943 Passed wire messenger. 1947 tow line clear, full left rudder. Set standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM), ahead 2/3 standard. 1948 Rudder midships. Right to 147°T. 1950 ahead standard speed, changed course to 142°T. Proceeding singly escorted by USS RALPH TALENT. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 28.7.

2000 Position: Lat. 08°-38' S.  
Long. 157°-39' E.

*L. H. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. H. JORDAN, D-1(9), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 142°T at standard speed 15 knots. 2001 changed speed to 16.5 knots (32 RPM). 2002 Set condition III. 2045 USS McCALLA joined formation. 2048 Changed course to 142°G. 2048 changed course to 143°G. 2049 changed course to 143°G. 2113 changed course to 150°G. 2147 changed course to 090°G. 2245 Changed course to 105°G, to clear friendly units ahead. 2315 USS SIOUX with USS ZANE in tow and USS TALENT sighted bearing 090°T. 2316 changed course to 090°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 22.6.

*Joseph Weiner*  
Lieut. J. WEINER, D-1(9), USNR.

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W. B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-1, USNR.,  
Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS.

Location of Ship Lat. 8023'S; Long. 157241'E U.S.S. LIBRA (AKS3)  
Date 30 June 1943

Commenced Firing 1550 Love

NOTES.

- (a) Reel Attack First - then collect data for this report!  
(b) Do not "gun deck" this report- if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.  
(c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.

1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) No.
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye) Radar (and (if by Radar state type of set possibly plane spotter) from. escort; over TBS; later binoculars.
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) Radar - 45 miles; binoculars - 10 miles.
4. Number of planes 22 Torpedo Bombers; 20 Fighters (Approx.)
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive-bomber) 2 Engine Mitsubishi 97  
Type of attack Torpedo.
6. Speed & altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow, Speed intermediate; low altitude
7. Guns firing 18 Size 3" Number 4  
Method of control central-local Method spotting central-local
8. Ammunition expended 3" - 23 rounds; 20MM - 2100 rounds
9. Percent service allowance expended 3" - 3%; 20MM - 41%
10. Approximate time tracking to first shot 3 Minutes
11. Approximate time of first hits 3 Minutes
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot 6 Minutes
13. Approximate position angle open fire 10
14. Approximate position cease fire 10
15. Approximate bearing first shot 230° Rel.
16. Approximate bearing last shot Many

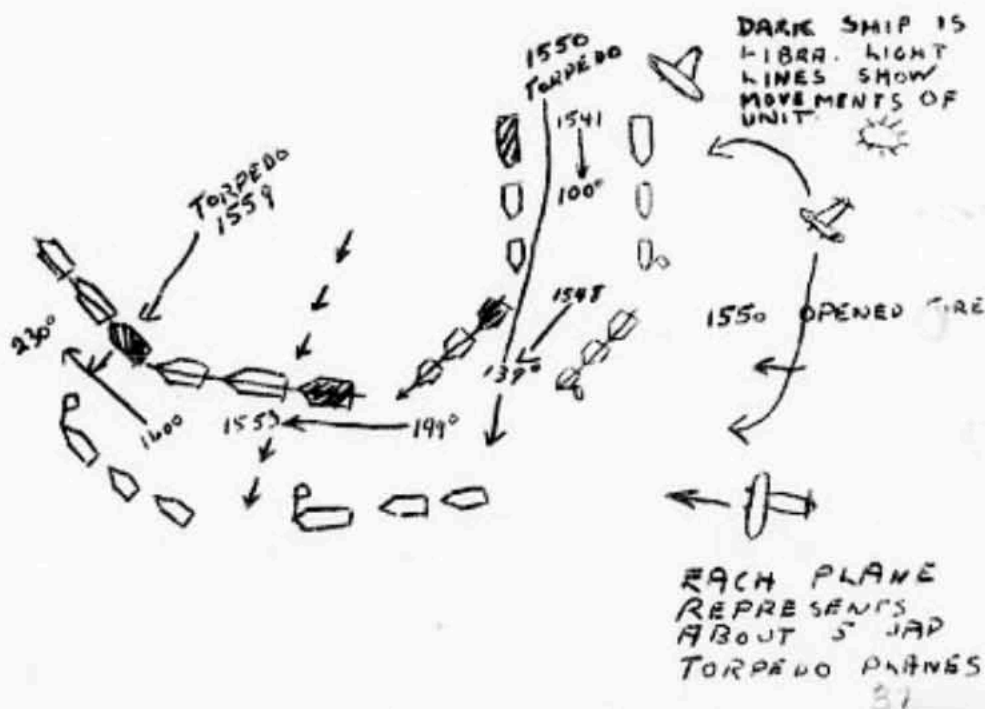
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17. Approximate range first shot 2300 Yards
18. Approximate range last shot 3500 Yards
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release - Type bomb -
20. Approximate range torpedo release 100 Yards  
Size of torpedo Believed to be small
21. Hits on ship none Was ship strafed no Size Gun "
22. Number near bomb misses - Casualties from near misses -
23. Planes shot down Surc 4 Possible 2 Damaged 2  
By what size gun 20 MM
24. Details of Damage to target by gunfire if available Using new H.B.I. - 20 MM ammunition. All planes hit burst into flames in several places. No hits doubtful.
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor)  
Excellent
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small excessive) Excessive for 3"

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.
- (b) Show relative position of sun.
- (c) Indicate own maneuvers.



CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS.

Location of Ship Lat. 8°23'S; Long. 157°24'E.

U.S.S. USS (WA12)  
Date 30 June 1945

Commenced Firing at 1622 Love

NOTES

- (a) Repeat Attack First - then collect data for this report!  
(b) Do not "run down" this report - if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.  
(c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.

1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) YES
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye)  
(If by Radar state type of set) Naked Eye
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) Range 5,000 yards, Altitude 2,000 ft.
4. Number of planes. 4
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive-bomber) Dive Bomber, Type 99  
Type of attack Dive and Glide Bombing
6. Speed & altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow) Low Altitude; Fast
7. Guns firing 18 Size 3" Number 4  
Method of control Local Method of spotting Control
8. Ammunition expended 3" - 16 rounds; 20MM - 1020 rounds
9. Percent service allowance expended 3" - 2%; 20MM - 2%.
10. Approximate time breaking to first shot 10 seconds
11. Approximate time of first hit 1 second
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot 1½ minute
13. Approximate position angle open fire 50°- 60°
14. Approximate position close fire 2° and 80°
15. Approximate bearing first shot 200° Rel.
16. Approximate bearing last shot 030°

(over)

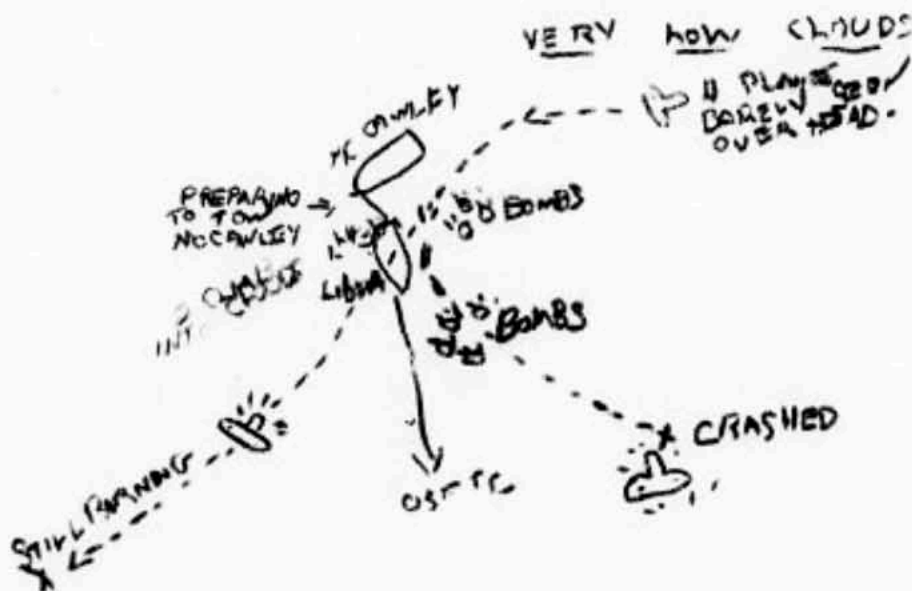
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38

17. Approximate range first shot 750 Yards
18. Approximate range last shot 3,500 Yards
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release 1,000 ft. Type bomb Small
20. Approximate range torpedo release -  
Size of torpedo -
21. Hits on ship none Was ship strafed no Size gun -
22. Number near bomb misses 7 Casualties from near misses none
23. Planes shot down 1 Sure 1 Possible 1 Damaged 2  
By what size gun 20 MM
24. Details of Damage to target by gunfire if available 20MM Ammunition takes the doubt out of hits. The targets (2 forsure) burned, 1 crashed; the other smoked and climbed into clouds above.
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor)  
Excellent
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small excessive) Excessive for 3"

SKEETCH

- (a) Indicates direction of attack relative ship's head.
- (b) Show relative position of sun.
- (c) Indicates own maneuvers.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

1

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming singly with USS RALPH TALBOT and McCALLA as screen on base course 090°T&G. Standard speed 16 knots, steaming at 16.3 knots(92 RPM). Ship darkened and Condition III set. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use. 0145 Buraka Island abeam to starboard, distance 6 miles. 0145 USS RALPH TALBOT made ~~contact~~ contact on unidentified surface craft. 0226 Beison Island abeam to starboard approx. distance 5 miles. 0328 Observed boom from light bearing 180°T, apparently on Russells Islands 0340 changed course 119°T&G. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 92.

*J. S. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J.S. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on course 119°T & G., at standard speed 16 knots (84 RPM), steaming at 16.3 knots (92 RPM). 0427 changed course to 123°T&G. 0438 sighted Savo Island bearing 100°T, distance 12 miles. 0440 sighted Cape Esperance Guadalcanal Island bearing 128°T, distance 11 miles. 0500 passed a friendly ship on parallel course to starboard. 0530 Cape Esperance abeam to starboard, distance 3 miles. 0536 Set all guns on alert. 0600 steaming at various courses approaching Koli Point. 0636 Secured guns from alert. 0645 Set special sea detail 0702 Anchored off Koli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomons Islands, in berth 66, in 16 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "A" 142°T; Beacon "B" 236°T; Beacon "J" 114°T; SH 188°T. 0705 Secured special sea detail. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 79.8.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1330 USS TALBOT, HAYES, ADAMS, JACKSON stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

53190

1943 AUG 19 17 32

U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

Approved:

*W. B. Fletcher, Jr.*  
W.B. FLETCHER, Jr.,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 19)

Friday

2

June

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Keli Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in berth #88, in 16 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to water's edge, on the following bearings: Beacon "A" 14200; beacon "B" 23600; beacon "J" 11400. Ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use. 0745 Out in #1 boiler.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0400 Submarine reported by radio 6 miles off Tulagi entrance. 0430 Set watch on guns #2 and #5. 0835 Sunrise, light ship. Secured watch on guns #2 and #5.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1115 Rain squall, observed ship swinging anchor made preparation for getting underway. 1128 Veered to 45 fathoms. 1134 began heaving up anchor. Ship had dropped nine hundred yards to Westward. 1139 Underway proceeding to original berth. 1148 Let go port anchor in berth #88, with sixty fathoms of chain on the following anchor bearings: Beacon "A" 13200, beacon "B" 23200, beacon "J" 11200. 1145.0 Secured main engine.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1440 Captain M. B. FLETCHER, Jr., U.S.N. was relieved by Commander Floyd F. FERRIS, U.S.N. as Commanding Officer of this vessel in accordance with ComSoPac Despatch 170201/June and CTF 52 Despatch 221780/June.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

1800-0000:- Anchored as before. 1808 Darkened ship.

*S. H. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S. H. BEERY, D-V(5), USNR.

0000-0400:- Anchored as before. 0055 Condition "RED" at Russell Island. 2107 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Island.

*S. H. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S. H. BEERY, D-V(5), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Comdr. U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-N, USNR,  
Navigator.

B. S. M. Vantage

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 10)

Saturday

3

July

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Koli Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in berth #60, in 15 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "A" 13200; beacon "B" 20300; beacon 11200. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened and 30 121 Guns manned.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(9), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0835 Made preparations for getting underway. 0850 Underway. 0902 USS ALGORAB underway. 0902.5 Underway at various speeds on various courses for Port Purvis, Florida Island, zig zapping, following the movements of ALGORAB. 1057 Anchored in berth #8, Port Purvis, Florida Island, in 27 fathoms of water, with 80 fathoms of chain to water's edge on the following bearings: Beacon "B" 302.500; beacon "C" 34100; beacon "F" 11200. 1150 USS TALBOT stood in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(9), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1208 Condition "RED" reported at Russell Island. 1218 USS JENKINS standing in. 1266 USS HOPKINS standing out. 1282 Secured #1 boiler. 1358 USS WOODWORTH standing in. 1410 Condition "GREEN" Russell Island. 1604 USS JENKINS standing out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

1600-1800:- Anchored as before. 1630 USS BALLARD stood in. 1708 USS HUCHANAN stood in. 1722 USS FAREWELL stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(9), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR,  
Navigator.

-U. S. N.; Aborigine.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Sunday 4 July 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #3, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 27 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "B" 302.5°T; beacon "C" 341°T; beacon "F" 112°T. Ship darkened, Group #1 and #2, 20 MM Guns manned.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0630 USS WATERS, DENT, and TALBOT stood out. 0650 USS McKEAN stood out. 0715 USS SCHLEY, KILTY, CROSBY, and McCALLA stood out. 0730 APC 30 stood in from Govana Inlet.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0815 USS TREVOR underway. 0834 USS FARENHOLT underway. 0857 USS BALLARD underway.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1305 USS FARENHOLT underway. 1330 USS YFG 15 underway. 1425 USS C 505 standing in. 1555 USS BUCHANAN standing in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1610 USS FARENHOLT standing in. 1725 USS PAWNEE standing in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

5

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #3 Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 27 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "B" 302.5°, beacon "C" 341°, beacon "F" 112°. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened. Groups #1 and #2 - 20 MM guns manned. 0125 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0155 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0338 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0607 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1133 USS BUCHANAN and FARENHOLT got underway and stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1310 USS JENKINS stood in. 1428 USS CONFLICT stood in and anchored. 1505 USS RADFORD stood in and tied up to ERSKINE PHELPS 1514 USS WOODWORTH and USS McCALLA stood in. 1540 USS DENT, McKEAN and KILTY stood in with USS DENT tying up to ERSKINE PHELPS. 1541 USS CONFLICT stood out. 1645 USS CROSBY stood in.

*J. E. Mesworthy*  
Ensign J. E. MESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1620 USS McCALLA standing out. 1635 USS JENKINS standing out. 1645 USS RADFORD standing out. 1650 USS RALPH TALBOT standing in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2000 USS TALBOT and USS WATERS stood in. 2050 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 2150 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal Island. 2200 Ship commenced to drag anchor. 2205 Set special sea detail, made preparations for getting underway. 2218 Condition "GREEN" on Guadalcanal. 2240 Underway, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, shifting berth. 2254 Anchored in mid-channel between Lyons Point and Turnabout Point with 75 fathoms on the starboard anchor.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Tuesday

6

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 29 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor, in mid-channel between Lyons Point and Turnabout Point. Condition III set, ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. No. 1 boiler lit off. 0010 Boiler #1 cut into main steam line. 0336 Condition RED Russell Islands.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ensign J. E. NESWORTHY, O-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0456 Condition GREEN Russell Islands. 0615 USS KILTY underway standing out. 0620 USS CROSBY underway standing out. 0635 Observed sunrise, light ship. 0715 USS McALLA standing in. 0731 Underway shifting berths, proceeding at various courses and speeds. Captain conning, Navigator on the bridge.

*L. V. Jordan*  
Lt. L. V. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Underway as before, shifting berths. 0804 Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island in 28 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142.5°T; beacon "D" 242°T. 0835 USS RALPH TALBOT stood in. 0850 USS McKEAN stood in. 1100 USS SCHLEY stood in. 1105 USS KILTY stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1208 LCT 223 standing in. 1214 LST 398 standing in. 1219 LCT 60 standing in. 1300 #1 boiler secured. 1315 USS RALPH TALBOT standing in. 1326 SC 505 standing in. 1336 Anchor chain veered to ninety fathoms at water's edge. 1343 USS ZANE and USS RAIL standing in. 1345 USS TREVER standing in. 1346 USS CROSBY standing in. 1348 USS CONFLICT standing in. 1448 USS RAIL standing out. 1513 YAG 15 underway.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1714 USS HONOLULU and USS ST. LOUIS with two D.D's stood out of Tulagi harbor. 1740 USS JAMESTOWN stood in to anchorage.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2115 Condition RED at Russell Islands. 2148 Condition GREEN at Russell Islands.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday 7  
(Day) (Date)July 1943  
(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida, Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor, on following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened. 0212 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0608 USS KILTY, CROSBY, and SCHLEY stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0830 USS CONFLICT stood out. 0900 LST 341 stood out. 0935 USS MONTPELIER and COLUMBIA stood in. 0940 USS PRINGLE stood in. 1020 USS HOPKINS stood in. 1045 USS PRINGLE stood out. 1130 USS WATERS stood out. 1140 USS DENT stood out.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1205 USS WALLER standing in. 1220 USS SAUFLEY standing in. 1332 USS JAMESTOWN standing out. 1424 USS ALGORAB standing out. 1558 USS SAUFLEY underway.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1600 USS WALLER stood out. 1645 USS COLUMBIA and MONTPELIER stood out. 1710 USS TAYLOR and BUCHAMAN stood in. 1820 Sunset, darkened ship.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2158 Condition "RED" Russell Islands.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Thursday 8 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 25 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; Beacon "D" 242°T. Ship darkened with groups #1 and #2 - 20 mm guns manned. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0015 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0725 USS RAIL stood in. 0740 USS BUCHANAN stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0800 USS WOODWORTH, FARENHOLT, RAIL stood in and anchored. 0845 USS RAIL stood out. 0900 LCI 23 stood in. 0910 USS MONTPELIER, DENVER, COLUMBIA, CLEVELAND, and WALLER stood in. 1100 USS CLEVELAND and FARENHOLT stood out.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1220 USS WALLER underway. 1257 USS TALBOT underway. 1310 USS McKEAN underway. 1400 USS MONTPELIER underway and stood out. 1525 USS CLEVELAND and FARENHOLT standing in.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1806 USS FARENHOLT, BUCHANAN, RALPH TALBOT, and McCALLA stood out. 1813 Darkened ship. 1945 USS GWIN stood in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*

F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Friday

9

July

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 25 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. Ship darkened and groups #1 and #2 - 20 mm guns manned. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(JG) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0620 PC 67 standing out. 0626 LST 397 standing out. 0629 LST 472 standing out. 0642 USS MONTEPELIER standing in. 0656 HMS T102 standing in. 0702 USS COLUMBIA standing in. 0716 USS PRINGLE standing in.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt.(JG) S. N. BERRY, V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0850 USS DENVER standing out. 1050 LCI's 21, 27, and 329 standing in. 1051 HMS T102 standing out. 1106 USS SAUFLEY and PHILLIPS standing in. 1127 LCI 88 standing in.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt.(JG) S. N. BERRY, V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1501 USS WALLER stood out. 1540 USS DENVER and WALLER stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before.

*James F. Mesworthy*  
Lt. J. F. MESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2003 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 2015 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIALUNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 10 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. Groups #1 and #2 20 mm guns manned. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0540 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0600 LST 398 stood out. 0645 HMS LEANDER stood out from Tulagi. 0700 HMS LEANDER stood into Purvis Bay and moored alongside USS LACKAWANA.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0947 USS McCALLA standing in. 1016 USS FARENHOLT standing in. 1056 USS BUCHANAN standing in. 1100 USS RALPH TALBOT standing in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1342 USS WOODWORTH underway. 1344 USS BUCHANAN underway, moored starboard side to McCALLA. 1349 USS FARENHOLT underway. 1354 USS TAYLOR underway. 1402 USS MAURY and USS GWIN underway, stood out. 1447 USS PAMNEE underway. 1526 USS WALLER, USS PHILLIPS, USS PRINGLE, USS RENSHAW, USS SAUFLEY underway, standing out.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1615 USS BUCHANAN shifted berths. 1700 USS GWIN standing in. 1706 USS MAURY, USS TAYLOR, USS WOODWORTH standing in. 1709 USS PRINGLE, USS WALLER underway. 1715 USS SAUFLEY standing out. 1716 USS DENVER, USS CLEVELAND, USS MONTEPELIER, and USS COLUMBIA underway. 1718 USS RALPH TALBOT, USS TAYLOR, USS MAURY, and USS WOODWORTH standing in. 1953 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2000 Condition "RED" at Tulagi. 2046 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 2057 Condition "GREEN" at Tulagi. 2145 USS McKEAN and TALBOT stood in to anchorage.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AK12)

Sunday

11

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS AND WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 28 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor at water's edge. On following bearings:- Beacon "D" 242°T; beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened and groups #1 and #2-20mm guns manned.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0627 Lightened ship. 0700 USS JAMESTOWN stood out. 0710 USS GWIN stood out. 0715 LST 342 stood in. 0745 LST 399 stood in. 0745 USS McALLA stood in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0839 USS FAWNEE stood in. 0917 USS MONTPELIER DENVER, COLUMBIA, CLEVELAND stood in to anchorage. 0932 USS WALLER stood in and moored alongside USS LACKAWANA. 1025 ERSKINE PHELPS under tow and moored alongside USS LACKAWANA. 1030 GWIN stood in. 1045 USS WALLER shifted from alongside LACKAWANA to anchorage. 1130 USS PRINGLE stood in. 1155 SAUFLEY stood into anchorage.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1203 APC 34 stood in and anchored. 1225 APC 34 standing out. 1345 USS GWIN underway. 1347 USS PRINGLE, WALLER, WOODWORTH, MAURY, RALPH TALBOT, SAUFLEY, TAYLOR standing out. 1420 USS CLEVELAND, COLUMBIA, MONTPELIER, DENVER underway and standing out. 1537 HMS LEANDER underway and standing out. 1545 USS LACKAWANA underway.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1600 USS BUCHANAN stood out. 1610 USS FARENHOLT stood out. USS McALLA stood out. HMS T04 stood in. 1700 USS WATERS and DENT stood in. 1827 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2120 Condition RED was reported at Guadalcanal and Russell Islands. 2145 Condition GREEN reported at Guadalcanal Is. 2204 Condition RED at Guadalcanal. 2254 Condition GREEN at Guadalcanal. 2320 Condition GREEN at Russell Islands.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 12 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with muddy bottom, 90 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor on following bearings: Beacon "D" 242°T; beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Groups #1, #2 forward and aft 20 mm guns manned. 0110 Condition "RED" at Russells and Guadalcanal. 0148 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 0208 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Enb. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0615 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 0622 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands. 0635 Observed sunrise, lighted ship.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0800 USS MCKEAN stood out. 1016 USS JENKINS and O'BANNON stood in. 1145 USS DENT and WATERS stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1201 USS BUCHANAN standing in. 1230 USS JENKINS standing out. 1245 YP 417 standing in. 1310 USS HOPKINS standing in. 1340 USS BUCHANAN standing out. 1404 USS TAYLOR standing in. 1404 USS RALPH TALBOT standing out. 1410 USS MAURY standing out. 1430 USS TAYLOR standing out. 1430 USS GWIN standing out. 1500 LST 341 standing in. 1520 USS WOODWORTH standing in.

*S. W. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. W. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1812 Observed Sunset, darkened ship. 1820 USS DENT and WATERS stood in to anchorage. 1913 Condition "RED" at Russell Is's. 1947 Observed anti-aircraft fire bearing 280°T.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2014 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2028 Condition "GREEN" Guadalcanal. 2030 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands. 2031 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 2039 Condition "GREEN" at Russell. 2039 USS CROSBY standing in. 2042 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2046 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 2110 USS SCHLEY stood in. 2135 USS KILTY stood in.

*S. W. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. W. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

15

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "D" 242°T; beacon 303°T, beacon "P" 142°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened. Groups #1 and #2 - 20mm manned. 0247 Condition "RED" Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0605 USS FAWNEE underway. 0615 USS DENT stood out. 0630 USS WATERS stood out. 0700 LST 343 stood in.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1000 USS SCHLEY stood out. 1120 USS DARING stood in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1235 USS SCHLEY stood in. 1410 USS LACKAWANNA stood in. 1430 USS McALLA stood in. 1503 USS HOPKINS stood in. 1550 USS DENT and WATERS stood in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1600 USS TREVER stood in. 1620 USS TREVER stood out. 1715 USS GRIDLEY stood in. 1800 USS ELLET stood in, USS KILBY stood out. 1820 USS SCHLEY stood in. 1840 USS TAYLOR and MAURY stood in. 1910 USS JENKINS stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKAL2)

Wednesday 14

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth 13, Purvis Bay, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water, mud bottom, with 90 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened, condition of readiness and groups #1 and #2 - 80mm guns manned.

*Lt. L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0630 USS JENKINS underway, anchored at net. MAURY standing out. 0640 T02 stood out. 0715 USS RALPH TALBOT stood out.

*Lt. (jg) D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0850 JENKINS underway standing out. 0913 USS TALBOT stood in. 0940 APC 36 stood in. L01s21 and 22 stood in. 1006 LST 343 underway to out port side. 1029 LST 343 secured to port side LIBRA. LCT 68 stood in. 1030 USS MONTEPELLIER, COLUMBIA, DENVER, and CLEVELAND stood in and anchored.

*Eq. J. E. Nesworthy*  
Eq. J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1209 PAC 36 underway. 1212 USS DENVER moored alongside ERSKINE PHELPS. 1315 LST 343 cast off from alongside port side LIBRA. 1315 USS DENT stood out. 1330 USS TALBOT shifted berths. 1407 USS CROSBY shifted berths. 1410 HMNZS T102 underway. 1415 USS CONFLICT stood in. 1420 USS CACHE stood in to anchorage. 1520 USS KILTY stood in to anchorage. 1530 USS MONTEPELLIER underway from alongside ERSKINE PHELPS. 1540 USS COLUMBIA underway. 1545 USS CLEVELAND underway. 1550 USS COLUMBIA and CLEVELAND moored to USS CACHE to fuel.

*Lt. (jg) J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1912 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*Lt. (jg) S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(C), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*Lt. (jg) S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(C), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday 15

July 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 25 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303 T; beacon "F" 142 T; beacon "D" 242 T., with 20mm guns manned forward, amidships, and aft. Ship darkened and boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0500 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0535 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0605 USS McCALLA standing out. 0620 USS TREVOR standing in. 0625 USS LACKAWANA standing out. 0623 Observed sunrise, lightened ship. 0650 USS VIREO standing in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0750 ZANE in tow by VIREO stood out. 0755 USS HOPKINS standing out. 0809 USS TREVOR standing out. 1005 USS WALLER standing in. USS PRINGLE standing in. 1009 USS PHILLIP standing in. USS TAYLOR standing out. 1111 USS MAURY standing out. 1120 USS RENSHAW standing in. 1125 USS SAUFLEY standing in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1309 USS PANTEE stood out. 1532 USS RENSHAW stood out. 1535 USS PHILLIP stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1601 USS CLEVELAND, DENVER underway and stood out. 1620 SC 730 stood out. 1647 LST 399 stood in. 1720 LST 398 underway moored to USS MONTPELIER. 1800 LST 460 and 472 stood in. 1812 APC 29 stood out. 1813 Observed sunset and darkened ship.

*J. E. Mesworthy*  
Enr. J. E. MESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2125 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands.

*L. V. Jordan*  
Lt. L. V. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

16

July

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Purvis Bay, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 23 fathoms of water, mud bottom, with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 303 T; beacon "F" 142 T; beacon "D" 242 T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened. Groups #1 and #2 - 20mm guns manned.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0620 USS TALBOT stood out. 0626 USS KILBY stood out. 0630 Observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0640 USS CROSSBY stood out.

*J. E. Mesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. MESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1200 USS KENMORE standing out. 1222 LCI 24 standing in. 1315 LCT 159 standing in. 1345 USS GRIDLEY, ELLET, MAURY standing in. 1503 No. 1 boiler out in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1600 USS TAYLOR, WATERS stood in. 1645 MS 86 USS SCHLEY, USS DENT stood in. 1722 USS SCHLEY underway. 1813 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1818 LST 40 standing in. 1830 LCI 24 standing out. 1930 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1940 Condition "YELLOW" at Russell Islands. 1943 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2051 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2100 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 2112 Condition "YELLOW" at Russell Islands. 2121 Condition "RED" at Tulagi, called all hands to General Quarters. 2125 All stations manned and ready. 2146 Observed A.A. fire at Tulagi. 2218 TBS reports no hostile aircraft in vicinity. 2218 Condition "GREEN" at Tulagi, secured from General Quarters, set condition watch as before. 2230 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 2335 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 2343 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2353 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday 17

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 25 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303<sup>OT</sup>, beacon "F" 142<sup>OT</sup>, Beacon "D" 242<sup>OT</sup>. Ship darkened, Groups #1 and #2 - 20mm manned. Boiler #1 and #2 in use.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0505 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0517 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0645 USS WALLER, USS SAUFLEY, and USS PRINGLE standing out. 0657 USS MONTPELIER, USS COLUMBIA standing out. 0635 USS WATERS standing out. 0638 USS CACHE standing out. 0643 LST 396 standing out.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0812 USS CONFLICT stood out. 0830 MAURY stood out. 0835 USS TAYLOR stood out. 0840 USS ELLET stood out. 0910 USS SCHLEY stood out. 0935 USS DENT stood out. 1005 USS GRIDLEY stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-V, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before.

*J. E. Mesworthy*  
Ensign J. E. MESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1610 USS BALLARD stood in. 1602 USS DENT stood in. 1606 USS SOUTHARD stood in. 1612 USS SCHLEY stood in. 1614 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1820 HMS GAYLE stood in. 1805 USS STRINGHAM stood in. 1950 Condition "RED" Guadalcanal.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2010 Condition "RED" at Tulagi. 2045 Condition "GREEN" in Tulagi. 2110 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 2115 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 2210 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 2220 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2240 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 2250 Condition "RED" at Tulagi. 2252 Sounded General Quarters. 2304 Observed gun fire bearing 210<sup>OT</sup>. 2355 Secured from General Quarters.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Sunday

18

July

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; MAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 28 fathoms of water, with muddy bottom; 90 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. 20MM guns manned forward, amidships, and aft. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0121 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0135 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 0203 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 0215 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Enr. J. E. NESWORTHY, CV(S), USNR.

0400-0600:- Anchored as before. 0440 Condition "RED", Russell Islands. 0505 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands. 0702 USS SCHLEY stood out. USS TALBOT stood in. 0740 USS CROSBY stood in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0830 USS BALLARD stood out. 1108 USS WALLER and SAUFLEY stood in, made swing of harbor and stood out. 1140 USS TAYLOR and BRIDLEY stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1205 USS ELLET stood in. 1240 APC 32 stood in. 1245 USS WATERS, APC 35 standing in. 1250 USS McKEAN standing in. 1250 LCI 67 standing in. 1300 LST 383 standing in. 1306 APC 32 standing out. 1307 USS KILTY standing in. 1340 USS MAURY standing in. 1415 USS WARD standing in. 1420 LCI 63 standing in. 1435 SC 831 standing out. 1500 USS CROSBY standing out.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1755 USS STACK stood in to anchorage. 1756 USS McKEAN shifted berth to alongside ERSKINE PHELPS to fuel. 1806 USS LANG stood in to anchorage. 1813 Observed Sunset, darkened ship. 1840 USS WARD underway from alongside ERSKINE PHELPS to anchorage. 1940 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1955 USS McKEAN underway from alongside ERSKINE PHELPS to anchorage.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-V, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12) Monday 19 July 1943  
(Obs) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. 20MM guns manned, ship darkened, Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0240 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 0330 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0404 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 0509 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 0710 USS SOUTHARD stood out. 0712 USS JAMES-TOWN underway and standing out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1008 USS TALBOT stood out. 1125 USS SOUTHARD stood in.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1340 USS RALPH TALBOT stood in. 1520 USS PATTERSON stood out.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1620 USS BUTTERNUT stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2108 Condition "RED" Guadalcanal. 2110 A.A. fire bearing 200T. 2133 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 2203 Condition "GREEN" Guadalcanal. 2209 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Ens. J. E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday

20

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 21

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored as before in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water, muddy bottom, with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "B" 242°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened with 201M gun watch set. 0355 Condition "RED" Guadalcanal.

*Lt. L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0403 Observed gun fire on Guadalcanal Island bearing 200°T. 0425 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal and "RED" at Russell Is's. 0540 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0545 USS McKEAN, WATERS, and WARD stood out. 0605 USS MILTY stood out. 0645 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0700 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0715 USS BUTTERNUT stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(3), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0808 USS LANG, STACK, and TALEST stood out. 0840 Dutch merchantman KOTA AGOENG stood out.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(2), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1303 USS GRIDLEY and MAURY stood out. 1325 USS PATTERSON stood in to anchorage. 1346 USS SOUTHARD underway and stood out. 1316 USS CONWAY standing in. 1426 USS PATTERSON underway and stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-W, USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1712 USS PATTERSON stood in and anchored. 1808 LCI 43 standing out. 1813 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1820 LST 460 standing out. 1836 LST 396, LST 398 standing in. 1850 USS TAYLOR standing in.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(3), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 21 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth 13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 242°T. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened and 1 and 2 groups 20 MM manned.

*J. J. Borden*  
 Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0637 Observed sunrise; lightened ship. 0705 APC 28 standing out. 0715 HMS T102 standing in.

*S. M. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0837 USS BUTTERNUT standing in. 0900 USS BUTTERNUT standing out. 1006 USS CONWAY, USS PATTERSON standing out. 1130 LST 480 standing out. HMS T102 standing out.

*S. M. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1625 USS McKEAN, STRINGHAM, WARD, KELTY, and WATERS stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. USS McKEAN underway to fuel from ERSHINE PHELPS. LST 339 underway to anchorage. LST 363 stood in. 1813 USS TALBOT stood in. 1815 Observed sunset and darkened ship. 1843 USS CROSBY stood in.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
 Lt. (jg) J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2235 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 2313 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands.

*L. M. Jordan*  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday

22

July

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY."

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303°T; Beacon "F" 142°T; Beacon "D" 242°T. Boiler # 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened, and Groups #1 and #2 20mm guns are manned.

*D. M. Childs*  
Lieut. (jg) D. M. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0434 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0608 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0700 USS GRIDLEY stood in.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Lieut. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1000 USS McKEAN stood out. 1030 USS MONONGAHELA stood in. 1115 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1145 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1235 LST 395 standing out. 1320 AP32 standing in. 1436 Lit off #1 boiler. 1440 LOI 223 standing out. 1545 USS ELLET standing in.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lieut. (jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1807 LST 472 standing in. 1810 #1 boiler secured. LST 353 standing out. 1910 USS CONWAY stood in.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lieut. (jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. S. Borden*  
Lieut. (jg) J. S. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-N, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Friday

23

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "E" 303 T; beacon "F" 142 T; beacon "D" 242 T. Boiler number two in use for auxiliary purposes. Group #1 and #2 - COMM guns manned. SMI darkened. 0015 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0045 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S. N. Beery, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0511 Condition "RED" Guadalcanal. 0537 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 0600 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0610 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0630 USS WALBOT standing out. 0635 Observed sunrise, lightened ship USS KILTY, USS CROSSY, USS WATERS standing out. 0735 USS CONWAY standing out.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S. N. Beery, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0830 USS MONONGAHELA underway from alongside USS BREKIDG PHILIPS. 0835 Made all preparations to receive MONONGAHELA alongside starboard side. 0905 USS MONONGAHELA moored port side to our starboard side with 5 - 8" manila line out. Draft before fueling Fwd. 11' 07"; Aft 10' 08". Draft of MONONGAHELA before discharging Fwd. 12' 03"; Aft 07' 00". 0945 Commenced fueling. 0957 USS STRINGHAM stood out. 1145 Completed fueling. Draft - Fwd. 12' 04"; Aft. 10' 09", MONONGAHELA - Fwd. 19' 08"; aft. 03' 00", received on board 93,030 gallons of fuel.

*J. Borden*  
Lt. (JG) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. USS GRISLEY, TAYLOR, MAURY, and ELIST stood out. 1510 USS MONONGAHELA cast off lines from starboard side and stood out. 1420 USS MONONGAHELA stood in to anchor. 1507 USS MONONGAHELA stood out.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (JG) J. E. NESWORTHY, J-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1814 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(C), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12) Saturday 24 July 1945  
(Date) (Day) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
 "OPERATIONAL REMARKS & MAN DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 26 fathoms of water, muddy bottom, with 90 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 3030T; beacon "F" 1400T; beacon "D" 2420T. With 20MM guns manned forward, amidships, and aft. Ship darkened boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0036 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 0100 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands.

*James E. Mesworthy*  
 Lt. (jg) J. E. MESWORTHY, C-V(9), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0555 Condition "RED" Russell Islands. 0558 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands.

*L. M. Jordan*  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(8), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1008 USS WARD stood out. 1105 USS PRINGLE, MONTPELIER, CLEVELAND, and MAURY stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(8), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1200 LST 472 standing out. LST 368 standing out. 1210 USS TALBOT, USS WATERS, APC 32 standing in. 1220 LCI 309 standing out. 1230 APC 32 standing out. 1310 LST 371 standing out. 1410 USS WALLER standing in. 1445 USS CROSBY standing in. 1450 USS PHILLIPS standing in. 1500 YF 418 standing in. 1518 USS KILTY standing in. 1520 USS MAURY standing out.

*S. W. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. W. BERRY, D-V(8), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1610 USS WALLER, PHELPS, and PRINGLE underway and stood out. 1628 USS MONTPELIER stood out. 1630 USS CLEVELAND stood out. 1650 USS WATERS underway to moor alongside ERSKINE PHELPS. 1655 USS KILTY underway to moor alongside ERSKINE PHELPS. 1740 Let go port anchor to 35 fathoms at water's edge. 1800 USS WATERS underway. 1805 USS KILTY underway. 1810 USS McKEAN stood in moored to port side of ERSKINE PHELPS. 1818 USS TALBOT underway moored to starboard side ERSKINE PHELPS. 1818 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1830 USS CROSBY underway moored to McKEAN alongside ERSKINE PHELPS.

*J. J. Borden*  
 Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. W. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. W. BERRY, D-V(8), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph W. Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
 Navigator, U. S. N., Navigator.

24

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKALO)

Sunday

25

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 66 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain out to water's edge to starboard anchor and 35 fathoms of chain out to water's edge to port anchor. On the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 142°T; beacon "D" 248°T; beacon "E" 303°T. Ship darkened. Groups #1 and #2 - 20MM manned. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*S. M. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0415 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 0418 Observed A.A. fire bearing 275°T, called all 20MM guns to alert. 0512 Condition "YELLOW" at Russell Islands. 0517 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands, all guns stand easy.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0815 USS LANG stood in. 0840 USS SOUTHARD stood in. 0855 USS CONFLICT stood in. 0940 Condition "RED" Rendova. 1015 1016 USS MATERS stood out.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1325 USS STACK stood in. 1440 USS PATTERSON stood in. 1500 Hove up port anchor.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1817 USS WILSON and CASSIOPHEA stood in. 1819 Darkened ship. 1840 USS ELLET and GRIDLEY stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

USS LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

26

July

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 28 fathoms of water, muddy bottom, with 90 fathoms of chain out to water's edge to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "F" 1420T; beacon "D" 2420T; beacon "E" 3030T. Ship darkened, groups #1 and #2 - 30MM manned. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0429 Condition "RED" reported at Russell Islands. 0505 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal Island. 0532 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal. 0535 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 0630 USS PATTERSON stood out.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1030 USS TALBOT stood out. 1050 USS TAYLOR stood in and anchored.

*J. E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) J. E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1255 USS KILTY stood in to anchorage. 1300 USS STRINGHAM and CROSBY stood out. 1358 USS MAURY stood in to anchorage. 1536 USS MARD stood in moored alongside ERSKINE SHEPES.

*J. C. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. C. BORDEN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1853 USS DRACO stood in anchored. 1750 USS CROSBY stood in anchored. 1800 WMS 237 standing out. 1801 USS STRINGHAM standing in. 1816 Observed sunset darkened ship. 1836 USS KILTY standing in. 1858 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1915 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*S. H. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-0400:- Anchored as before.

*S. H. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 10)

Tuesday

27

July

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 143°T; Beacon "D" 242°T; Beacon "E" 303°T. Boiler No. 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened and 20mm guns manned forward, amidships and aft. 0240 Condition "RED", Russell Islands. 0320 Condition "GREEN" Russell Islands. 0335 USS McKEAN underway and standing out.

*J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0730 USS SAND KEY standing out with USS CELENO in tow.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0800 PG 477 standing out. 0915 LST 353 standing out. 0937 LST 396 standing out. 1025 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1038 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands. 1060 Condition "YELLOW" at Tulagi.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(6), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1210 USS ALGOFAS stood in. 1218 USS PATAPSOO stood in. 1225 Condition "GREEN" at Tulagi. 1400 USS WATERS stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. LST 460 stood out. 1645 LST 388 and 472 stood in. 1818 observed sunset, darkened ship.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.

W. W. Waughton



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AFA12)

Wednesday, 20 July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 22 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "F" 124°T; beacon "D" 240°T; beacon "W" 305°T. Boiler #3 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened, groups #1 and #2 - 20MM guns manned.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, S-V(c), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0710 XP 418 stood out. 0730 SC 730 stood out.

*James E. Hemenway*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. HEMENWAY, S-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0850 USS CROSBY stood out.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, S-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1300 USS CROSBY stood in. 1314 LCI 22 stood in. 1400 LCI's 21, 24; SC 761 stood out. 1600 LCI 22 stood out.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, S-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. 1805 USS TALBOT standing in. 1813 Observed sunset, unburned ship.

*S. W. Berry*  
Lt.(jg) S. W. BERRY, S-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, S-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH W. WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.  
U. S. N. Navigator.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXALB)**

Thursday 29 July 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & MAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #13, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 33 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 142° T; beacon "D" 303° T; beacon "E" 342° T. Ship darkened, boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Group #1 and #2 - 2012' guns manned.

*S. H. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(3), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0648 Observed sunrise, lightened ship.

*S. H. Berry*  
 Lt. (jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(3), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0830 USS GRIDLEY underway and stood out.

*J. J. Borden*  
 Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-V, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1230 APC 32 stood in. 1400 USS PATTERSON stood in. 1430 USS McKEAN stood in. USS PATAPSCO stood out. 1530 USS PATTERSON stood out.

*James E. McSherry*  
 Lt. (jg) JAMES E. MUSHERRY, D-V(3), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before.

*L. W. Jordan*  
 Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(3), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (jg) S. W. CHILDS, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
 JOSEPH W. WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
 Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIEPA (ANALS)Friday 30 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL BEHAVIOR &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400:- Anchored in Berth No.13 Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 20 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "F" 142°T; Beacon "D" 303°T; Beacon "E" 040°T. Groups 1 and 2, COMMOs manned. Boiler No.2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0630 USS WARD stood out. 0710 USS ELLET and USS TAYLOR stood out. 0715 USS WARD stood in. 0720 USS BRASS underway and stood out. 0720 USS CASSIOPEIA underway and stood out.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0830 USS BUTTERNUT stood out. 0830 USS SOUTHARD stood out. 1000 USS WILSON stood out. 1055 USS CONWAY stood out.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1230 YF 417 standing in. 1300 USS STARK standing in. 1505 LST 396 standing in. 1550 LST 353 standing in.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1803 condition "RED" at Russell Islands. 1816 observed sunset, darkened ship. 1821 condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. HORDEN, D-M, USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*[Signature]*  
F. T. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. 20076667

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10)

Saturday 31 JULY 1943

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & MAN O'WAR."

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth No. 13 Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 26 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to water's edge to starboard anchor, muddy bottom, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "F" 142°T; Beacon "D" 242°T; Beacon "E" 303°T. 20mm guns manned, forward, aft, and amidships. Boiler No. 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*S. W. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. W. BERRY, D-V(O), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0611 USS McLEAN, WARD, TALBOT, WATERS and STRINGHAM underway and stood out. 0830 Lit off No. 1 boiler.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0855 USS CRAVEN stood in. 0957 USS KILTY stood out. 0900 Made all preparations for getting underway. Set special sea detail. 0906 USS DUNLOP and STERRET stood in. 0930 underway and steaming at various speeds and courses conforming to the channel out of Purvis Bay. Captain at the conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Set condition III. 0957 cleared submarine net. 1005 energized degaussing coils. 1015 with Dungena light beam to port set course 180°T; 129°S. Commenced zig zag in accordance with plan #12 (1940 B). 1100 ceased zig zag approaching Tetere, Guadalcanal at slow speeds. 1135 laying to awaiting further orders. 1115 proceeding at various speeds and courses to anchorage. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 47.1.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600:- 1201 anchored off Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in berth #75 in 18 fathoms of water with 35 fathoms of chain out to port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "K" 164°T; Beacon "A" 271°T; Beacon "J" 281°T. 1242 USS CRESCENT CITY underway for Lunga. 1505 USS CRESCENT CITY underway from Lunga.

*H. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. H. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- 1707 Underway. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge. Steaming on various courses at various speeds to join Task Unit 30.4.7. 1735 Took position in column 3 astern of USS JOHN FENN, cruising formation #2. Ships consisting of right flank column USS JOHN FENN, LIBRA, HUNTER LIGGETT and ALSCRAE. Left flank column USS AMERICAN LEGION, CRESCENT CITY and GEORGE OLYMER. Escort consisting of USS NICHOLAS, CONWAY, FARENHOLT and PREBLE. ComEscort in USS NICHOLAS. Base course 090°, standard speed 15 knots. USS AMERICAN LEGION C.T.C., and Guide. 1765 Port Pile Island beam to port, distance 4 miles. 1807 Yugu Island beam to port, distance 0.5 miles. 1815 Darkened ship. 1846 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #6. 1955 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Changed speed to 75 RPM. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 56.0.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(O), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 090°T, 091°S. Standard speed 15 knots, 84 RPM. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (1940 diagrams). 2001 changed base course to 123°T. 2007 changed speed to 90 RPM. 2015 commenced zig zagging on Plan #8. 2240 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 2330 changed course to 097°T, 099°S. Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 56.2.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-N, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U.S. NAVY

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKAL9)**

Supplies 2 August 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**

**"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"**

0000-0400:- Steaming in company task unit 32.4.7 in formation 3 on base course 090°G; 097°T at standard speed 15 knots (85 RPM). USS AMERICAN LEGION C.T.U. LIBRA is second ship in column. Right flank column of ships USS JOHN PENN, LIBRA, HUNTER LIGGETT, and ALGORAB. Left flank column USS AMERICAN LEGION, CRESCENT CITY, and GEORGE SIMMER, escort consisting of USS NICHOLAS, CONWAY, FARENHOLT, and PREBLE. Comescort in USS NICHOLAS. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Condition III set. Ship darkened. 0110 Changed course to 126°T; 124°G. 0128 Changed course to 118°T; 117°G. 0224 Commenced zig sagging in accordance plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0230 USS GEORGE CLYMER reported radar contact surface bearing 532°T, distance 15 miles. Av.Steam 450, Av. RPM 88.0.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 117°G, at standard speed 15 knots. Zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0523 Exercised at General Quarters. 0623 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III, lighted ship. 0648 Ceased zig sagging and resumed base course. 0650 Formed cruising formation #1. 0702 Changed speed to 2/3. 0712 Changed speed to standard. 0715 Commenced zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 447.8, Av. RPM. 87.8.

0800 Position: Lat. 100- 34'S.  
Long. 1630- 14'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before, on base course 118°T; 117°G at standard speed of 15 knots, zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1013 Radar contact by USS JOHN PENN, aircraft bearing 228°T, Friendly. 1111 Sighted aircraft bearing 188°T, Friendly. 1130 Radar contact USS CONWAY, aircraft bearing 235°T, Friendly. 1137 Ceased zig sagging resumed base course 118°T. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 87.9.

1200 Position: Lat. 100- 54'S.  
Long. 1630- 59'E.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lt. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before, on base course 118°T, 117°G. Standard speed 15 knots. 1200 Changed speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 1204 Changed base course to 141°T, 140°G. 1206 Changed speed to 10 knots (55 RPM). 1208 Changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1210 Commenced zig sagging plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1300 USS HUNTER LIGGETT broke breakdown flag and left formation. 1309 Changed speed 2/3 standard speed (10 knots, 55 RPM). 1318 USS HUNTER LIGGETT hauled down breakdown flag. 1324 USS HUNTER LIGGETT retained formation, changed speed to standard 15 knots (84 RPM). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM. 83.5.

*C. S. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) C. S. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1800-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 141°T, 140°G, steaming at standard speed, 15 knots, zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 1754 Darkened ship. Av.Steam 450 Av.RPM. 88.4.

2000 Position: Lat. 120- 11'S.  
Long. 1650- 02'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 141°T, 140°G, at standard speed 15 knots (85 RPM). Zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 2000 Changed to zig sag plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM. 86.8.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

54777

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

8

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.7 in cruising disposition one (1), on base course 141°T, 140°S, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 D.). USS AMERICAN LEGION is C.T.U. LIBRA is second and last ship in column one (1), astern USS JOHN PENN. DD's screening, consort in USS NICHOLAS. Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. Boilers one and two in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 84.4.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. (JG) L. L. JORDAN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before, on base course 141 T, 140 S, at standard speed 15 knots. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8. 0610 Exercised at General Quarters. 0607 Changed zig zag to plan #28. 0613 Sunrise, secured from General Quarters, light ship, set condition III. 0645 Changed base course to 136°T, 135°S. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 85.3.

0800 Position: Lat. 14°- 17' N.  
Long. 166°- 42' E.

*H. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) H. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before, on base course 136°T, 135°S at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging on plan #28 (1940 D.). 0915 Cape Cumberland abeam to starboard app. distance 17 miles. 1000 Ceased Z.E. and resumed base course, changed to zig zag plan #8. 1128 Saka Island abeam app. distance 7 miles. 1140 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1146 Changed speed to 11 knots (61 RPM) changed course to 168°T, 167°S. 1155 Changed speed to standard 15 knots (84 RPM). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 85.2.

1200 Position: Lat. 15°- 15' S.  
Long. 167°- 13' E.

*J. S. Borden*  
Lt. (JG) J. S. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before, on base course 168°T, 167°S, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) zig zagging in accordance with plan #28 (1940 D.). 1300 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 D.). 1330 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course and axis to 180°T, 179°S. 1355 Changed speed to 10 knots (55 RPM). 1407 USS PREBLE came alongside starboard quarter to deliver mail. 1415 Resumed standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1414 Resumed zig zagging in accordance plan #8 (1940 D.). 1420 Changed course to 240°T, 230°S. Changed speed to two-thirds. Left task unit 32.4.7 with the USS ALGORAB and proceeded towards Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides at various speeds on various courses astern of the ALGORAB. 1450 Set Special Sea Detail, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 1500 Entered channel between Tutuba and Bogacio Islands. 1523 Passed through the mine fields. 1535 Passed through the anti-submarine nets. Av.Steam 450, AvRPM 71.3.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before, proceeding to anchorage at various courses and speeds in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides. 1605 Anchored in vicinity of berth #23 in 18 fathoms of water, 60 fathoms of chain out to port anchor. 1613 Move in anchor to 35 fathoms and proceeded to shift berths. 1830 Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides Islands in 27 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchor bearings: Beacon "K" 133°T; beacon "F" 082°T; beacon 226°T. 1840 Secured special sea detail and #1 boiler.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*H. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) H. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIALUNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 5 August 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11**REMARKS**  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Second Channel, Esprito Santo, New Hebrides Islands, in 27 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to port anchor at the water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "K" 133°T; beacon "F" 062°T; beacon "N" 226°T; beacon "M" 201°T; Ship darkened. 0300 Commenced loading cargo into refer deck #3 hatch.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. Loading cargo in #3 hold. 0650 Commenced loading cargo in #1 hold.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-N, USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. Loading cargo in #1 and #3 holds. 0905 Commenced loading #2 hold.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. Loading cargo #1, #2, and #3 holds.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. Loading #1 and #2 holds. 1735 Secured #1 hold. 1745 Secured #2 hold. 1745 Darkened ship.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

4 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Second Channel, Espirito Santo, New Hebrides Islands, in 27 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to port anchor at the water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "K" 133°T; beacon "F" 062°T; beacon "J" 226°T; beacon "M" 201°T. Various men of war and merchantmen at anchor. Ship darkened, boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*Lt. L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0600 Commenced loading cargo into #1 and #2 hatches. 0635 USS ARIDED stood in and anchored in adjacent berth.

*Lt. (jg) D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. Loading #1 and #2 holds.

*Lt. (jg) S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. Loading at #1 and #2 holds. 1345 Commenced loading #3 hold. 1435 Stopped loading #1 hold. 1500 Completed loading #2 hold.

*Lt. (jg) R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before, loading #3 hold. 1741 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1820 Commenced loading #1 hold with general cargo.

*Ens. F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before, loading cargo in #1 and #3 holds. 2230 Commenced loading ammunition in #4 hold.

*Lt. (jg) G. J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) G. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday

5 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santos, New Hebrides Islands, in 27 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor at the water's edge, on the following bearings: Beacon "K" 133°T; beacon "F" 062°T; beacon "M" 226°T. Number two boiler in use. Ship darkened, loading at #4 and #5 holds.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before, continued loading #4 and #5 holds. 0612 Observed sunrise, lighted ship.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. Continued loading cargo in #4 and #5 holds.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt.(jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1540 Completed loading #4 and #5 holds. 1545 USS BALLARD stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1635 USS CONSTANT standing in. 1745 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-M(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

6

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400:- Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santos, New Hebrides Islands in 27 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "K" 133°T; Beacon "F" 062°T; Beacon "M" 228°T; Beacon "N" 201°T. Ship darkened. Boiler #2 in use. Various men-of-war and merchantmen present.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0612 observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0700, lit off #1 Boiler.

*S.N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0918 made all preparations for getting underway. 0933 set special sea detail. 0940 Hove up to 45 fathoms at water's edge. 0942 set standard speed at 10.5 knots 58 RPM. Captain at the conn, Navigator and Executive Officer on the bridge. 0957 Underway in accordance with ComTransGroup-SoPac despatch 030206/August, forming Task Unit 32.5.3, LIBRA, CTU, followed by USS ARIDED with USS CONSTANT proceeding ahead, at various speeds on various courses conforming to channel. 1046 passed first submarine net abeam to port. 1049 passed second submarine net abeam to starboard. 1055 passed White Rock abeam to port. 1057 Steady on 165°- entered swept channel through mine field. 1116 passed Bogacio Island abeam to starboard. 1132 changed course to 140°G, 141°T. 1132 secured special sea detail, took departure from Espiritu Santos in company with USS ARIDED and USS CONSTANT acting as escort. 1136 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 32.4.  
1200 Position: Lat. 15°-42' S.  
Long. 167°-17' E.

*J.J. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J.J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 141°T, 140°G, at standard speed of 10.5 knots (58 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). 1300 sighted Ambrim Island bearing 130°T; distance 30 miles. 1535 changed base course to 136°T, 135°G. Av. steam 442.5. Av. RPM. 58.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 136°T, 135°G, at standard speed 10.5 knots, zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 D). 1600 Changed zig zag to plan #38. 1700 N.W. tip of Ambrim Island abeam to port. 1744 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1800 Changed zig zag to plan #39. 1830 Changed course to 210°T, 209°G. 1943 Sighted white light bearing 170°T. Av. Steam 450 Av. RPM 58.0  
2000 Position: Lat. 16°-41' S.  
Long. 167°-53½' E.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 210 T; 209 G., at standard speed of 10.5 knots (58 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 D.). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III. Av. Steam 450 Av. RPM 58.0.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Saturday 7 August 1943  
(Day) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.5.3, LIBRA is OTC and Guide, U.S.S. ARIDED is in position astern. U.S.S. CONSTANT screening ahead, on base course 210°T, 209°G, at standard speed 10.5 knots (58 RPM). Zig-zagging on Plan #39, (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened and condition III is set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0125 ceased zig-zag and resumed base course. 0130 changed course to 161°T, 160°G. 0140 commenced zig-zagging on plan #39 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 58.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 10.5 knots. Zig-zagging on Plan #39. 0613 observed sunrise, light ship. 0700 changed zig-zag plan to plan #38. Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 58.0.  
0800 Position: Lat. 18°-21'S.  
Long. 167°-37½'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 10.5 knots (58 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 D). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 58.0.  
1200 Position: Lat. 18°-57'S.  
Long. 167°-53½'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 10.5 knots (58 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). 1230 changed standard speed to 11 knots (61 RPM). Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 60.8.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 11 knots, Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #38. 1832 Sunset, darkened ship. Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 61.  
2000 Position: Lat. 20°-14'S.  
Long. 168°-23'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 11 knots (61 RPM). Zig-zagging on plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened. Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 61.0.

*J. J. Borden*  
Lt. (Jg) J. J. BORDEN, D-M, USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday 8 August 1953

43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company task unit 32.5.3; USS LIBRA, OTC and guide, USS ARIDED in position astern; USS CONSTANT screening ahead on base course 161°T; 160°G, at standard speed 11 knots (61 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance plan #38 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 462.5, Av.RPM 61.  
0800 Position: Lat. 22°-00'S.  
Long. 168°-51'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G at standard speed 11 knots, zig zagging on plan #38. 0614 Observed sunrise, light ship. 0675 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0630 Changed course to 213°T, 212°G. 0635 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #38. Sighted Mare Island, Loyalty Islands, bearing 305°T, approx. distance 45 miles. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 61.0.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 213°T, 212°G (213° pastgc) at standard speed of 11 knots (61 RPM) zig zagging in accordance with zig zag plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 0810 Sighted land (DURAND reef) bearing 262°T, distance about eleven miles. 1030 Sighted land, Walpole Island bearing 160°T, distance about 20 miles. 1200 Position: Lat. 22°-35'S.  
Long. 168°-29'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 213°T, 212°G at standard speed 11 knots (61 RPM) zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1236 Strange ship sighted bearing 269°T. 1250 Ship identified as friendly (YAG 25). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 61.0

*J. V. Borden*  
Lt. (jg) J. V. BORDEN, D-M, USNR

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 213°T, 212°G, at standard speed of 11 knots, zig zagging on plan #38. 1700 Changed course to 222°T, 221°G. 1730 Darkened ship. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 61.0  
2000 Position: Lat. 23°-39'S.  
Long. 167°-40'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 222°T, 221°G, at standard speed 11 knots (61 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 2155 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 2200 USS ARIDED left task unit 32.5.3 and proceeded independently as per orders, changed standard speed to 13 knots (72 RPM) changed course to 308°T; 307°G. Resumed zig zag plan #38 (1940 D.)  
Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 66.4.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

8



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

29

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with task unit 32.5.3 USS LIBRA is OTC and guide USS CONSTANT screening ahead on base course 308°T, 307°G. Steaming at standard speed of 13 knots (72 RPM) zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 72.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 308°T, 307°G at standard speed 13 knots. 0400 Changed course to 000°T, 359°G. 0520 Changed course to 358°T, 357°G. 0623 Changed course to 330°T, 329°G. 0624 Observed sunrise, light ship. 0636 Changed course to 320°T, 319°G. 0638 Changed speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 0640 Changed course to 329°T, 330°G. 0700 Changed course to 319°T, 320°G. 0704 Sighted Amedee light bearing 345°T, approx. distance 12 miles. 0710 Ceased zig zagging, changed course to 329°T, 330°G. 0718 Steaming on various courses, standing toward Amedee light. Capt. at conn, Navigator on the bridge. 0735 Changed speed to 10 knots (55 RPM). 0740 Set special sea detail. Av. Steam 460 Av. RPM 71.4

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds conforming to the channel, approaching Noumea, New Caledonia. 0905 Entered Bulari Passage 0910 Passed Amedee light abeam to port distance 1,100 yards. 0914 USS CONSTANT was released from task unit 32.5.3. 1045 Passed through anti-submarine net into Great Roads. 1134 Anchored in berth A-11, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia in 5 fathoms of water with 55 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Nickle Works 105°T, beacon "L" 165°T, beacon "M" 197°T, S.H. 097°G. 1132 Secured special sea detail.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1453 Set special sea detail, 4th section. 1500 All dept's. ready for getting underway, Captain at Conn, Navigator on bridge. Heaved up anchor. 1501 Steering on various courses and speeds to berth A5, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia. 1511 Anchored in 5.5 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to water's edge to port anchor on following bearings: beacon "K" 009°T, "J" 312°T, "M" 193°T, "L" 159°T. 1520 Veered to 75 fathoms at water's edge to port anchor on following bearings: beacon "J" 309°T, "K" 000°T, Chimney 101°T. 1527 Secured special sea detail.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1743 Sunset, darkened ship.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12) SHIP'S LOG OF THE UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11 REMARKS "OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth A-6, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 5.5 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to water's edge to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "J" 309°T; Beacon "K" 000°T; Chimney 101°T. Boiler #1 and #2 in use.

*Fred T Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0623 Sunrise. 0640 Pilot reported aboard.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0850 Set special sea detail, made all preparations for getting underway. 0900 SS CAPE ROMAIN stood in and moored to finger pier #9. 0913 Underway to go alongside finer pier #7, Captain at conn, Executive officer and Navigator on the bridge, at various courses and speeds. 0930 YT 206 along starboard bow, Tug #2 starboard quarter pushing bow and stern. 0934 Let go starboard anchor to 10 fathoms of chain at water's edge. 0957 Moored port side to Finger Pier #7, Nickel Plant, Noumea, New Caledonia with standard mooring lines. 1015 Commenced discharging cargo from all holds.

*Fred T Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Moored as before. Discharging cargo from all hatches.

*Fred T Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Moored as before. Discharging cargo from all hatches. 1755 Observed sunset. 1755 YO #44 moored to starboard side. 1815 Commenced receiving diesel oil from YO #44.

*Robert K Wilson*  
Bos. R. K. WILSON, USN.

2000-2400:- Moored as before. Discharging cargo from all hatches. 2024 Condition YELLOW from Port Director, Noumea, New Caledonia. 2030 Condition GREEN from Port Director, Noumea. 2225 Y.C. #44 Completed pumping diesel oil. Received 6,678 gallons.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-N, USNR,  
Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

WEDNESDAY 11 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Moored port side to Dock #7, Nickel Plant, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, with standard mooring lines, receiving fresh water from the dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Discharging cargo from all hatches. 0100 Completed discharging cargo from #4 hatch. 0300 Completed discharging cargo from #5 hatch.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before. Discharging cargo from number 1, 2, and 3 hatches. 0602 Completed discharging cargo from numbers 2 and 3 hatches. 0725 Commenced loading number 3 hatch. 0730 Y.O. #44 cast off from starboard side.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Moored as before, unloading number 1 hatch, loading number 3 hatch. 0850 Received Y.O. #24 along starboard side. 0910 Commenced receiving fuel oil Y.O. #24, commenced loading number 5 hatch. 0945 Commenced loading number 4 hatch. 0950 Commenced loading number 2 hatch. 1140 Completed receiving fuel from Y.O. #24. Received 75,600 gallons. 1155 Y.O. #24 cast off from starboard side.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Moored as before. Loading #2, #3, #4, and #5 hatches, unloading #1. 1450 Completed unloading #1 hatch. 1520 Commenced loading #1 hatch.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Moored as before, loading #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5 hatches. 1635 Completed loading #5 hatch. 1738 Sunset, darkened ship. 1744 Turned on Red Aircraft lights.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Moored as before, loading #1, #2, #3, and #4 hatches. 2350 Condition RED, Noumea Area, darkened ship, discontinued loading all hatches.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator. U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday 12 August 1943  
(Day) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

**REMARKS**  
 "OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Moored port side to dock #7, Nickel Plant, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, with 8" lines and wire 1 1/2" fore and aft. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes, ship darkened. Condition "RED" Noumea area. 0108 Condition "GREEN" in Noumea area, lighted ship, commenced making preparations to resume loading. 0130 Commenced loading #2 hold. 0200 Commenced loading #3 hold. 0230 Completed loading #3 hold. 0235 Commenced loading #1 hold.

*R. H. Griffin*  
 Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before and loading #1, #2, and #3 holds. 0845 Resumed loading #4 hold.

*R. H. Griffin*  
 Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Moored as before. Loading #1, #2, #3, and #4 holds. 0940 Completed loading #3 hold.

*C. D. Jones*  
 Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Moored as before. Loading holds #1, #2, and #4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Moored as before. Loading holds #1, #2, and #4. Observed sunset, turned on aircraft lights.

*C. D. Jones*  
 Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Moored as before. Loading holds #1, #2, and #4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
 Navigator. U. S. N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Friday 13 August 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
 "OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Moored port side to dock #7, Nickel Plant, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia with standard mooring lines. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes, loading holds #2 and #4.

C. D. Jones  
 Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

H. M. Pepper  
 Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

H. M. Pepper  
 Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

R. H. Giff  
 Lt.(jg) R. H. GIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4. 1737 Sunset, darkened ship.

R. K. Wilson  
 Bos'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

2000-2400:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

R. K. Wilson  
 Bos'n. R. K. WILLIAMS, USN.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Commander, U. S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
 JOSEPH WEINER,,  
 Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
 Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday

14

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Moored port side to dock #7, Nickel Plant, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, with standard mooring lines, receiving fresh water from the dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Loading holds #2 and #4.

R. H. Griffin  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

R. K. Wilson  
Boat'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

0800-1200:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4.

R. K. Wilson  
Boat'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

1200-1600:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4. 1315 Lit off #1 boiler.

R. H. Griffin  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Moored as before, loading holds #2 and #4. 1737 Sunset.

C. D. Jones  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Moored as before, loading #2 and #4 holds. 2010 Finished loading #2 hold. 2115 Finished loading #4 hold.

C. D. Jones  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Sunday

15 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Moored port side to Finger pier berth #7 with standard mooring lines in Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia. Loading boats on #4 hatch. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0115 Completed loading boats.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before. 0500 Set special sea detail. 0515 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0548 Underway in accordance with ComTransGr, SoPac despatch 120356/August, steaming on various courses at various speeds standing out of Great Roads. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 12 knots. 0620 Executive Officer at conn. 0717 Maitre Island abeam to starboard, distance 1.5 miles. 0737 Goelands Island abeam to starboard, distance .75 miles. 0754 Set condition III. Av.Steam 457, Av.RPM 42.6.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on various courses, standard speed 12 knots(67 RPM). 0827 Passed through Bulari Passage. 0839 Changed speed to 8 knots. 0840 Amedee Light bearing 064°T, distance 4 miles, course 271°T, took departure Noumea, New Caledonia, formed task unit 32.4.6, consisting of USS HENDERSON, CTU and guide, USS LIBRA, SS SAN MARTIN, SS ISLAND MAIL, AND SS BRASTAGI, with escort consisting of USS WARRINGTON, Comescort, USS ELLET, USS SOUTHARD, USS SIMPSON, and USS STEELE. 0841 Formed cruising disposition with LIBRA first ship third column, abeam USS HENDERSON, interval one thousand yards. Changed course to 280°T. 0923 Changed course 271°T. 1016 Changed speed to 12 knots. 1024 Changed course to 300°T. 1030 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams).  
1200 Position: Lat. 22° - 22'S. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 582.  
Long. 165° - 54'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 300°T, 299°G at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams).  
Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 69.1.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 300°T, 299°G at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging on plan #11. 1719 USS ELLET took position astern. 1730 Darkened ship. 1950 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1955 Changed course to 318°T, 316.5°G. Changed speed to 10 knots. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 69.9.  
2000 Position: Lat. 21 - 31'S.  
Long. 164 - 35'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 318°T, 316.5°G standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), steaming at 10 knots (55 RPM). 2000 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 2005 Resumed standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.9

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Monday

16

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company task unit 32.4.6 consisting of USS HENDERSON, USS LIBRA, SS CAPE SAN MARTIN, SS ISLAND MAIL, SS BRASTAGI, and USS WARRINGTON, SAMPSON, ELLET, SOUTHARD, and STEELE with USS HENDERSON, OTC and guide on base course 318<sup>0</sup>T, 316.5<sup>0</sup>G at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM) zig zagging in accordance plan #11 (1940 diagrams) LIBRA position 31. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened and condition III set. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.7

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 318<sup>0</sup>T, 316.5<sup>0</sup>G at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0505 Observed partial eclipse of the moon. 0624 USS ELLET took station ahead. 0630 Observed sunrise, light ship. Av.Steam 460 Av.RPM 68.8.

0800 Position: Lat. 19<sup>0</sup>- 25'S.  
Long. 162<sup>0</sup>- 38'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 318<sup>0</sup>T, 316.5<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed of 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0940 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 0946 Changed course to 353<sup>0</sup>T, 351.5<sup>0</sup>G.

1000 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1044 Sighted ship bearing 290<sup>0</sup>T, USS RIXEY. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.7.

1200 Position: Lat. 18<sup>0</sup>- 57'S.  
Long. 162<sup>0</sup>- 21½'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 353<sup>0</sup>T, 351.5<sup>0</sup>G at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.9

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 353<sup>0</sup>T, 351.5<sup>0</sup>G at standard speed of 12 knots, zig zagging on plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1730 USS ELLET took position astern of Convoy. 1745 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1755 Changed course to 026<sup>0</sup>T, 024.5<sup>0</sup>G, changed speed to 10 knots. 1757 Observed sunset darkened ship. 1800 Commenced zig zagging plan #16, changed speed to standard speed. 1940 ELLET reported unidentified surface radar contact bearing 290<sup>0</sup>T distance 37,000 yards. Av.Steam 457.5 Av.RPM 68.6

2000 Position: Lat. 17<sup>0</sup>- 25½'S.  
Long. 162<sup>0</sup>- 25½'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 026<sup>0</sup>T, 024.5<sup>0</sup>G at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging according to plan #16 (1940 diagrams). 2040 USS ELLET USS STEELE, SS CAPE SAN MARTIN, and SS BRASTAGI detached from this unit proceeded as previously directed. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 69.4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Tuesday

17

August

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company task unit 32.4.6 consisting of USS HENDERSON, USS LIBRA, SS ISLAND MAIL, escorted by USS WARRINGTON, SAMPSON, and SOUTHARD with USS HENDERSON OTC and guide on base course 026°T, 024.5°G at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #16 (1940 diagrams). Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened and Condition III set. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 68.5.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 026°T, 024.5°G at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging on plan #16, (1940 diagrams). 0452 USS WARRINGTON reported surface contact by radar bearing 330°T, distance 20 miles. 0620 Observed sunrise light ship. 0700 Changed course to 029°T and G. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 68.9  
0800 Position: Lat. 19°- 25'S.  
Long. 162°- 38'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 029°T, 028.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #16 (1940 diagrams). 1011 USS SOUTHARD reported friendly aircraft bearing 300°T. 1022 USS SAMPSON reported friendly aircraft bearing 235°T. 1150 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Av. Steam 466, Av. RPM 69.5.  
1200 Position: Lat. 15°- 02'S.  
Long. 163°- 35'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before on base course 029°T, 028.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #16 (1940 diagrams). 1200 changed zig zag plan to #11 (1940 diagrams). 1300 Adjusted base course to 024°T, 023.5°G. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 68.9.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 024°T, 023.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1741 Sunset, darkened ship. 1800 USS SOUTHARD assumed her night position. Av. Steam 457.5, Av. RPM 68.9  
2000 Position: Lat. 13°- 39'S.  
Long. 164°- 14'E.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 024°T, 023.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 2345 Ceased zig zagging. 2350 Changed course to 348°T, 347.5°G. Av. Steam 457.5, Av. RPM 69.1.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

18

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.6 consisting of USS HENDERSON, USS LIBRA, SS ISLAND MAIL escorted by USS WARRINGTON, SAMPSON, and SOUTHARD with USS HENDERSON OTC and guide on base course 348°T, 347.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM) Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened and Condition III set. Libra in position 21. 0000 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams) Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.6.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 348°T, 347.5°G, at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging in accordance plan #11. 0615 Exercized at General Quarters 0618 USS SOUTHARD took position ahead of formation. 0615 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III, observed sunrise, light ship. 0655 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0700 Commenced zig zagging plan #36. 0729 Sighted USS HOVEY bearing 165°T, approx distance 8 miles. 0750 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.6.

0800 Position:- Lat. 11° - 36'S.  
Long. 164° - 10'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 348°T, and G at standard speed of 12 knots (67 RPM). 0800 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams) 0801 USS SOUTHARD reported aircraft contact bearing 210°T distance 85 miles. 0804 Changed base course to 346°T and G. 0806 USS SOUTHARD reported friendly aircraft sending distress signal. 0808 USS SOUTHARD left formation to proceed to reported contact. 0830 USS HOVEY joined formation as screen ahead. 1005 USS HOVEY alongside port side USS HENDERSON to receive written orders. 1045 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 346°T. 1050 Friendly aircraft sighted bearing 207°T. 1051 Changed base course to 297°T and G. 1100 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #16 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 457.5 Av.RPM 69.4.

1200 Position:- Lat. 11° - 04'S.  
Long. 163° - 48'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 297°T and G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #16 (1940 diagrams) 1530 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. Changed position in convoy astern of USS HENDERSON, SS ISLAND MAIL astern of LIBRA. Av.Steam 456, Av.RPM 68.6.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 297°T, 296.5°G at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging on plan #26. 1753 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1900 Sighted red flare bearing 260°T. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 68.8

2000 Position:- Lat. 10° - 21'S.  
Long. 162° - 34'E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 297°T, 296.5°G at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging in accordance with plan #26. 2305 Sighted Aliiti Island bearing 275°T distance about 11 miles. 2330 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 297 T. 2340 USS SAMPSON reported radar contact at 320°T, distance 22,000 yards. 2355 Changed course to 282 T. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 68.6.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

19

August

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company task unit 32.4.6. consisting of USS HENDERSON, USS LIBRA, SS ISLAND MAIL, escorted by USS WARRINGTON, SOUTHARD, HOVEY, AND SAMPSON, USS HENDERSON OTC and guide, on base course 282°T, 281°G at standard speed 12 knots (87 RPM). Ship darkened and condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for for steaming purposes. 0030 Commenced zig zagging in accordance plan #26 (1940 diagrams). 0240 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0250 Changed base course to 310°T, 309°G. 0300 Resumed zig zagging in accordance plan #26 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 69.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 310°T, 309°G, at standard speed 12 knots, zig zagging in accordance plan #26. 0520 Exercised at General Quarters. 0625 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III, observed sunrise, light ship. 0628 Friendly aircraft bearing 252°T. 0714 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0725 Changed course to 288°T. 0730 Commenced zig zagging plan #11. 0738 Nura Island abeam to port, distance 2 miles. Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 68.3.  
0800 Position:- Lat. 9°- 28'S.  
Long. 160°- 44' E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(JG) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 282°T, 284°G, at standard speed 12 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0830 Passed Rua Sura Island abeam to port, distance 25 miles. 0929 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 282°T. 0942 Changed base course to 270°T, 269°G. 0952 Entered Lengo Channel. 0955 Changed base course to 266°T. 0959 Passed Nugu Island abeam to starboard, distance about 1.4 miles. 1011 Passed Pari Pile abeam to starboard distance about 1.5 miles. 1019 Proceeded independently signal from OTU. 1030 All hands took debarkation stations. 1032 Hoisted all boats to rail. 1038 Changed speed to one third, proceeded independently on signal from USS HENDERSON. 1040 Changed course to 245°T, 1041 Stopped. 1045 Proceeded at various speeds and courses to Lunga Point, Captain at the Conn. 1050 USS WARRINGTON reported to LIBRA for duty. 1132 Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 28 fathoms of water with forty five fathoms of chain to water's edge, port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 241°T, Beacon "D" 160°, Beacon "Q" 127°. 1134 Commenced hoisting out boats. 1145 Veered to 50 fathoms of chain at water's edge. 1146 Set Combat Discharge detail.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. J. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1205 Commenced unloading. 1212 Veered to 60 fathoms of chain to the water's edge.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before, continued unloading. 1700 Set special sea detail. 1730 Underway at various speeds and courses to anchorage off Berande Point, Guadal canal. 1843 Anchored off Berande Point, Guadalcanal, berth 114, in 16 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to port anchor with the following bearings: Beacon "L" 244°T, beacon "N" 135°T.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

E. S. M. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKALP)

Friday

20 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Berende Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in berth #114 in 16 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "L" 242°T, beacon "N" 135°T, ship darkened. Boiler #1 and #2 in use, standing by.

*Fred T Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0400 Set special sea detail, made all preparations for getting underway. 1425 Underway steaming on various courses at various speeds, Captain at Conn, Navigator on the bridge, standing toward Lunga anchorage. 0619 Anchored in berth #36 off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 25 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "D" 184°T, beacon "F" 271°T, beacon "E" 245°T. 0631 Secured special sea detail. 0845 Commenced unloading holds #1, #2, #3, and #4. Av. Steam 455, Av. RPM 50.4.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before, discharging cargo. 1022 Veered to 60 fathoms of chain to the water's edge. 1035 USS ADROIT standing out to Tulagi. 1036 USS TARUS underway.

*James E Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1545 Completed unloading #3 hold.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1630 Completed unloading #1 hold. 1735 Made all preparations for getting underway, set special sea detail. 1745 Secured from unloading. 1750 Underway, steering on various courses at various speeds, Captain and the Navigator on the bridge, Executive Officer at the Conn, standing toward anchorage off Berende Point. 1906 Anchored in berth #112, Berende Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 19 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the port anchor at the water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "L" 243°T, beacon "N" 144°T. 1913 Secured special sea detail, darkened ship. Av. Steam, 455, Av. RPM 50.4

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2206 Condition "RED" at Guadalcanal. 2321 Condition "GREEN" at Guadalcanal.

*James E Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday 21 August 1943  
1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Anchored off Berande Point, Guadalcanal, berth #112, Solomon Islands in 16 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to water's edge to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "L" 243°T, beacon "N" 144°T. Ship darkened with boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*R. K. Wilson*  
Bos'n. R. K. WILSON, USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0430 Made all preparations for getting underway. Set special sea detail. 0445 Commenced heaving short. 0500 Underway for Lunga Point, Captain and Executive Officer on the bridge, Navigator at the conn. Steaming at various speeds and on various courses. 0614 Anchored off Lunga Point Guadalcanal Island in 26 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "F" 270°T, beacon "D" 166°T, beacon "C" 130°T; SH 254°T. 0635 Commenced discharging cargo from holds #4 and #5. 0640 Completed unloading #5 hold. 0645 Commenced discharging cargo from #2 hold. Av. Steam 46.0, Av. RPM 47.0

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before, unloading holds #2 and #4.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before, continued unloading from #2 and #4 holds. USS PHILIP reported for duty.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1705 Set special sea detail. 1729 Underway on various courses to anchorage. 1817 Sunset, Darkened ship. 1832 Anchored in berth 112 off Berande Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 16 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the port anchor, on following bearings: Beacon "L" 243°T, beacon "N" 146°T. 1844 Secured special sea detail 1850 Sighted one green flare at 310°T. 1851 One yellow and one green flare sighted at 298°T. 1928 Condition "YELLOW" at Russell Islands 1932 Condition "RED" at Russell Islands 2000 Condition "GREEN" at Russell Islands.

*W. C. Horke*  
Ens. W. C. HORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

D. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIALUNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

22

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11REMARKS  
OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY\*.

0000-0400: Anchored off Berande Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in Berth #112 in 19 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "L" 248°T; Beacon "N" 148°T. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0430 set special sea detail. 0450 USS TAURUS, S.S. JANE ADDAMS, SS JOSEPH JEFFERSON underway. 0452 SS ISLAND MAIL underway, 0606 Underway, proceeding at various speeds on various courses to Lunga Point. 0627 Anchored in berth #28 off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 21 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain to the water's edge to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "C" 129.5°T; Beacon "D" 170.5°T; Beacon "E" 246.5°T; Beacon "H" 269°T. 0631 secured special sea detail. 0640 commenced unloading cargo from #2 hold.

*James S. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES S. NESWORTHY, D-V(S) USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 1130 Set special sea detail. 1152 underway in accordance ComSoPac despatch 202350 of August. Forming Task Unit 32.4.15 consisting of USS LIBRA, SS JOSEPH JEFFERSON, SS JANE ADDAMS, USS TAURUS with escorts USS WARRINGTON, PHILIP and ADROIT, and proceeded toward Lengo Channel.

*James S. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES S. NESWORTHY, D-V(S) USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on various courses and at various speeds. 1207 set condition of readiness III. 1230 USS HENDERSON with USS SAMPSON joined and took command of Task Unit 32.4.15. 1248 entered Lengo Channel, course 093°T. 1328 passed Pari Pile abeam to port distance 3.6 miles. 1400 secured special sea detail. 1534 changed course to 132°T, 131°G. 1542 changed formation to cruising formation 1, LIBRA first ship in second column, abeam USS HENDERSON, C.T.U. and guide. Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 55.9.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 132°T, 131°G, took position 21 in convoy, abeam 30 starboard of USS HENDERSON, steaming at standard speed 10 knots. 1657 Nura Island abeam to port, distance 2.2 miles. 1700 Commenced zig-zagging on plan #11. 1759 Darkened ship. 1817 USS WARRINGTON took screening position astern. 1845 Ceased Zig-zagging and resumed base course. 1850 changed course to 180°T, 179°G. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 56.1.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 179°G, at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM). 2000 commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 D). 2205 Sighted San Cristobal Island bearing 095°T, distance about 10 miles. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 56.0.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.

XXXXXXX

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Monday  
(Day)23  
(Date)August 1943  
(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.15 consisting of USS HENDERSON C.T.U. and guide, USS LIBRA, USS TAURUS, SS JOSEPH JEFFERSON, and SS JANE ADDAMS on base course 180°T. Formation disposed in two columns, LIBRA first ship in second column with SS JANE ADDAMS astern, JOSEPH JEFFERSON second ship and USS TAURUS third ship in first column. Distance 700 yards, interval 1000 yards. Screen consisting of USS WARRINGTON, Comescort, USS SAMPSON, USS ADROIT and USS PHILIP. Standard speed 10 knots (55RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagrams). Boilers 1 and 2 in use. Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. 0045 ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180°T. 0055 changed course to 142°T. 0100 resumed zig-zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams).

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lt. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 142°T at standard speed 10 knots, on zig-zag plan No.11(1940 D). 0455 changed course to 122°T. 0623 Sunrise, light ship. Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 58.9.  
0800 Position: Lat. 11°-13'S.  
Long. 161°-38'E.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 122°T & G. at standard speed 10 knots(55 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 D) Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 57.4.  
1200 Position: Lat. 11°-32'S.  
Long. 162°-09'E.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt.(Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 122°T, 121°G at standard speed of 10 knots (55RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 Diagrams). 1230 USS WARRINGTON reported aircraft bearing 260°T, unidentified. 1233 aircraft identified as friendly. 1420 sighted one friendly aircraft bearing 015°T, distance about 13 miles. Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 60.9.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lt. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 122°T, 121°G at standard speed 10 knots. Zig-zagging on plan #11(1940 Diagrams). 1750 Darkened ship. 1805 USS WARRINGTON took position astern of convoy. Av.steam 457. Av.RPM. 61.1.  
2000 Position: Lat. 12°-06'S.  
Long. 162°-52'E.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 122°T & G. at standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 D). Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 61.9.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt.(Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U. S. N. R.,  
Navigator.

XXXXXXXXXX

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Tuesday 24 August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.15 consisting of USS HENDERSON, CTU and guide and first ship in first column leader. First column USS HENDERSON, SS JEFFERSON, USS TAURUS. Second column USS LIBRA and SS JANE ADAMS. Screen consisting of USS WARRINGTON, Comescort, USS SAMPSON, USS PHILIP, and USS ADROIT. Base course 122°T, 121°G, standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. 0000 USS SAMPSON detached this unit to proceed as directed. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 60.8

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 122°T, 121°G at standard speed 10 knots, zig zagging on plan #11. 0512 Exercised at General Quarters. 0612 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III, observed sunrise. 0630 Changed course to 118°T, 117°G, USS WARRINGTON took position ahead of convoy. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 61.9.

0800 Position: Lat. 13°- 06' S.  
Long. 164°- 18½' E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 117°G at standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM

1200 Position: Lat. 13°- 23' S.  
Long. 164°- 44' E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 117°G at standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM). 1321 Changed standard speed to 9 knots (49 RPM). 1352 Changed speed to 9.5 knots (53 RPM). 1424 Liberator bomber sighted overhead. 1433 Changed standard speed to 10 knots (55 RPM). 1440 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 118°T. 1500 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #10 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 59.1

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 117°G, at standard speed 10 knots, zig zagging on plan #10. 1615 Changed course to 116°T, 115°G. 1736 Darkened ship, Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 61.3

2000 Position: Lat. 13°- 52' S.  
Long. 165°- 38½' E.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 116°T, 115°G, at standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #10 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 61.1.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

E. S. N., Navigator.



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Wednesday 25 August 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.15 consisting of USS HENDERSON, OFU and guide and column leader first column, SS JOSEPH JEFFERSON, USS TAURUS astern, second column USS LIBRA and SS JANE ADDAMS. Screen consisting of USS WARRINGTON, Comescort, USS PHILIP and USS ADROIT. Base course 116°T, 115°G. Standard speed 10 knots(55 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan 10(1940 D). Condition III set with ship darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Av.steam 460. Av.RPM.61.4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 116°T, 115°G, at standard speed 10 knots, zig-zagging on plan #10. 0507 Exercised at General Quarters. 0523 sighted Cape Cumberland bearing 140°T, approx. distance 20 miles. 0602 Secured from General Quarters, light ship. 0612 changed course to 121°T, 120°G. 0642 Changed course to 128°T, 125°G. 0615 USS WARRINGTON took position ahead of convoy. 0654 Changed course to 131°T, 130°G. 0708 Changed course to 136°T, 135°G. 0740 Changed course to 141°T, 140°G. 0754 Changed course to 146°T, 145°G. Av. Steam 453. Av. RPM. 60.2.  
0800 Position: Lat. 14°-43'S.  
Long. 167°-04'E.

*H. W. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 145°G, at standard speed 10 knots(55RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 D). 0830 Adjusted base course to 151°T, 150°G. 0949 Adjusted base course to 156°T, 155°G. 1000 Adjusted base course to 161°T, 160°G. 1011 Adjusted base course to 166°T, 165°G. 1102 Sighted Aoba Island bearing 115°T, distance about 22 miles. 1127 sighted YF 419 bearing 122°T, distance 9 miles. 1130 Adjusted base course to 161°T, 160°G. 1135 USS ADROIT and USS PHILIP exchanged positions. Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 61.9.  
1200 Position: Lat. 15°-21'S.  
Long. 167°-18½'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, zig-zagging in accordance with plan #10(1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 10 knots(55 RPM). 1240 Ceased zig-zagging, changed to base course 156°T, 155°G. 1247 Task Unit 32.4.15 dissolved. The S.S. JANE ADDAMS, SS JOSEPH JEFFERSON, USS TAURUS, USS ADROIT proceeded to Espiritu Santos as previously directed, USS WARRINGTON screening ahead. 1248 Increased speed to 77 RPM. 1300 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10. 1308 Assumed position as guide and took tactical command followed by USS HENDERSON and screened by USS PHILIP. Changed standard speed to 13 knots (72 RPM.) 1315 Tutuba Island abeam to starboard, distance 5 miles. 1321 Changed to base course 147°T, 146°G. 1329 Changed course to avoid friendly submarine 838, escorted by USS FARENHOLT. Steadied on course 100°T, ceased zig-zagging. 1336 Resumed base course 147°T, 146°G. 1339 Commenced zig-zagging on Plan #10 (1940 Diagrams). 1455 Ambrim Island sighted bearing 126°T, distance 35 miles. 1520 USS WARRINGTON rejoined formation as escort. Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 69.9.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 147°T, 146°G, at standard speed 13 knots (72RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 Diagrams). 1741 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1835 Ceased zig-zagging, remained on base course 147°T, 146°G. 1840 Changed base course to 209°T, 208°G. 1845 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10 (1940 Diagrams). Av. Steam 460. Av. RPM. 72.1.  
2000 Position: Lat. 16°-44'S.  
Long. 167°-52'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 209°T, 208°G, at Standard speed of 13 knots(72RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 Diagrams). Av. Steam 452.5. Av. RPM. 72.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)Thursday 26 August 1943  
(Use) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

## REMARKS

## "OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY".

0000-0400: Steaming in company with USS HENDERSON. USS LIBRA is guide and O.T.C. Screened by the USS WARRINGTON, and USS PHILIP. Steaming at standard speed 13 knots (72RPM), on base course 209°T, 208°G. Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #10(1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened and Condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0000 Ceased zig-zagging. 0010 Changed base course to 161°T, 160°G. 0015 Resumed zig-zagging. Av.Steam 455. Av.RPM. 72.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R.H.GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before at standard speed of 13 knots(72 RPM) on base course 161°T, 160°G, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 D). Battery brought to alert at 0501 and secured at Sunrise 0601. 0630 USS WARRINGTON reported surface contact at bearing 220°T, distance 24 miles. Av.Steam 457.5. Av.RPM. 72.2.

0800 Position: Lat. 19°-03'S.  
Long. 167°-52'E.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed 13 knots (72 RPM). 1030 USS WARRINGTON and USS PHILIP exchanged screening stations. Av.Steam 460. Av.RPM 73.4.

1200 Position: Lat. 19°-51'S.  
Long. 168°-08'E.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D.JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G., at standard speed of 13 knots(72 RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 447. Av.RPM.73.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R.H.GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 160°G, at standard speed of 13 knots(72 RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10(1940 Diagrams). 1600 USS LIBRA left convoy in accordance with directive received from the OTC steaming singly with USS PHILIP screening. Changed base course to 119°T, 117°G. Changed speed to 16 knots (92RPM), changed zig-zag plan to Plan #11(1940 D). 1705 Darkened ship. 1735 Observed Sunset. 1800 Changed base course to 140°T, 139°G. Av.Steam 440. Av.RPM 91.0.

2000 Position: Lat. 21°-11'S.  
Long. 169°-07'E.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W.CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 140°T, 139°G, at standard speed of 16 knots(92 RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11(1940 Diagrams). 2000 Changed course to 148°T. 2200 Changed course to 166°T. Av.Steam 487.5. Av.RPM.91.7.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

██████████



CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

27

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming singly on base course 166 T, 165 G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Escort in USS PHILIP screening ahead. Ship is darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. USS LIBRA OTC and guide. Av.Steam 450 Av.RPM 92.0

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 166 T, 165 G at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0400 Changed base course to 174 T, 173 G. 0502 Set the alert on all guns. 0602 Sunrise, secured from alert, Light ship. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 91.8.  
0800 Position:- Lat. 23 - 40'S.  
Long. 169 - 55½'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 174 T, 173 G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 91.8  
1200 Position:- Lat. 24 - 40'S.  
Long. 170 - 02'E.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 174 T, 173 G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 440, Av.RPM 93.3.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 174 T, 173 G., at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1723 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1830 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. Av.Steam 442.5, Av.RPM 94.0.  
2000 Position:- Lat. 26 - 43'S.  
Long. 170 - 20'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 174 T, 173 G., at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM). 2400 USS PHILIP left convoy. Av.Steam 445, Av.RPM 94.4.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA 12)

Saturday

28

August

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming singly on base course 174<sup>0</sup>T, 173<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened, condition III set. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 94.6

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 174<sup>0</sup>T, 173<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM). 0400 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0600 Observed sunrise, light ship. Av.Steam 447, Av.RPM 94.2.

0800 Position: Lat. 29<sup>0</sup>- 54'S.  
Long. 170<sup>0</sup>- 46'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 174<sup>0</sup>T, 173<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 18 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0911 Sighted plane bearing 125<sup>0</sup>T, passed out of sight on a northerly course. 1040 Plane sighted bearing 145<sup>0</sup>T, identified as friendly transport. 1102 Plane sighted bearing 160<sup>0</sup>T, identified as friendly transport. Av.Steam 447, Av.RPM 94

1200 Position:- Lat. 30<sup>0</sup>- 54'S.  
Long. 170<sup>0</sup>- 57'E.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 174<sup>0</sup>T, 173<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), making 94.2 RPM. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 447.5, Av.RPM 94.2.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 174<sup>0</sup>T, 173<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), making 94 RPM, zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1700 Darkened ship. 1715 All guns placed on the alert. 1715 Observed sunset, 1830 Ceased zig zagging and changed base course to 180 T, 179 G. Av.Steam 447.5, Av.RPM 94.2

2000 Position:- Lat. 32<sup>0</sup>- 56'S  
Long. 171<sup>0</sup>- 15'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 180<sup>0</sup>T, 179<sup>0</sup>G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM) steaming at 16.2 knots (92 RPM). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 94.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**UNITED STATES SHIP**

LIBRA(AKA12)

Sunday 29 August  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 12

**REMARKS**  
**"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"**

0000-0400: Steaming singly on base course 180°T, 170°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened and condition III set. 0100 Advanced clocks one hour to conform with -12 zone time. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 94.5.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 179°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM). 0450 Changed base course to 159°T, 158°G. 0500 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0557 Placed guns on the alert. 0657 Observed sunrise, lighted ship, secured from the alert.

Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 95.5.  
0800 Position: Lat. 35°- 53'S  
Long. 171°- 37'E.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 159°T, 158°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0800 Changed base course to 156°T, 155°G, Av.Steam 447, Av.RPM 92.7.

1200 Position: Lat. 33°- 53'S  
Long. 172°- 18'E.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 156°T, 155°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 95.3.

*S. K. Berry*  
Lt.(jg) S. K. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 156°T, 155°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1633 Sighted Mt. Edgemont bearing 136°T distance 98 miles. 1700 Changed base course to 152°T, 151°G. 1759 Observed sunset, called all guns to the alert, darkened ship. 1859 Secured from the alert. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 94.2.

2000 Position: Lat. 33°- 49'S  
Long. 173°- 18'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course, 152°T, 151°G, at standard speed 16 knots (92 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 2020 Steady white light reported at 120°G, distance approx. 20 miles, identified as beach lights. 2020 Flashing white light reported at 137°T, identified as Cape Edgemont light, distance approx. 30 miles on port bow. 2040 Ceased zig zagging came to base course 152°T, 151°G. 2054 Cape Edgemont bearing 124°T. 2110 Changed standard speed to 12 knots (67 RPM), changed base course to 157°T, 156 G. 2151 Flashing light reported on port bow bearing 125°T, distance approx. 25 miles. 2218 Cape Edgemont light abeam to port distance 9.8 miles. 2230 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 445 Av.RPM 74.5.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph A. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA(AKA12)

Monday

30

August

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 12

REMARKS  
"OPERATIONAL REMARKS & WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- Steaming singly on base course 157°T, 156°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0153 Sighted Stephens Island light bearing 174°T, distance 38 miles. 0230 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 67.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 157°T, 156°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM). 0448 Passed Stephens Light abeam to starboard, distance 12 miles 0449 Sighted Brothers Light bearing 190°T, distance 14 miles. 0715 Changed course to 180°T, 179°G. 0747 Passed Brothers Light abeam to starboard, distance 6 miles Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 67.0

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on course 180°T, 179°G, at standard speed 12 knots (67 RPM). 0804 Changed course to 184°T, 183°G. 0820 Sighted Kaori Rock Light bearing 141°T, distance 8 miles. 0845 Changed course to 171°T, 170°G. 0950 Changed course to 071°T, 070°G. 1000 Set special sea detail and made all preparations for entering port, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Steamed on various courses at various speeds conforming to the channel entering Wellington, New Zealand. 1022 Secured degaussing coils. 1025 Passed Pencarrow Hd. abeam to starboard, distance .3 miles. 1048 Passed Hope Shoal Light abeam to starboard, distance 700 yards. 1050 Passed through anti-submarine net. 1100 Pilot came aboard.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming at various courses and speeds in channel, preparing to enter dry-dock. Pilot Hill at the conn. 1202 Tug took first line to dock. 1249 secured main engines and steering engines. 1305 Moored in dry-dock with standard mooring lines. Set regular port watch. 1404 Commenced pumping dry-dock. 1425 Ship resting on keel block. 1555 Dry-dock clear of water.

*E. O. Robinson*  
Ens. E. O. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- In dry-dock as before, shipyard men aboard to do necessary repairs.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- In dry-dock as before.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL  
UNITED STATES SHIP

LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday  
(Day)31  
(Date)August  
(Month)

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 12

## REMARKS

"OPERATIONAL REMARKS &amp; WAR DIARY"

0000-0400:- In Drydock at Wellington, New Zealand. Receiving fresh water from the dock. Ship yard workers on various jobs.

*Fred T Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Ship in dry dock, carrying on with necessary work.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Ship in dry dock, carrying on with necessary work.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Ship in dry dock, carrying on with necessary work.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Ship in dry dock, carrying on with necessary work.

*W. C. Rorke*  
Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Ship in dry dock, carrying on with necessary work.

*R. K. Wilson*  
Bos'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

U. S. N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 1 September 19 43

Zone description - 12

024867

Position	0800	1200	2000	COMMANDER IN CHIEF U.S. FLEET RECEIVED 243 OCT 17 13
Lat.				
Long.				

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Resting on keel blocks in dry-dock in Port Nicholson, Wellington, New Zealand. Receiving water and telephone service from dock. Boiler #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- In dry-dock as before. 0644 Sunrise.

*W. C. Rorke*  
Eng. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- In dry-dock as before. Shipyard men working on various repair jobs.

*R. K. Wilson*  
Eos'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

1200-1800:- In dry-dock as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000:- In dry-dock as before.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt.(Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- In dry-dock as before. Shipyard men still at work.

*J. A. Keller*  
Eng. J. A. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

56600

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

024967

Page 2

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday 2 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			41°-38'S.
Long.			175°-53'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Resting on keel blocks in dry-dock, Port Nicholson, Wellington, New Zealand. Receiving water and telephone services from the dock. Boilers #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600:- In dry-dock as before. 0430 Set special sea detail. 0445 Secured from receiving fresh water, and telephone service from the dock. 0520 Commenced flooding dry-dock. 0627 Ship waterborne. 0630 Pilot came aboard. 0743 Underway, assisted by tug (TAD1), pilot at conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and the Navigator on the bridge. Steaming on various courses at various speeds standing toward berth at Aotes Quay.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Underway towards dock at Aotes Quay. 0830 Let go starboard anchor, 15 fathoms of chain to waters edge. 0822 Moored port side Aotes Quay, Berth #1, Wellington, New Zealand.

*J. A. Keller*  
Ens. J. A. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Moored as before 1257 Completed fueling, draft 12'2" fwd, 21'1" aft. 1435 Set special sea detail. 1453 Tug (TA01) took line from stbd quarter. 1455 Underway Pilot McLeod conning. 1502 Cast off tug. 1514 Passed Halwall point abeam 1/2 mile to stbd. 1523 Passed Hope Shoal light abeam to port at 3 miles. 1524 Pilot departed. 1527 Set condition III. 1531 Passed from range light abeam to port. 1533 Passed Steeple Rock abeam to starboard at 3/4 mile. 1540 Passed USS FOMALHAUT close to port. 1542 Passed Pencarrow Head abeam to port 1/5 of a mile. 1550 Energized degaussing coils. 1550 Passed Bering Head abeam to port, distance 2.5 miles. 1555 Set base course at 166°T, 164°G, standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 63.0

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 166°T, 164°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 1815 Changed course to 128°T, 124°G, commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1731 Passed Cape Polliser abeam to port, distance 3.8 miles. 1755 Observed sunset, darkened ship. 1861 Changed course to 068°T, 066°G, changed zig zag plan to plan #14 (1940 diagrams). Av. Steam 457.5, Av. RPM 78.0

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 068°T, 066°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #14 (1940 diagrams). 2115 Changed course to 038°T, 036°G. 2215 Sighted Castle Point light bearing 345°T, distance 26.5 miles. 2348 Castle Point light abeam to port. Av. Steam 452.5, Av. RPM 78.

*L. V. Jordan*  
Lt. L. V. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r. USN *Commanding Officer*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR *Navigator*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Friday 3 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	39 - 48'S.	39 - 02'S.	37 - 25'S.
Long.	178 - 05'E.	178 - 37'E.	179 - 13'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming singly on base course 038°T, 036°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with zig zag plan #14 (1940 diagrams) Ship darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 78.0

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 038°T, 036°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #14 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 78.0

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 038°T, 038°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #14 (1940 diagrams). 1015 Changed course to 019°T, 018°G. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 78.0.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before on base course 019°T, 018°G, standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #14. 1350 Changed to zig zag plan #11, changed standard speed to 15.8 knots (87 RPM). Av.Steam 457.5. Av RPM 83.6.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 019°T, 018°G, at standard speed 15.8 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1801 Changed speed to 12 knots (67 RPM). 1830 ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1715 Darkened ship. 1900 Changed course to 000°T, 359°G. Changed speed to 11 knots (61 RPM). Av.Steam 452.3 Av.RPM 65.7.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 000°T, 359°G, at standard speed 11 knots (61 RPM). 2100 Changed base course to 275°T, 276°G. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 61.0

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 4 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat. 36° - 35' S			
Long. 177° - 28' E			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming singly on base course 279°T, 278°G, standard speed 15.5 knots steaming at 11 knots (61 RPM). Ship darkened, condition III set. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 61.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 279°T, 278°G, standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM) steaming at 11 knots (61 RPM). 0550 Changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 0700 Sighted land bearing 271°T, distance about 30 miles. 0714 Sighted land bearing 289°T, 0721 Changed base course to 270°T, 269°G. Av.Steam 457.2, Av.RPM 68.2.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 270°T, 269°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 0817 Changed course to 250°T, 249°G. 0858 Changed course to 244°T, 243°G. 0905 Changed speed to 16 knots (90 RPM). 0912 Sighted three corvettes standing out of channel. 0950 Changed course to 289°T, 288°G. 1006 Changed speed to 12 knots (67 RPM) Gyro error changed to 2°E. 1007 Captain conning. 1017 With Ohineau light abeam to starboard changed course to 293°T, 291°G. 1021 Changed course to 322°T, 320°G. 1022 Changed speed to 18 knots (90 RPM). 1025 Changed course to 324°T, 322°G. 1032 Passed Old Man Rock abeam to starboard distance 800 yards. 1035 Passed Opito Point light abeam to port, distance 1 mile 1036 Changed course to 326°T, 324°G. 1041 Tepeki Point bearing 222°T, changed course to 309°T, 307°G. 1045 Captain turned over conn to C.O. D. 1111 Sighted four friendly aircraft bearing 020°T. 1112 Passed Cuvier Island abeam to starboard, distance 10.5 miles. 1121 Sighted cargo vessel bearing 310°T, distance about 8 miles on course 270°T. 1150 Changed course to 302°T, 300°G. Av.Steam 450 Av.RPM 86.7

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before on base course 302°T, 300°G with standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), steaming at 16 knots (90 RPM). 1206 Changed course to 276°T, 270°G. 1225 Passed Channel Island abeam to starboard distance .5 miles. Proceeded on various courses at various speeds approaching Auckland, New Zealand. 1300 Sighted Flat Rock light bearing 285°T distance 8 miles. 1447 Pilot Hogan came aboard and took over the conn. 1454 Secured degaussing coils. 1505 Passed Rangitoto Light abeam to port distance 1 mile. 1521 Passed through anti-submarine net.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Underway as before to dock. 1615 Moored alongside Calliope Dock, wharf "H", Auckland, New Zealand, starboard side to with 8 standard manila lines and 1 1/2 wire rope fore and aft. 1803 Observed sunset. 1935 Receiving fresh water from the dock.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Moored as before.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN (Commanding Officer)

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR (Navigator)

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 5 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Moored starboard side to Calleope Wharf "W" in Auckland, New Zealand, with standard 8" hawsers and 1 1/2 inch wire rope as bow and stern line. Receiving telephone and fresh water service from dock. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Moored as before. 0640 Sunrise.

R. H. Griffin  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Moored as before.

J. R. Keller  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Moored as before.

Fred T. Barnes  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Moored as before. 1804 Observed sunset.

S. M. Beer  
Lt. (Jg) S. M. BEER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Moored as before.

Fred T. Barnes  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r, USN (Commanding Officer)

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 6 September 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Wharf "W" in Auckland, New Zealand with standard 8" hawsers and 1 1/2 inch wire rope as bow and stern lines. No. 1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving telephone service and fresh water from the dock.

E. C. Robinson  
Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Moored as before. 0640 observed sunrise.

S. N. Beery  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

Fred T. Barnes  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. 1804 observed sunset.

D. W. Childs  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

C. D. Jones  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, U.S. Navy.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday  
(Day)

7

(Date)

September, 1943  
(Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Wharf "W" in Auckland, New Zealand Harbor with standard 6" hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. Receiving telephone and fresh water services from dock. Boiler No.1 in use for auxiliary purposes.

D.H. Rodgers, Jr.  
Ensign D.H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0637 Observed sunrise.

R.K. Wilson  
Bos'n. R.K. WILSON, U.S. Navy.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. 1350 T-24 moored to Port side to supply steam and salt water.

W.C. Horke  
Ensign W.C. HORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. 1610 Secured No.1 boiler - commenced receiving steam from HMS T-24. 1804 observed sunset.

E.T. Malone  
Ensign E.T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

R.K. Wilson  
Bos'n. R.K. WILSON, U.S. Navy.

Approved:

F.F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday

6

September, 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -12

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W" in Auckland, New Zealand with six standard manila lines, 1 1/2" wire rope fore and aft. Two (2) auxiliary diesel engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. HMS T-24 moored to port side. Receiving steam from HMS T-24.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*W. C. Morke*  
Ensign W. C. MORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ensign E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lieut. (Jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

9

September

1945

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -12

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand with standard 8" hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. Two(2)auxiliary diesel engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from dock. Receiving steam from HMS T-24,moored to port side.

*Fred T Barnes*

Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*

Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*

Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*D. H. Rodgers*

Ensign D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*J. R. Keller*

Ensign J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*R. K. Wilson*

Boat'n. R. K. WILSON, U. S. Navy.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut., D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

10

September

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -12

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand with standard 8" hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. No. 2 Auxiliary Diesel engine in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone services from the dock. Receiving steam from HMS T-24 moored to port side.

*James E. Mesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. MESWORTHY, C-V(8), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(6), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*E.T. Malone*  
Ensign E.T. MALONE, D-V(6), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*W.C. Corke*  
Ensign W.C. CORKE, D-V(6), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(6), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut., D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Saturday 11 September, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope dock, wharf "W" in Auckland, New Zealand, with six standard manila lines, 1 1/2" wire rope fore and aft. Two auxiliary diesel engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. T24 moored to port side. Receiving steam from T24.

*R. H. Griffin*

Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*E. T. Malone*

Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*W. C. Rorke*

Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*J. R. Keller*

Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*S. K. Berry*

Lt.(jg) S. K. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*F. T. Barnes*

Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. J. G., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 12 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand, with standard 8" hawsers, 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. #2 auxiliary Diesel engine in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. Receiving steam from HMNZS T-24, moored on port quarter.

E. C. Robinson  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

L. M. Jordan  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

J. R. Keller  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt. (S) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

L. M. Jordan  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

R. K. Wilson  
Bos'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

Approved: F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN  *commanding officer.*

Examined: Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR.  *Navigator.*

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Monday 13 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:-Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W", in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand, with six standard manila lines, 1 1/2" wire rope roe and aft.. Two auxiliary Diesel engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. HMNZS T-24 moored to port quarter furnishing steam.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:-Moored as before.

*H. N. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. N. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:-Moored as before.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(B), USNR.

1200-1600:-Moored as before.

*W. C. Rorke*  
Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:-Moored as before.

*H. N. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H. N. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:-Moored as before.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-W, USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Tuesday 14 September 1943  
(Day) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0600-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand, with six 8" standard hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. Two auxiliary engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. HMS T-24 moored to port furnishing steam.

W. C. Rorke  
Ensign W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

A. H. Griffin  
Lt. (jg) A. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

C. D. Jones  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

W. C. Rorke  
Ensign W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

J. R. Keller  
Ensign J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

R. K. Wilson  
Boat'n. R. K. WILSON, U.S. Navy.

Approved:

F. F. FERRIS, Commander, U.S.N.  
Commanding Officer

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, D-M, Lieut. USNR.  
Navigator

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 15 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand, with six eight inch standard hawsers. One and one half inch wire rope as bow and stern lines. Two auxiliary Diesel engines in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock. HMNZS T-24 moored to port quarter furnishing steam.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S. M. Beery, D-V(1), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. Number 1 boiler fired at 0920, safety valve lifted by hand at 1148.

*F. T. Barnes*  
Ens. F. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800: Moored as before. 1250 Secured steam from HMNZS T-24 and cut #1 boiler in on auxiliary lines. 1502 T-24 cast off from port side.

*D. H. Rodgers Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS Jr., D-V(3), USNR.

1800-2000: Moored as before.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lt. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday 18 September, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand with standard 8" hawsers 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. No. 1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock.

*James Nesworthy*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(8), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ensign D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*W. C. Rorke*  
Ensign W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*H. X. Pepper*  
Lt. (JG) H. X. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 17 September , 19 43

Zone description - 12

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0300-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Wharf "B" in Auckland Harbor, New Zealand with standard 8" hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. Number 1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock.

*E. T. Malone*

Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

*P. H. Griffel*

Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFEL, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. 0810 Lit off #2 boiler.

*W. C. Rorke*

Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*J. R. Keller*

Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*

Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*

Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*

F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*

JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. J-G, USNR Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday 18 September, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Calliope Dock, Wharf "W" in Auckland Harbor New Zealand, with standard 5" hawsers and 1 1/2" wire rope as bow and stern lines. No. 2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock.

*Fred T. Barnes*

Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0600 lit off No. 1 boiler. 0655 Pilot H. Hogan came aboard. 0725 Tug Te AWHINA at port bow. 0730 all lines cast off and underway at various courses and speeds. 0737 Tug WILLIAM C. DALDY assisting at starboard quarter.

*S. N. Berry*

Lt. (JG) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Underway shifting berths to Princess Wharf. 0817 Moored Port side to Princess Wharf with standard mooring lines. 0825 Tugs cast off. 0830 Secured special sea detail. 0845 Commenced loading holds No. 1, 2 and 5.

*J. R. Keller*

Ensign J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Loading holds Nos. 1, 2 and 5. 1600 stopped loading holds Nos. 1, 2 and 5.

*C. D. Jones*

Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*D. W. Childs*

Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*C. D. Jones*

Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. J-G, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 19 September 1948  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored port side to east inner berth of Princess Wharf, Auckland, New Zealand with 5 - 8" standard lines. Receiving telephone services from dock. Number 2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes.

D. H. Rodgers, Jr.  
 Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before.

R. H. Griffin  
 Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. 0800 Began loading #1, #2, and #5 holds.

E. C. Robinson  
 Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. 1100 Finished loading #5 hold.

E. C. Robinson  
 Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. 1735 Finished loading #1 and #2 holds.

R. H. Griffin  
 Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

W. C. Rorke  
 Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
 F. F. FERRIS, Comd'g USN (Commanding Officer)

Joseph Weiner  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12)

Monday

20

September, 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -12

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored port side to Princess Wharf, Auckland, New Zealand with six 8" standard manila lines. Receiving telephone services from the dock. Boiler No. 2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*H. K. Peffer*  
Lt. (JG) H. K. PEFFER, D-V(O), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0720 Passed lines to Hobson Wharf. Commenced shifting berth. 0730 let go all lines to Princess Wharf. 0745 Moored starboard side to Hobson Wharf with standard mooring lines.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(O), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ensign E. T. MALONE, D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before.

*L. K. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. K. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(O), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Tuesday 21 September 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			36°- 58' S.
Long.			176°- 57' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored starboard side to Hobson Wharf, Auckland Harbor, Auckland, New Zealand with six eight inch manila hawsers as standard mooring lines. Number 2 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. 0300 Cut in number 1 boiler.

*J. R. Keller*  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. 0545 Set special sea detail, prepared to get underway. 0600 Pilot H. Hogan, Lt. Millet, and Lt. Comdr. Keene reported aboard. 0622 Received tug Te Ahine on starboard quarter. 0629 All lines cast off. 0629 Underway, Pilot Hogan at the conn, Captain and Navigator on the bridge, at various courses and speeds proceeding to degaussing range. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 64.8

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on various courses and speeds, making runs on degaussing range. 0940 Completed degaussing, commenced compass compensation by Lt. Comdr. Keene, RNZNR. 1011 Lt. Millet left the ship. 1127 Completed compass compensation. 1130 Pilot H. Hogan and Lieut. Comdr. Keene left the ship. Commenced calibration of radio direction finder. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 51.4

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on various courses and speeds calibrating radio direction finder. 1220 Completed calibration. 1225 Set standard speed at 16 knots (84 RPM) on base course 007 T, 008 G. 1240 Passed Mangarua Pass buoy abeam to starboard distance one mile. 1247 Changed course to 038 T, 038 G. 1248 Passed Whistle buoy abeam to starboard distance 3/4 mile. 1249 Changed course to 033 T, 032 G. 1313 Flat rock abeam to port, distance 2.8 miles, changed course to 087 T, 086 G. 1428 Channel Island abeam to port distance .7 of a mile, changed course to 096 T, 095 G. 1438 Changed course to 128 T, 127 G. 1525 Passed Cuvier Island abeam to port distance about 10 miles. 1530 Entered Mercury Channel. 1544 Changed course to 133 T, 132 G. 1554 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM) Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 83.9.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 133 T, 132 G, at standard speed, 15 knots (84 RPM). 1603 Changed course to 141 T, 140 G. 1609 Passed Old Man Rock light abeam to port at 3,000 yards. 1620 Changed course to 104 T, 103 G. 1624 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1611 Sunset, darkened ship. Av.RPM 84, Av.Steam 462.5.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 104 T, 103 G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened. Condition III set. Av.Steam 462, Av.RPM 84.0

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-V, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKALD) Wednesday 22 September 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming singly on base course 104°T, 103°G, at standard speed of 15 knots(84RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan No.8(1940 Diagrams). Ship damaged and condition of readiness III set. 0315 Changed base course to 180°T, 179°G. 0338 Changed base course to 199°T and 198°G. Av.steam 458. Av.RPM.84.0.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 199°T, 198°G at standard speed of 15 knots(84RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8(1940D). 0557 Sunrise. Lighter ship. 0700 Changed base course to 201°T, 200°G. Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots(75RPM). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM.81.7

0800 Position: 39°-46'S.  
178°-05'E.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jr) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 201°T, 200°G, at standard speed 13.5 knots(75RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8. 1030 sighted Makoi Peninsula, distance 10 miles. 1140 sighted Portland Island bearing 280°G, distance 22.5 miles. Av.steam 457.5. Av.RPM. 75.0

1200 Position: 39°-02'S.  
178°-05'E.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming as before on base course 201°T, 200°G. Steaming at standard speed 13.5 knots(75RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8(1940 diagrams). 1304 Changed course to 220°T, 219°G. 1308 Changed speed to 13 knots(72RPM). 1421 sighted Cape Kidnappers on starboard bow bearing 282°T, distance 21.2 miles. Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 71.9.

*S. M. Beery*  
Lt. (Jr) S. M. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 220°T, 219°G, at standard speed of 13 knots(72 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8(1940 Diagrams).

2000 Position: 38°-58'S.  
178°-57'E.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 220°T, 219°G, at standard speed of 13 knots(72RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan #8(1940 Diagrams). 2120 sighted Castle Pt. light bearing 282°T. 2309 Castle Pt. light abeam to starboard, distance 20.5 miles. Av.steam 465. Av.RPM 72.0.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday 23 September, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming independently on base course 220°T, 219°G, at standard speed 13 knots (70 RPM). Zig zapping in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened. Condition III set. 0200 Changed course to 249°T, 248°G. Av. RPM. 72.0. Av. steam 480.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Steaming as before on base course 249°T, 248°G, at standard speed 13 knots (72 RPM). Zig zapping in accordance with Plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). 0500 Changed course to 309°G, 310°T. Changed speed to 14 knots 78 RPM. Ceased zig-zapping. 0500 Sage Palliser abeam distance 12 miles. 0508 Changed speed to 15 knots, 84 RPM. 0555 sighted Taurakirae Head bearing 338° True. 0625 sighted Bearing Head bearing 328°T. 0644 Changed course to 328°T, 327°G. 0846 sighted MUMZS TO 3. 0710 Passed Baring Head abeam to starboard distance 1.8 miles. Set special sea detail and made preparations to enter harbor.

*James E. Pasworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. PASWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on various courses and at various speeds entering Wellington Harbor. Captain at the conn and Navigator on the bridge. 0800 Received Pilot Captain McCloud aboard. Pilot McCloud conning. 0830 Moored port side to Aotea Quay No. 4, Wellington, New Zealand with standard mooring lines. 0830 Doubled up all lines and secured. Secured main engine. 0830 Commenced taking fresh water from dock. 0900 Pilot McCloud left ship. 1021 Commenced fueling ship, draft forward 14'5", draft aft 19'7". 1100 Commenced loading No. 4 hold. Av. steam 480. Av. RPM. 78.8.

*S. M. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. 1242 completed fueling ship having received on board 41,330 gals. of fuel oil at 60°F. Draft forward 14'11". Draft aft 19'. Loading holds 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before and continued loading.

*W. C. Rorke*  
Ensign W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before loading all holds.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ensign D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 24 September, 1945  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored port side to Aotea Quay, Berth #4, Wellington, New Zealand, with standard mooring lines, and wire fore and aft. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from dock. Working holds #1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

D. W. Childs  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. Continued loading ship as before.

W. C. Rocks  
Ens. W. C. ROCKS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. Continued loading ship as before.

D. H. Rodgers, Jr.  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Moored as before. Continued loading ship.

J. R. Keller  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Moored as before. Continued loading all holds.

E. T. Malone  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Loading all holds. 2100 Completed loading #5 hold.

H. W. Pepper  
Lt. (JG) H. W. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r. USN Commanding Officer.

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10)

Saturday, 25 September, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored west side Aotes Quay, Berth No. 4, Wellington, New Zealand, with standard mooring lines 1 1/2" wire rope forward and aft. No. 1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes, receiving telephone service and fresh water from the dock. Loading holds Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

*J. R. Keller*  
Ensign J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. Loading holds Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ensign E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Moored as before. Loading holds Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

*H. W. Pipher*  
Lt. (JG) H. W. PIPHER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Loading holds Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

*R. H. Griff*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFF, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Loading cargo in holds Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-0400: Moored as before. Completed loading No. 3 hold.

*James E. Rosworthy*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. ROSWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 26 September, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Moored port side to Astea Quay, Berth #4, Wellington, New Zealand, with standard mooring lines, 1 1/2" wire rope fore and aft. Number 1 boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving telephone service and fresh water from the dock. Loading #2 and #4 holds.

A. H. Griffin  
Lt. (jg) A. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Moored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4.

E. D. Jones  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1000: Moored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4.

James E. Reschovsky  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. RESCHOVSKY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Moored as before. Loading #2 and #4 holds. 1430 Completed loading #2 hold.

Sam Beery  
Lt. (jg) S. R. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Moored as before. Loading Hold #4.

Fred T. Barnes  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Moored as before. Finished loading #4 hold and secured at 2005.

E. C. Robinson  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, COMOP, USN Commanding Officer.

Joseph W. Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-V, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP	LIBRA(AKA19)	Monday	27	September	19 43
		(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
Zone description	- 12				
Position	0800	1200	2000		
Lat.					
Long.					
<b>OPERATIONAL REMARKS (WAR DIARY)</b>					
0000-0400: Moored port side to Aotea Quay, berth #4, Wellington, New Zealand, with standard mooring lines, 1 1/2 inch wire rope forward and aft. Number one boiler in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving telephone service and fresh water from the dock.					
<u>Sam Beery</u> Lt. (jg) S. W. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.					
0400-0800: Moored as before.					
<u>Fred Barnes</u> Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.					
0800-1200: Moored as before.					
<u>E. C. Robinson</u> Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.					
1200-1600: Moored as before.					
<u>D. H. Rodgers, Jr.</u> Ens. D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.					
1600-2000: Moored as before.					
<u>W. C. Korke</u> Ens. W. C. KORKE, D-V(G), USNR.					
2000-2400: Moored as before.					
<u>W. C. Korke</u> Ens. W. C. KORKE, D-V(G), USNR.					
Approved:	Examined:				
<u>F. F. Ferris</u> F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.		<u>Joseph Weimer</u> JOSEPH WEIMER, Lt. D-N, USNR. Navigator.			

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP		LIBRA (AKA12)	Tuesday	28	September	1943
Zone description		- 12	(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
Position	0800	1200	2000			
Lat.			41°-00' S			
Long.			174°-32' E			
<b>OPERATIONAL REMARKS</b> (WAR DIARY)						
0000-0400: Moored port side to Aotes Quay, berth #4, Wellington, New Zealand with standard lines and 1 1/2" wire fore and aft. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Receiving fresh water and telephone service from the dock.						
<u>D. W. Childs</u> Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.						
0400-0800: Moored as before.						
<u>D. H. Rodgers, Jr.</u> Ens. D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.						
0800-1200: Moored as before.						
<u>D. W. Childs</u> Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.						
1200-1800: Moored as before. 1300 Lit off boiler #2. 1540 Pilot McCloud came aboard.						
<u>E. T. Malone</u> Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.						
1800-2000: Moored as before. 1833 Underway in accordance with Comtransgroup 280412/Sept. Task unit 32.4.2 consisting of USS HUNTER LIGGETT and USS LIBRA formed. USS HUNTER LIGGETT O.T.U., O.T.C. and Guide. Steaming at various courses and speeds. 1716 Took position astern of USS HUNTER LIGGETT. 1719 Passed wreck buoy abeam to starboard distance 800 yards. 1735 Passed through anti-submarine net. 1737 Passed Hope Shoal light abeam to port. 1731 Passed front range light abeam to port. 1742 Passed Pencarrow light abeam to port distance .4 miles. 1747 Set condition of readiness III. 1753 Changed course to 245° T & G. 1809 Changed course to 300° T & G. changed speed to standard speed, 15 knots (84 RPM). 1812 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) 1825 Sunset, darkened ship. 1837 Censed zig zagging. 1841 Changed course to 356° T & G. 1843 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1904 Changed course to 000° T & G. 1932 Censed zig zagging. 1932 Passed Jackson Head light abeam to port, distance 4.5 miles. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 65.2.						
<u>R. H. Griffin</u> Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.						
2000-2400: Steaming as before on course 000° T, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) 2100 Changed course to 330° T. 2202 Passed Stephens Island abeam to port, distance 18.5 miles. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 65.4.						
<u>S. N. Berry</u> Lt. (jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.						
Approved:			Examined:			
<u>F. F. Ferris</u>			<u>Joseph W. Weiner</u>			
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.			JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-V, USNR. Navigator.			

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Wednesday

29 September, 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description - 12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	38°- 19'S	37°- 31'S	35°- 49'S
Long.	172°- 53'E	172°- 33'E	171°- 57'E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2, USS HUNTER LIGGETT, CTU, OTC, and Guide at 15 knots (84 RPM) standard speed on base course 330°T&G. LIBRA astern USS HUNTER LIGGETT distance 800 yards. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steam-in purposes. Ship darkened with condition III set. 0215 Sighted Cape Egmont light bearing 016°T, distance about 20 miles. 0308 Passed Cape Egmont light abeam to starboard, distance 13.3 miles. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 84.3.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). 0500 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0508 All guns called to alert. 0551 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course 330°T&G. 0552 Changed course to 344°T&G. 0806 Sunrise, light ship. 0812 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 452.5, Av.RPM 85.9.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 344°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0959 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 79.2.

*R. H. Giffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 344°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 77.8.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 344°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams), standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 1833 Set all guns on alert and observed sunset. 1935 Secured from alert. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 78.2

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 344°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 2344 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 77.7

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Thursday 30 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33° 18' S	32° 36' S	30° 33' S
Long.	170° 58' E	171° 02' E	170° 54' E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2 with CTU and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT. LIBRA 600 yards astern, on base course 344°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Ship darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.9

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 344°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 0515 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams) 0551 Censed zig zagging. 0600 Changed base course to 356°T&G. 0610 Commenced zig zagging according to plan #39 (1940 diagrams). 0615 Sunrise, light ship. Av.Steam 452.5 Av.RPM 81.5

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 356°T&G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams) Av.Steam 455 Av.RPM 81.5

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 356°T&G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams). 1300 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1500 Set ship's clocks to zone-11 time. Av.Steam 462, Av.RPM 85.9

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 356°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams). 1736 Sunset, darkened ship. 1900 Censed zig zagging, resumed base course. 1910 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 83.6

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 356°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 80.9

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN, Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Friday 1 October 1945  
(Day) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	27°- 38' S.	26°- 46' S.	25°- 07' S.
Long.	170°- 38' E.	170°- 28' E.	170°- 04' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2 with OTU, OTC, and Guide USS HUNTER LIGGETT. LIBRA 600 yards astern on base course 358°T&G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Ship darkened, condition III set. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.4

E. D. Jones  
 Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 358°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 0430 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams) changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 0800 Changed base course to 349°T&G, changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 80.4.

L. M. Jordan  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(E), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 349°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 79.9

R. H. Griffin  
 Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 349°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #39, (1940 diagrams). 1324 Sighted USS STANLY and USS FLETCHER bearing 019 T. 1337 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 1351 Changed course to 351°T&G. 1355 USS STANLY and USS FLETCHER joined task unit as escort. 1400 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Standard speed changed to 13.5 knots (75 RPM) Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 76.5

S. N. Beery  
 Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 351°T&G, at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1738 Observed sunset and darkened ship. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 74.3.

E. D. Jones  
 Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 351°T&G at standard speed of 13.5 knots (74 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 74.5

L. M. Jordan  
 Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

58043

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
 F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

Joseph Weiner  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR, Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12) Saturday 2 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1201	2000
Lat.	22° - 37' S.	21° - 54' S.	20° - 08' S.
Long.	169° - 35' E.	169° - 13' E.	168° - 34' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2 on base course 351°T&G, with OTU, OTC, and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT with LIBRA 600 yards astern. Escorts consisting of USS FLETCHER and USS STANLY, 3,000 yards off our port and starboard bows respectively, standard speed 13.5 knots (74 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition readiness III. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 462.5, Av.RPM 74.8.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 351°T&G at standard speed 13.5 knots (74 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #8, (1940 diagrams). 0521 Sunrise. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 74.4

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 351°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 13.5 knots (74 RPM). 0950 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 1000 Changed base course to 320°T&G and formed on line of bearing 90° from guide. 1024 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1128 Sighted two ships bearing 282°T, distance about 10 miles on a converging course. 1130 Identified as USS BALCH and SS COMET. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 76.1

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 320°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 14 knots (81 RPM). 1214 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 1250 Changed course to 342°T&G, USS BALCH and SS COMET joined the task unit, the BALCH taking screening position ahead and the SS COMET taking position 600 yards astern the USS HUNTER LIGGETT. 1307 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1321 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 1423 Sighted one aircraft bearing 320°T, friendly. Av.Steam 452.5, Av.RPM 77.3

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1737 Darkened ship. 1905 Changed speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 79.2.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 77.3

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 3 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17°-41'S	16°-52'S	15°-34'S.
Long.	167°-38'E.	167°-16'E.	166°-03'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.2, CTU, OTC and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT. Comescort USS STANLY. Steaming at standard speed 14 knots (78RPM) on base course 342°T & G. Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 Diagrams). Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Ship darkened, condition III set. Task Unit 32.4.2 comprised of USS HUNTER LIGGETT, SS COMET in left column and USS LIBRA in right column. Escorts USS STANLY, USS BALCH and USS FLETCHER. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM 78.8

*E. D. Jones*  
Ensign E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940 D). 0430 General Quarters. 0530 Secured from General Quarters. 0555 sighted two planes bearing 160°T and 216°T, friendly. 0630 sighted four ships, hull down bearing 000°T., destroyers hunting enemy submarine. 0648 ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 0652 Changed course to 012°T. 0700 Changed course to 342°T. 0700 sighted land (Eate Island) bearing 063°T, distance 29 miles. 0707 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 455. Av. RPM 77.1.

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940 D). 0800 changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81RPM). 0840 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 0845 Changed base course to 332°T&G. 0855 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 8 (1940D). 1155 sighted Malekula Island bearing 035°T, distance about 18 miles. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM 79.7.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G, at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940 D). 1200 changed base course to 327°T&G. 1453 sighted ship bearing 159°T. 1515 ship sighted proved to be USS SAMPSON. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM 79.0.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 327°T&G, at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 8 (1940D). 1622 ceased Zig-zagging and resumed base course. 1625 Changed course to 306°T&G. 1700 SS YOUNG AMERICA and SS CAPE GEORGIA and escorts USS SAMPSON and USS OSTERHAUS joined this task unit. The convoy now in the following formation. The SS COMET in column 11 left flank USS HUNTER LIGGETT 21 followed by SS YOUNG AMERICA. LIBRA in column 31 followed by SS CAPE GEORGIA. Comescort in USS STANLY with USS FLETCHER, SAMPSON, and BALCH in screening formation. The USS OSTERHAUS left this unit when SS YOUNG AMERICA and SS CAPE GEORGIA had proceeded to their proper station in this convoy. 1707 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 8 (1940 D). 1752 Observed sunset, darkened ship and set all guns on alert. 1852 secured from alert. Av. steam 452.5. Av. RPM. 80.7.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ensign E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

3

October

1943.

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 306°T&G., at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 8 (1940 D). 2033 Emergency turn right to 016°T upon V.F. signal from USS HUNTER LIGGETT. Torpedo wake reported on port beam of SS COMET. 2044 Resumed base course 306°T&G. 2053 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 8 (1940 D). 2120 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 2130 Changed base course to 337°T&G. 2200 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940 Diagrams).

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AXA12( Monday 4 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13°-13'S	12°-23'S	10°-59'S
Long.	164°-52'E	164°-30'E	164°-50'E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2 on base course 337°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). OTU, OTC, and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT as number one ship in column two. Number two ship in column two SS YOUNG AMERICA. Column one SS COMET. Column three USS LIBRA and SS CAPE GEORGIA. Comescort in USS STANLY on starboard bow of convoy. Screen as follows: ahead to starboard USS BALCH; abeam to port USS FLETCHER; on port bow USS SAMPSON. Condition III set, ship darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 78.9

*R. H. Griffin*

Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 337°T&G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0440 General Quarters. 0540 Sunrise, secured from General Quarters, light ship. 0612 Sighted USS RIXEY and USS BREESE bearing 018 T&G. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 79.4

*D. W. Childs*

Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 337°T&G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with zig zag plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0800 Changed convoy speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 0828 Sighted two planes bearing 045°T, identified as friendly transports. 1021 Sighted two planes bearing 245°T, friendly. 1046 Sighted aircraft bearing 213°T, friendly. 1142 Friendly plane bearing 192°T. Av.Steam 452.5. Av.RPM 72

*C. D. Jones*

Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 337°T&G at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1212 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (75 RPM). 1240 Emergency turn 45° to starboard, possible submarine contact, 1249 Resumed base course 337°T. 1300 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) 1315 Unidentified plane reported bearing 217°T, distance 57 miles. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 74.6.

*L. M. Jordan*

Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 377°T&G at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1758 Sunset, darkened ship. 1903 USS STANLY reported four ships bearing 015°T, distance 8 miles. 1920 Cessed zig zagging and resumed base course. 1930 Changed base course to 297°T&G. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 74.5

*D. W. Childs*

Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 297°T&G at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). 2000 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 74.0.

*R. H. Griffin*

Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Tuesday 5 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	9°- 51'S	9°- 24'S	
Long.	181°- 11'E	180°- 40'E	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.2 on base course 297°T&G at standard speed 13.5 knots (74 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). OTU, CTC, and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT followed by SS YOUNG AMERICA in second column. SS COMET in first column, USS LIBRA followed by SS CAPE GEORGIA in third column. Comescort USS STANLY, BALCH, SAMPSON, and FLETCHER in screening positions. Condition III set, ship is darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 74.3

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 297°T&G at standard speed 13.5 knots (76 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0455 General Quarters. 0507 Sighted land bearing 235°T, Maliti Island. 0511 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course 297°T upon signal from HUNTER LIGGETT, OTU. 0513 Changed course to 317°T. 0515 Ulawa Island sighted bearing 351°T distance 16 miles. 0530 Olu Malau Island abeam to port distance 8 miles. 0544 Aliti Island abeam to port distance 4 miles. 0545 Changed course to 287°T. 0555 Secured from General Quarters observed sunrise. 0602 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM) 0610 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) 0709 Bio Island abeam to port distance about 10 miles. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 74.3

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 287°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) 0800 Sighted Guadalcanal Island bearing 276°T distance 38 miles. 0820 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 0824 Changed course to 308°T&G. 0851 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) 0914 Passed Maramasika Island abeam to port 13 miles distance. 1005 Sighted Nura Island bearing 300°T, distance 10 miles 1030 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 1035 Changed course to 318°T. 1051 SS COMET changed position in formation now astern SS YOUNG AMERICA. 1051 Sighted Rua Sura Island bearing 281°T, distance 20 miles. 1059 Sighted Florida Island bearing 308°T, distance 43 miles. 1120 Changed course to 285°T&G. 1129 Passed Nura Island abeam to port 4.5 miles distance. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 82.5.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 285°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1247 Changed course to 270°T&G. 1310 Entered Lengo Channel. 1320 Nugu Island abeam to starboard distance 5.5 miles. 1324 Pari Pile Island abeam to starboard distance 3 miles. 1400 Koli point abeam to port distance 5.5 miles. 1418 Changed course to 265°T&G. 1423 Steaming at various courses and speeds proceeding to anchorage. 1544 Anchored off Mamara Point, Guadalcanal in 50 fathoms of water with 105 fathoms of chain(on deck) out to port anchor on following bearings: Beacon "J" 299.5°T, beacon "I" 119.5°T beacon "H" 104.5°T. 1555 Secured #2 boiler. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 83.8

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1815 Observed sunset, darkened ship, set guns on alert. 1915 Secured from alert.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 7UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)Wednesday 6 October, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored off Manara Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 50 fathoms of water with 105 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "J" 299.5°T; Beacon "I" 119.5°T; Beacon "H" 104.5°T. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for general purposes. Ship in modified darkened condition. Condition of readiness 3 set.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0550 Underway for Tassafaranga Anchorage, steaming at various courses and speeds. 0642 Anchored off Tassafaranga Point, Guadalcanal in 67 fathoms of water with 120 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the port anchor, on the following bearings: Beacon "M" 318°T; Beacon "K" 148°T; Beacon "L" 198°T. 0725 Commenced unloading all holds.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. Unloading ship from all holds.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. Unloading all holds.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Unloading all holds. 2045 condition yellow. Darkened ship. Secured from unloading all holds. 2048 Condition green. Resumed unloading.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. 2130 Completed discharging cargo from No. 5 hold for Tassafaranga Point.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

7

October 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off Tassafaranga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 67 fathoms of water with 120 fathoms of chain to the water's edge to port anchor, on following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "M" 318°T; Beacon "K" 148°T; Beacon "L" 198°T. Boilers No.1 and No.2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Unloading holds Nos.1, 2, 3, and 4. 0105 Unloading of No.1 hold completed.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. Unloading holds Nos.2,3 and 4. 0600 USS HUNTER LIGGETT stood out of anchorage.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt.(JG) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. Unloading holds Nos.2, 3 and 4.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lt.(JG) H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. Unloading holds Nos.2, 3 and 4.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C,D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. Unloading holds Nos.2, 3 and 4. 1608 Completed unloading cargo from hold No.3 for Tassafaranga. 1755 Completed unloading cargo from Hold No.2 for Tassafaranga.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C,D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. Unloading cargo from No.4 hold.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut.D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Friday

8

October

1943.

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off Tassafaranga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 67 fathoms of water with 120 fathoms of chain to the water's edge on the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "M" 318°T; Beacon "K" 148°T; Beacon "L" 198°T. Boilers No.1 and #2 in use, main engine on 5 minute notice. Unloading hold #4. 0315 completed unloading #4 hold.

*H.N. Pepper*  
Lt. (Jg) H.N. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0500 made all preparations for getting underway. 0541 Underway proceeding at various courses and speeds to anchorage in West Kukum, Guadalcanal. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0643 Anchored off West Kukum beach in berth #5, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Is., in 27 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "G" 179°T; Beacon "H" 265°T; . 0650 Commenced unloading ship, holds 1, 2, and 5.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before, unloading holds 1, 2, and 5. 0820 Commenced discharging meat from refrigerators in No.3 hold. 1100 completed discharging all cargo from No.5 hold.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before unloading from holds 1, 2, and 3. 1245 completed unloading No.1 hold. 1300 completed unloading No.3 hold.

*James E. Resworth*  
Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. RESWORTH, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before, unloading No.2 hold. 1750 completed unloading No.2 hold.

*E.C. Robinson*  
Ensign E.C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commodore Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Saturday 9 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off West Kukum Beach, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, Berth #3 in 27 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain out to the water's edge on port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "G", 179°T; Beacon "H" 285°T; Lunga Point tangent 80°T. Ship darkened. Boilers No.1 and No.2 in use Main engine standing by on 45 minutes notice.

*D.H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ensign D.H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 1128 Underway in accordance with message from ComNavActSolomons warning of possible enemy air attacks, steering various courses at standard speed of 15 knots, proceeding to Purvis Bay, Florida Island, escorted by USS BEBAS. Captain at the conn. Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lieut. (Jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Underway as before proceeding to Purvis Bay. 1208 Pursuant to orders ComNavActSolomons, changed course and proceeded back to anchorage, West Kukum. 1256 Anchored off West Kukum, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in berth #4 in 34 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "G" 171°T; Beacon "H" 258.5°T; 1445 Condition Red reported at Tulagi. All hands to General Quarters. 1449 Condition Yellow Guadalcanal. 1453 Condition Green Tulagi. 1454 Condition Green Guadalcanal. 1457 Secured from General Quarters and set Condition III.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1700 Underway at various speeds and courses in accordance with ComServRonSoPac despatch 081100 of October. 1743 formed Task Unit 35.2.8, CTU LIBRA and USS SAUFLEY. Joined and took tactical command of Task Unit 35.2.8, CTU USS ROAMER with USS MURZIM, HOVEY, SOUTHARD and SS LEW WALLACE. LIBRA, Guide in left column followed by USS MURZIM with USS ROAMER in right column followed by SS LEW WALLACE. USS SAUFLEY is Comescort screening ahead with USS HOVEY and SOUTHARD. 1804 Underway according to ComServRonSoPac despatch 081100 with above formation at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM), on base course 087°T&G. 1810 darkened ship, all guns on the alert. 1815 Observed sunset. 1915 all guns at ease. 1930 Passed through Lengo Channel and commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.8(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 57.4.

*E.D. Jones*  
Ensign E.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 087°T&G, at standard speed of 10 knots (55RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.8(1940D). 2120 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 2130 Changed base course to 121°T&G. 2140 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.8(1940D). 2202 sighted Nura Island bearing 175°T. 2230 Passed Nura Island abeam to starboard, distance 7 miles. 2308 Changed course to 123°T&G.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-N, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Sunday

10

October

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10°-01'S	10°-18'S	10°-52'S
Long.	162°-09'E	162°-41'E	163°-46'E

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 35.2.5 consisting of U.S.S. ROAMER, USS MURZIM, SS LEW WALLACE, USS SOUTHARD and USS HOVEY and T.U. 35.2.6 consisting of USS LIBRA and USS SAUFLEY. Steaming in column with USS LIBRA as O.T.C., C.T.U. and guide with USS MURZIM astern of column #1. USS ROAMER leading column #2, followed by SS LEW WALLACE. Screen consisting of USS SAUFLEY, USS HOVEY and USS SOUTHARD. Steaming on base course 123°T&G at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940B). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0030 Contacted friendly surface craft bearing 200°T, distance 6 miles. 0040 Changed course to 128°T&G. 0308 ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course. 0318 Changed base course to 093°T&G, slowed to 8 knots (43 RPM). 0328 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940 D). Resumed standard speed. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 53.7.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lieut. (Jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 093°T&G at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940D). 0453 Set General Quarters. 0553 Secured from General Quarters. 0553 Ceased Zig-zagging and resumed base course. 0607 Changed course to 117°T&G. 0607 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance to plan #8(1940 D). Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 117°T&G. Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940D), at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM). Visibility 2 miles. 1030 Visibility 10 miles. 1100 sighted one aircraft bearing 120°T, elevation 3°, friendly PBY. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*C.B. Jones*  
Ensign C.B. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 117°T&G, zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940 D) at standard speed of 10 knots (55 RPM). Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 55.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 117°T&G, at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940 D). 1655 adjusted base course to 115°T&G. 1746 USS SAUFLEY had radar contact friendly ship bearing 223°T, distance 21 miles. 1747 Darkened ship. 1847 USS SOUTHARD took position screening astern. Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lieut. (Jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 115°T&G, at standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940 D). 2150 Ceased zig-zagging 2200 Changed course to 152°T&G. 2210 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8(1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lieut. (Jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

11

October, 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	12°-33'S	13°-26'S	15°-06½'S
Long.	164°-17'E.	163°-55½'E	163°-06'E

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.2.5, USS ROAMER, CTU, USS MURZIM and SS LEW WALLACE, USS SOUTHARD and HOVEY and T.U. 32.2.6, USS LIBRA, CTU and USS SAUFLEY. USS LIBRA is CTU, CTC and Guide on base course 152°T&G. Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 D), at standard speed 10 knots (55RPM). USS LIBRA in left column with USS MURZIM astern. USS ROAMER in right column with SS LEW WALLACE astern. Comescort is USS SAUFLEY screening ahead with USS HOVEY, USS SOUTHARD screening astern. Ship is darkened with Condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 55.0.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 152°T&G at standard speed of 10 knots, zig zagging in accordance with plan No. 8 (1940D). 0440 General Quarters. 0541 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III. 0548 Task Unit 32.2.6 separated from T.U. 32.2.5 each unit proceeding as previously ordered. 0551 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84RPM) and ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 152°T&G. 0603 Changed course to 202°T. 0624 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No. 16 (1940D) Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 61.0.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 202°T&G, at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). Steaming at standard speed, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 16 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.0

*James E. Mesworthy*  
Lieut. (Jg) JAMES E. MESWORTHY, C-V(S) USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 202°T&G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #16 (1940D). Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.

*S. N. Berry*  
Lieut. (Jg) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 202°T&G at standard speed of 15 knots. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 16 (1940 Diagrams). 1802 Sunset. Darkened ship. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 84.0.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lieut. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 202°T&G at standard speed of 15 knots (84RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 16 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 452.5. Av. RPM. 84.0.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 12 October, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17°-53'S	18°-46'S	20°-17½'S
Long.	162°-05'E.	162-10½'E.	163-12'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 35.2.6, LIBRA, CTU and Guide, USS SAUFLEY escort, screening ahead, on base course 202°T&G, zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.16(1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots(84RPM). Ship darkened and condition of readiness III set. Boilers No.1 and No.2 in use.

L. M. Jordan  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 202°T&G at standard speed of 15 knots(84RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.16(1940 D). 0547 Sunrise. Lighted ship. 0700 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots(81 RPM). Changed base course to 166°T&G. Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.17(1940 D). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 83.1.

R. H. Griffin  
Lt.(jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 166°T&G. Steaming at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.17(1940 D). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.0.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 166°T&G, at standard speed 14.5 knots(81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.17(1940 Diagrams). 1500 changed course to 136°T&G. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.0.

S. N. Berry  
Lt.(jg) S.N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 136°T&G at standard speed of 14.5 knots(81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.17(1940 Diagrams). 1809 observed sunset, set guns alert. 1909 Secured from alert, Set Condition III.

L. M. Jordan  
Lieut.L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 136°T&G, at standard speed 14.5 knots(81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.17(1940 Diagrams). 2000 changed standard speed to 13.5 knots(75RPM). 2230 Contacted ships bearing 136°T, distance 11 miles. 2237 Changed course right 45° to 181°T. 2247 Two ships abeam to port, distance 6 miles. 2250 Changed course to left 45° to base course 136°T. 2300 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.17(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 452.5. Av.RPM. 75.0.

G. D. Jones  
Ensign G.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut.D-M, USNR.

Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 13 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	22° - 09'S	22° - 30'S	
Long.	166° - 17'E	166° - 02'E	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 35.2.8 with USS LIBRA as OTU and guide, USS SAUFLEY as escort screening ahead, on base course 136°T&G, at standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams) ship is darkened, condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. 0055 USS SAUFLEY reported surface contact at 124°T, distance 10 miles. 0103 Previous surface contact reported to be a friendly ship bearing 114°T, distance 7 miles. 0304 USS SAUFLEY reported contact with 2 friendly vessels at 182°T, distance 10 miles. Av.Steam 458, Av.RPM 13.5

*C. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 136°T&G, at standard speed of 13.5 knots (75 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 0432 All guns called to alert. 0530 Observed sunrise, guns put at ease, lighted ship. 0700 Changed course to 114°T&G, changed to zig zagging plan #20 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 457.2, Av.RPM 75.0

*L. W. Jordan*  
Lt. L. W. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 114°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #20 (1940 diagrams), standard speed 13.5 knots (75 RPM). 0820 Sighted friendly aircraft bearing 130°T. 0828 Sighted two friendly destroyers bearing 118°T&G. 0900 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). Av.Steam 456. Av.RPM 80.

*J. E. Mesmorthy*  
Lt.(Jg) JAMES E. MESMORPHY, C-VLS, USNR

1200-1800: Steaming as before on base course 114°T&G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #20 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1217 Amedee Light bearing 090°T. 1219 USS SAUFLEY reported sound contact bearing 130°T. 1221 Changed course to 090°T&G. 1221 USS SAUFLEY dropping depth charges. 1222 Ahead full speed. 1223 All hands to general quarters, Captain at the conn. 1224 Changed course to 340°T&G. 1223 Changed course to 000°T&G. 1230 Changed course to 088°T&G 1238 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 1240 Sighted three ships standing out from Bulari Passage, two ships standing into Bulari Passage. 1245 Changed course to 100°T&G, ceased zig zagging. 1246 USS SAUFLEY dropping depth charges. 1251 Secured from General Quarters, set condition of readiness III 1258 Resumed standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM) 1248 Changed course to 120 T&G 1308 Changed course to 110°T&G 1308 Changed course to 100°T&G. 1316 Changed course to 095°T&G. 1316 Set special sea detail. 1327 Entered Bulari Passage. 1330 Passed Tabu Reef abeam to port, distance 1000 yards, on various courses and speeds standing into harbor. 1335 Passed Amedee Light house abeam to port, distance 1050 yards. 1413 Gun crews secured. 1431 Passed Isle Aux Canards abeam to starboard distance 5 miles. 1528 anchored in berth A-3 Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to starboard anchor on following bearings: Beacon "M" 154°T; beacon "L" 137°T; beacon "J" 021°T. chimney 109.5°T. 1534 Secured special sea detail. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 59.2

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(Jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. 2145 Commenced loading #2 hold.

*J. R. Keller*  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP	LIBRA (AKA12)	Thursday 14	October, 1943
Zone description - 11		(Day)	(Month)
Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth A-3, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings, Beacon "L" 154° T, beacon "M" 137° T; Beacon "J" 021° T. Boiler #1 in use for auxiliary purposes. Loading hold #2.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before, continued loading #2 hold.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before, loading #2 hold. 1032 Received oil barge port side YO-24. 1115 Commenced fueling from YO-24. Draft of ship fwd. 13', aft. 19'9" before fueling.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1320 Completed fueling. 1327 YO-24 underway Received 9,7440 gallons of fuel oil

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading #2 hold. 1700 Finished loading #2 hold.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:	Examined:
<i>F. F. Ferris</i>	<i>Joseph Weiner</i>
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.	JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12) Friday 15 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth A-3, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 7 fathoms of water, with 45 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor with the following bearings: Beacon "L" 154°T, beacon "M" 137°T, beacon "J" 012°T. 0125 Resumed loading #2 hold. 0345 Finished loading #2 hold.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0600 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0630 Underway for Tauea Point, New Caledonia in obedience to ComTransGr3rdPhibFor mailgram 060511/Oct. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer, Navigator, and Pilot Lt. (jg) R. B. STARR, on the bridge, standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) standing out of Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia on various courses and speeds, conforming with the channel.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds to anchorage 0831 Anchored off Tauea Point, New Caledonia, in 10 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor. Bearings as follows: Porcupine Island 148°T; Charron RT 187°T; Tara Tangent 118°T; Tauea Point 131°T. 0835 Secured special sea detail. 0850 Commenced loading #2 and #4 holds.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4. 2250 Commenced loading #1 hold.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Saturday 16 October, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored off Tauea Point, New Caledonia in 10 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Porcupine Island 178°T; Charrion Pt. 187°T; Tara Tangent 118°T; Tauea Point 131°T. Loading holds #1, 2, and 4.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before, continued loading #1, #2, and #4 holds.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. Loading #1, #2, and #4 holds. 1030 Started loading #5 hold.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before, loading holds #1, #2, #4, and #5.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading #1, #2, #4, and #5 holds.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before, loading holds #1, #2, #4, and #5. 2130 Secured #2 hold. 2200 Commenced loading general cargo into #3 hold.

*R. K. Wilson*  
Ens'n. R. K. WILSON, USN.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 17 October, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored off Tauea Point, New Caledonia, in ten fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor on the following bearing: Porcupine Island 176°T; Charron RT. 187°T; Tara Tangent 116°T; Tauea Point 131°T. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

D. H. RODGEAS, Jr.  
Ens. D. H. RODGEAS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

D. W. CHILDS  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

W. C. RORKE  
Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. Loading ship working holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

E. T. MALONE  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading ship, working holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

J. R. KELLEN  
Ens. J. R. KELLEN, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

H. M. PEPPER  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN *Commanding Officer*

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 18 October, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored off Tauea Point, New Caledonia, in ten fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Porcupine Island 178°T, Charron R.T. 187°T, Tara Tangent 115°T, Tauea Point 131°T. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5. Secured loading #1 hold at 0100.

E. T. Malone  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. Loading ship, working holds #3, #4, and #5.

J. R. Keller  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. Loading in holds #3, #4, and #5. 0900 Commenced loading in #1 hold.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(B), USNR

1200-1800: Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5. 1315 Completed loading #1 hold.

R. H. Griffin  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Loading holds #3, #4, and #5. 1700 Completed loading #5 hold. 1942 Loading of #3 hold completed.

James E. Nesworthy  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(G), USNR

2000-2400: Anchored as before. Loading cargo in #4 hold.

C. D. Jones  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday 19 OCTOBER 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			23°-01'S
Long.			166°-20'E.

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off Tauea Point in Bulari Bay, New Caledonia, in 10 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor, on the following bearings: Porcupine Island 178°T; Charron Island R.T. 187°T; Tauea Point tangent 116°T. Loading No.4 hatch.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. Loading in hold No.4. 0740 completed loading No.4 hold.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ensign FRED T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- 1600 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1601 Underway for Guadalcanal in obedience to ComTransDiv.10, despatch 172200 of October, formed Noumea section of T.U.32.4.5. Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots (84RPM), standing out of Bulari Bay, New Caledonia on various courses and speeds. 1717 formed in column astern of USS ALCHIBA as third ship of Task Unit 32.4.5 on course 175°T&G. 1721 Passed Tabu Reef abeam to starboard distance 2700 yards. 1726 Amedee Light abeam to starboard. 1730 Changed course to 258°T&G and entered Bulari Passage on various courses to conform with channel. 1737 Passed through Bulari Passage. 1754 Sunset. Darkened ship. 1800 Formed cruising disposition USS ALHENA, OTC, OTU and guide, first ship in left column with USS ALCHIBA astern, USS LIBRA in right column. USS GAMBLE Comescort with USS DORSEY and USS SICARD screening ahead. 1910 Changed base course to 180°T&G. 1925 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.12 1940 Diagrams. Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM. 75.5.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 180°T&G. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.12 (1940 Diagrams) at standard speed of 15 knots (84RPM). 2050 ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 2100 Changed base course to 135°T&G. 2110 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.12. (1940 D). 2343 USS SICARD reported radar contact two vessels bearing 105°T, distance 8000 yards. 2348 Emergency turn to starboard to course 150°T&G. 2355 Emergency turn to starboard to course 195°T&G. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.7.

*B.N. Berry*  
Lt. (JG) B.N. BERRY, D-W(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday 20 OCTOBER, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23°-21'S.	22°-37'S.	20°-50'S.
Long.	168°-22'E.	168°-39½'E.	168°-46'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.5. USS ALHENA is OTC, CTU and Guide and leading Column No.2, USS ALCHIBA IS ASTERN OF USS ALHENA. USS LIBRA is leading Column No.1. Screen consists of USS SICARD, USS DORSEY and USS GAMBLE, Comescort. Steaming at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM) on course 195°T&G. Ship darkened and Condition of readiness III set. 0006, Changed course to 105°T&G. 0008 Changed course to 100°T&G. 0017 Changed course to base course 090°T. 0035 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagram). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.3.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 090°T&G at standard speed of 15 knots, (84 RPM), Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.12 (1940D). 0410 all guns alert. 0510 Observed sunrise, lighted ship, secured guns from alert, set condition III. 0535 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 0545 Changed course to 050°T&G. 0552 Changed course to 022°T&G. 0600 Commenced zigzagging in accordance with plan No.8(1940 Diagrams) Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM. 81.3.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 022°T&G at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.8(1940 D). 0906 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 0910 Changed standard speed to 15.5 knots(87RPM). 0920 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 D). 1121 sighted WALPOLE Island bearing 065°T, distance approximately 16 miles. Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM. 84.2.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 022°T&G. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11 (1940 Diagrams). Standard speed of 15.5 knots(87RPM). Av.Steam 450. Av.RPM. 84.2.

*S.N. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 022°T&G, at standard speed of 15.5 knots(87RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11, (1940 Diagrams). 1620 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 1631 Changed base course to 342°T&G. 1645 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11 (1940 D). 1748 Observed sunset. Called all guns to alert. 1840 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 1848 Secured guns from alert. Av.Steam 445. Av.RPM. 85.5.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G at standard speed of 15.5 knots(87RPM). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 86.9.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commodore Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12)

Thursday

21

OCTOBER

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	18°-04'S.	17°-10'S	15°-27'S
Long.	167°-43'E.	167°-20½'E.	166°-19'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 32.4.5 in the following formation: Column 2, USS ALHENA, OTC, OTU and Guide followed by USS ALCHIBA; Column 1, USS LIBRA, Comescort in DORSEY. USS DORSEY screening ahead with USS GAMBLE screening on starboard bow and USS SICARD on port bow, on base course 342°T&G, at standard speed 15.5 knots (87RPM). Ship is darkened with Condition III set. 0000 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.11(1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 86.1.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D.JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 342°T&G at standard speed of 15.5 knots(87RPM), zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940). 0416 all guns on the alert. 0516 Secured from alert. 0604 Change course to 352°T&G. 0746 Friendly destroyer sighted bearing 165°T. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 86.4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 352°T&G, standard speed 15.5 knots (87RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 Diagrams). 0900 USS RENSHAW joined convoy as screen on port beam. 0921 sighted Efate Island bearing 085°T. distance 30 miles. Ships, three(3) sighted bearing 340°T. 0928 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course, 352°T&G. 0932 Changed course to 330°T&G. 0945 USS TITANIA, USS WALLER, USS CONY joined convoy. USS TITANIA took position as second ship in Section #1 astern of USS LIBRA. USS WALLER took position in screen ahead of convoy. USS CONY took position off starboard bow. 1000 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.11(1940 Diagrams). 1020 USS SICARD and USS GAMBLE detached from convoy as ordered. 1040 Friendly plane (3ED) passed overhead. 1143 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course 330°T&G. Av.steam 442.2. Av.RPM.87.0.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (Jg) S.N.BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G, at standard speed 15.5 knots (87RPM). 1207 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 D). Av.Steam 462. Av.RPM. 86.7.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (Jg) R.H.GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G at standard speed of 15.5 knots(87RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11 (1940 D). 1653 Sighted one aircraft bearing 180°T, friendly. 1744 Sighted two ships bearing 260°T, hull down. 1745 Observed sunset, all guns alert. 1854 Secured from alert. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM. 86.7.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G, at standard speed of 15.5 knots(87 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.11(1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 442. Av.RPM. 86.4.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D.JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Commanding Officer.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 22 October, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	12°- 58'S	12°- 03'S	10°- 45'S
Long.	164°- 49'E	164°- 19'E	162°- 56'E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.5 on base course 350°T&G, at standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). OTU, OTC and Guide in USS ALHENA, first ship in section two, USS ALCHIEBA second ship in section two. USS LIBRA first ship in section one, USS TITANIA, second ship in section one. Comescort in USS DORSEY with USS CONY, WALLER & RENSHAW in screening positions. Ship in condition III. Ship is darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 445, Av.RPM 86.4

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G at standard speed of 15.5 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 0430 All guns to alert. 0530 Observed sunrise, lighted ship and secured from alert. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 86.4

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 330°T&G at standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 86.7

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 330°T, 331°G, at standard speed 15.5 knots (87 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). 1240 Sighted four ships on horizon bearing 350°T, heading in same direction. 1245 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1400 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course 330°T. 1405 Changed base course to 311°T, 312°G. 1418 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 446, Av.RPM 80.8

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 311°T, 312°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1615 Four ships on horizon identified as LCI's. 1752 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 1805 Observed sunset, darkened ship, all gun crews on alert. 1905 Secured gun crews from alert. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 78.3.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt. (jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 311°T, 312°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 77.1

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 23 October, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.5 on base course 311°T, 310°G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). Column one USS LIBRA followed by USS TITANIA, column two USS ALHENA, OTC, OTU, and Guide with USS ALCHIBA astern. Comescort USS WALLER screening ahead with USS DORSEY, CONY, and RENSHAW. Ship darkened with condition of readiness III set. 0100 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course 311°T, 312°G. 0020 Changed base course to 280°T, 281°G. 0030 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0120 Sighted Ulawa Island bearing 010°T, distance 7 miles. 0125 Changed base course to 270°T, 271°G. 0230 Sighted Malaita Is. bearing 308° distance 30 miles. 0330 Sighted Guadalcanal Is. bearing 230°T. 0330 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 0340 Changed base course to 311°T, 312°G. 0350 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 77.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 311°T, 312°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0446 General Quarters. 0546 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III, observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0600 Sighted Nura Island bearing 286°T, distance about 14 miles. 0645 Sighted Rua Sura Island bearing 292°T, distance about 19 miles. 0710 Passed Nura Island abeam to port distance about 5 miles. 0740 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 311°T, 312°G. 0745 Passed Rua Sura Island abeam to port distance 11 miles. 0748 Changed course to 270°T, 271°G. 0800 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 77.2

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 270°T, 271°G, zig zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams), at standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 0813 Sighted friendly aircraft bearing 190°T. 0826 Passed Rua Sura Island abeam to port. 0922 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 0927 Entered Lengo channel. 0931 Sighted Paripile Island bearing 310°T. 0939 Passed Hutchenson Shoals abeam to starboard. 0948 Passed Paripile Island abeam to starboard. 1013 Released from Task Unit 32.4.5 proceeding independently to anchorage. 1020 Passed Koli Point abeam to port, passed through Lengo Channel. 1030 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1053 Received Pilot Lt.Comd'r. FALKNER aboard. Proceeded at various courses and speeds to anchorage. 1130 Set special sea detail second section. 1142 Went to debarkation stations. 1149 Hoisted boats to rail. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 71.5

*S. W. Beery*  
Lt. (JG) S. W. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming on various courses at various speeds as before. 1214 Anchored off Segilus River, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in 32 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain on deck to port anchor on following bearings: right tangent Savo Is. 002°T; left tangent Savo Is. 347°T, Beacon "C" 336.5°T. 1220 Secured special sea detail. 1315 Commenced unloading ship at #3 hold. 1320 Pilot left ship. Holds began working as follows: #1 at 1330, #3 at 1340, #2 at 1350, #4 at 1415. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 42.1

*J. E. Newcomb*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. NEWCOMB, C-V(S), USNR.

1800-2400: Anchored as before, unloading cargo from all hatches.

Approved:

Examined *H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 24 October , 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0600: Anchored off Segilus River, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands in 45 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain on deck to port anchor. Unloading from holds #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5. Bearings as follows: Right Tangent Savo Is.  $002^{\circ}T$ , left tangent Savo Is.  $347^{\circ}T$ , beacon "C"  $338.5^{\circ}T$ .

B. C. Swafford CBM.  
E. C. SWAFFORD, CBM, V6-USNR.

0600-1200: Anchored as before. Unloading from holds #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5.

James E. Mesworthy  
LT. JAMES E. MESWORTHY, C-V(8), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before. Unloading all holds. 1410 USS ALOHIBA stood in and anchored. 1506 USS ALHENA stood in and anchored. 1600 Completed unloading #2 hold.

H. M. Pepper  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400: Anchored as before unloading holds #1, #3, #4, and #5.

B. C. Swafford CBM.  
E. C. SWAFFORD, CBM, V6-USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

Joseph S. Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 25 October , 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0600:- Anchored off Segilua River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 45 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Unloading from Holds #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5. Bearings as follows: Right tangent Savo Island 002.5°T; Left tangent Savo Island 347°T; Beacon "C" 336.5°T.

James E. Nesworthy  
LTJG (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-4(S), USNR.

0600-1200:- Anchored as before. Unloading #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5 holds. 0935 USS ALCHIBA stood out. 1055 USS ALHENA stood out.

H.M. Pepper  
Lieut. H.M. PEPPER, DSV(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. Unloading cargo from all holds. 1645 Completed discharge of cargo from #1 hold.

B. C. Swafford  
B. C. SWAFFORD, CBM(PA) V8-USNR.

1800-2400:- Anchored as before, unloading from #2, #3, #4 and #5 holds. 1807 Condition Yellow at Koli Point. 1833 Condition Green at Koli Point. 2300 Secured No.5 hold. 2330 Secured No.3 hold.

James E. Nesworthy  
LTJG (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-4(S), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, U.S.N.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 26 October, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0600:- Anchored off Segilua River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 45 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following anchorage bearings: right tangent Savo Island 002.5°T; left tangent Savo Island 347°T; Beacon "O" 336.5°T. Unloading holds #2 and #4.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200:- Anchored as before. Unloading Holds #2 and #4. 1130 Finished unloading.

*B.C. Swafford*  
B.C. SWAFFORD, CBX(PA) VG-USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1204 Set special sea detail. Set standard speed 16 knots (90 RPM). 1219 Underway in accordance with ComTransDiv. TERN, despatch 260100/October. Proceeding towards new anchorage at various course and various speeds. 1229 Condition Red at Tulagi. 1229 Condition Green at Tulagi. 1245 Task Unit of eight APD's, two DE's and one DD stood out towards Savo Island. 1310 Passed Lunga Point abeam to starboard, distance 2 1/2 miles. 1336 Passed Koli Point to starboard, distance 1 1/2 miles. 1341 Passed Tagoma Point abeam to starboard. 1342 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1407 Anchored off Tetera River in 16 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor. Ship's heading 107°T on following anchorage bearings: Tagoma Pt. 277°T; Beacon "L" 089°T; Beacon "K" 224.5°T; 1416 Secured special sea detail, and condition of readiness III. Commenced loading ship as follows: 1435 #5 hold; 1450 #2 hold; 1640 #1 hold; 1650 #4 hold; 1655 #3 hold.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1800-2400:- Anchored as before. Loading holds #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5.

*H.M. Pepper*  
Lieut. H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, U.S.N.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Wednesday 27 October, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
 (WAR DIARY)

0000-0600:-

Anchored off Tetera River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in 16 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to starboard anchor, on the following bearings:- Togoma Pt. 277°T; Beacon "L" 089°T; Beacon "K" 224.5°T. Loading into holds #2 and #4. 0030 Secured #4 hold. 0110 secured #2 hold. 0400 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0410 Set special sea detail. 0440 Underway to anchorage off Kokumbona at various speeds on various courses. 0509 Passed Togoma Pt. abeam to port, distance 1 1/2 miles. 0515 passed Koli Pt. abeam to port distance 1 1/2 miles. 0535 Passed Lunga Pt abeam to port distance 1 1/2 miles.

*B.C. Swafford*  
 B.C. SWAFFORD, CBK(PA), VC-USNR.

0600-1200:- Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds to Kokumbona anchorage. 0839 Anchored off Kokumbona in 41 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on the following bearings: Beacon "I" 110.5°T; Beacon "J" 309°T; Beacon "K" 320°T;. 0844 Secured special sea detail. Commenced loading all holds.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
 Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, O-1(S), USNR

1200-1900:- Anchored as before. Loading all holds. 1300 Veered to 105 fathoms of chain. 1350 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1555 Completed loading all holds. 1640 Set special sea detail. 1710 Underway. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge, standing out of anchorage for Tetera on various courses at various speeds, standard speed 16 knots. 1748 Lunga Point abeam to starboard, distance 1800 yards.

*H.M. Pepper*  
 Lieut. H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400:- Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds toward Tetera anchorage. 1816 Koli Point abeam to starboard distance one mile. 1826 Darkened ship. 1855 Anchored off Tetera River in 22 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "L" 102°T; Koli Pt. 269°T. 1902 Secured special sea detail. Working holds #1, #3, #4 and #5. 2315 Secured #3 hold. 2325 Secured #5 hold. 2340 Secured No.1 hold.

*S.N. Beery*  
 Lt. (Jg) S.N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12)

Thursday

28

October

1943

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0800:- Anchored off Tetere River in 22 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Working hold No.4. Ship semi-darkened; engine room ready for getting underway on 5 minutes notice. Anchorage bearings are as follows:- Beacon "L" 102°T; Koli Point 269°T. 0530 Secured No 4 hold.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0600-1200:- 0600 General Quarters, exercising at debarkation. 0610 all hands took debarkation stations. 0615 Lowered all boats, commenced landing operation. 0647 All boats in water. 0654 First wave departed for beach. 0658 All hands took combat discharge stations. 0700 Commenced combat discharge of cargo. 1045 Secured from combat discharge. (Continued to unload Hold No.4 and Hold #5- delayed by burned out motor).

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. Working Hold #4, and #5 hold not being worked because of winch damage. 1230 Resumed unloading of #5 hold. 1233 Hold #4 completely unloaded. 1515 Unloading of #5 hold completed.

*E.C. Robinson*  
Ensign E.C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1818 Darkened ship.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*R.E. Wilson*  
Bos'n. R.E. WILSON, U. S. Navy.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 29 October, 19 43  
(Day) (MM) (Month)Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off Tetere River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 22 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Ship heading 241°T on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "L" 099°T; Beacon "J" 255°T; Beacon "A" 267°T. Engine room ready for getting underway on 5 minutes notice. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

E.C. Robinson  
E.C. ROBINSON, Ens. D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600:- Anchored as before.

H.M. Pepper  
Lt. H.M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0600-1200:- Anchored as before. 0525 Destroyers SICARD, BREESE, GAMBLE, BARON (DE) and USS TRYON stood in. 0625 USS STRADFORD stood in. 0700 Commenced loading holds #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5. 0930 USS PATAPSCO and escort stood in.

B.C. Swafford  
B.C. SWAFFORD, CBM(PA) V6-USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. Loading all holds. 1235 USS ATASCOSA, SANTA MONICA, WHITNEY, BLUM FANTAIN, STEELE, SEID, MC CONND and OSTERHAUS stood in. 1500 Secured No.1 hold. 1700 USS CHANLEUR stood out with escort. 1733 Secured No.3 hold. 1735 Secured No.2 Hold.

James E. Nesworthy  
LT. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(G), USNR.

1800-2400:- Anchored as before. 2230 Completed loading No.4 Hold. 2235 completed loading No.5 hold.

S.N. Berry  
Lt. (JG) S.N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Saturday, 30

October, 19 43.

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			10°-23'S.
Long.			160°-39'E.

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored off Tetere River, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 22 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following bearings:- Beacon "L" 099°T; Beacon "J" 255°T; Beacon "A" 267°T. Engine room ready for getting underway on 5 minutes notice. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*D.H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ensign D.H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*J.H. Shankles*  
Ensign J.H. SHANKLES, U.S. Navy.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0805 sighted 5 cargo ships and 3 destroyers on horizon bearing 090°T. 0845 made all preparations for getting underway. 0900 Underway to form Transport Division "Charlie" in obedience to ComTransDiv TEN, order number 290212 of October. Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, standard speed 15 knots (84RPM), standing out of Lengo Channel, Guadalcanal, on various courses and at various speeds, conforming to the channel. USS ALCHIBA, OTU, OTC and Guide in left column with USS TITANIA astern. USS LIBRA in right column with USS ALHENA astern. USS SIOUX astern of formation. Comescort USS HOPKINS with USS PORSEY, HOVEY and SOUTHARD screening ahead. 0905 sighted 4 transports and 4 DD's 8 miles off port beam. 0910 Base course 090°T, 091°G. 0919 passed Berende Pt. abeam to starboard distance 1.2 miles. 0924 passed Pari Pile Island abeam to port distance 3.5 miles. 0935 passed Nugi Island abeam to port distance 6.5 miles. 0952 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8, (1940 D). 1043 Rua Sura Island abeam to starboard, distance 4 miles. 1055 Changed course to 147°T, 148°G. 1116 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). 1142 Changed course to 131°T, 132°G. Av. steam 453.3. Av. RPM 77.6.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ensign C.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800:- Steaming as before on base course 131°T, 132°G, at standard speed 14 knots (78RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940D). 1212 made 20° emergency turn to the left, to avoid heavy object in water. 1220 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8. 1334 Ceased zig-zagging. 1340 Changed base course to 178°T, 179°G. Changed speed to two-thirds (10 knots). 1344 Resumed standard speed. 1350 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8. 1523 Ceased zig-zagging. 1530 Changed base course to 154°T, 155°G. 1540 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940D). Av. steam 456. Av. RPM. 74.4.

*R.H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R.H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 154°T, 155°G, standard speed 14 knots (78RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8 (1940D). 1855 Eight ships sighted hull down, bearing 177°T. 1700 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course. 1706 Changed base course to 200°T, 201°G., and speed to two-thirds. 1710 Changed speed to standard speed (14 knots). 1718 Changed base course to 295°T, 296°G and speed to two-thirds. 1745 Maneuvered at various speeds and courses forming cruising disposition with Section "Baker" of Task Unit 31.5.1, consisting of USS HUNTER LIGGETT, OTU and guide, USS AMERICAN LEGION, CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER, USS APACHE. Ships in the following formation: Column One, USS CRESCENT CITY and FULLER; Column Two: USS HUNTER LIGGETT, OTC, OTU and Guide, and USS AMERICAN LEGION; Column Three: USS LIBRA, and USS ALHENA; Column four: USS ALCHIBA, and USS TITANIA; USS SIOUX and USS APACHE astern of formation, screened by 4 DD's and 4 DM's, Comescort in USS FULLAM. 1834 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots. 1855 Commenced zig-zag on plan No. 12 (1940D). 1906 Changed base course to 294°T, 295°G.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday, 30 October, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			10°-23'S.
Long.			160°-39'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 294°T, 295°G, at standard speed of 14.5 knots. (81RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #12, (1940 Diagrams). Steaming at standard speed. One friendly aircraft in company throughout watch. Av. steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 78.1.

*D.W. Childs*  
 Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved: *F.F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 31 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	9°- 18' S	8°- 53' S	8°- 42' S
Long.	159°- 12' E	157°- 22' E	155°- 48' E

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.5.1, OTU, OTC and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT. Formation as follows: In section One USS CRESCENT CITY with USS FULLER astern, in section Two USS HUNTER LIGGETT with USS AMERICAN LEGION astern, in section Three USS LIBRA with USS ALHENA astern, in column four USS ALOHIA with USS TITANIA astern. USS APACHE and USS SIOUX astern of convoy steaming on base course 294°T, 295°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan No.12(1940 diagrams). Comescort in USS FULLAM, screening in circular formation around convoy. Condition III set. Ship darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0009 Changed base course to 289°T, 290°G. Av.steam 450. Av.RPM 77.7.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ensign E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 289°T, 290°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan No.12(1940D). 0458 Contacted TransDiv TWO. 0544 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course. 0545 USS CRESCENT CITY and USS FULLER fell in astern of USS AMERICAN LEGION to form column No.1. 0547 Formed in column astern of USS TITANIA as third ship in column No.3. 0739 TransDiv TWO consisting of USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, USS GEORGE OLYMER, USS PRES. ADAMS, and USS PRES.HAYES took position as column #2 in that order. Av.Steam 452. Av.RPM. 73.9.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 289°T, 290°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81RPM). 0812 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.12(1940 D). 0907 Adjusted interval to 1200 yards. 1009 Turned to 009°T, 010°G, ceased zig-zagging. 1011 Emergency turn to 290°T, 291°G. 1018 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan no.12. 1024 Emergency turn to 289°T, 270°G, ceased zig-zagging. 1026 Emergency turn to 295°T, 296°G. 1028 Changed course to 295°T, 296°G. 1036 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with Plan No.12. 1140 Left turn to 215°T, 216°G. Right turn to 287°T, 288°G. 1145 Right turn to 316°G, 318°T. 1147 Left turn to 265°G, 264°T. 1150 Resumed zig zag in accordance with Plan No.12. Av.steam 452. Av.RPM. 77.4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming on base course 296°G, 295°T, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with Plan No.12.(1940 D). 1228 Changed course to 290°T, 291°G. 1302 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78RPM). Formed according to plan Dog. 1333 Changed course to 288°T, 289°G. 1348 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1402 Changed course by turning to 209°G, 209°T. 1404 Turned right to course 289°G, 288°T. 1416 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.12(1940D). Av.steam 457.5. Av.RPM. 72.8.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 288°T, 289°G, zig-zagging on plan #12. Standard speed 14 knots, boilers No.1 and No.2 in use for steaming purposes. 1647 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots. 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 1800 Changed course and axis to 340°T, 341°G. 1810 Commenced zig-zagging on Plan No.12. 1836 Darkened ship. 1950 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 1951 Section Charlie changed speed to 2/3 speed. 1959 changed speed to standard speed 14 knots. Av.steam 462.5. Av.RPM. 72.8.

*H. M. Peppen*  
Lieut. H. M. PEPPEN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-K, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Sunday 31 October, 19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Time)

Zone description -11.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 340°T, 341°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots(81 RPM). 2000 changed base course to 312°T,313°G. Changed standard speed to 15 knots(84RPM). 2022 Unidentified aircraft reported bearing 345°T, distance 25 miles. 2034 observed tracer fire ahead bearing about 330°T- All guns called to alert. 2024 two unidentified aircraft reported bearing 015°T, distance 16 miles. 2216 Tracer fire sighted ahead. 2217 Unidentified aircraft bearing 065°T, distance 10 miles. Av.Steam.458. Av.RPM. 78.8.  
2325 All hands to General Quarters.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut.L.M.JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut.D-M,USNR.

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

1

November

1943.

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.5.1, on base course 312°T, 313°G. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Unit in following sections: Section One: USS HUNTER LIGGETT, AMERICAN LEGION, CRESCENT CITY, PRES. HAYES; Section Two: USS PRES. JACKSON, GEORGE CLIMER, PRES. ADAMS, FULLER; Section Three: USS ALOHIBA, TITANIA, LIBRA, ALHENA, ComTaskUnit 31.5.1, CTU, OTC and Guide in USS HUNTER LIGGETT. Screen consists of 12 DD's and DM's with FULLAM as ComSecort. USS SIOUX and APACHE astern of column formation. Ship darkened, all hands at General Quarters standing by to repel air attack. 0008 unidentified aircraft reported bearing 180°T, distance 8 miles. 0016 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. 0035 Four unidentified aircraft reported, distance about 20 miles. 0315 Changed course to 000°T, 001°G. Av. RPM. 46.2. Av. steam 455.

*[Signature]*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 000°T, 001°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). 0432 Changed standard speed to 12 knots (67 RPM). Changed course to 045°T and 046°G. 0447 Changed speed to 8 knots (31 RPM), commenced forming column astern of sections one and two. 0505 General Quarters. 0510 Changed course to 069°. 0512 Changed speed to 12 knots (67 RPM). 0513 Completed forming column astern of sections one and two, came to base course 044°T, 045°G. 0555 Changed course to 014°T, 015°G. 0558 Changed course to 044°T, 045°G. 0602 Screen commenced shelling shore installations. Commenced maneuvering at various speeds and courses independently to previously assigned anchorage. 0704 Took debarkation stations. 0705 Dive bombers, friendly, attacked shore installations. 0708 Anchored off Empress Augusta Bay in 28 fathoms of water with 85 fathoms of chain at water's edge on the following bearings: Right tangent on Paruata 068°T; Left tangent 044°T; ship heading 350°T. 0710 Commenced lowering boats. 0718 First wave of landing boats. 0728 Emergency, Underway. 0729 General Quarters, standing by to repel enemy aircraft. Maneuvering at various speeds and courses on signal from CTU. Standard speed set at 15 knots (84 RPM).

*[Signature]*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before maneuvering on signal from CTU, on various courses at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), all hands at General Quarters. 0805 Commenced firing on enemy planes. 0852 Commenced maneuvering to return to anchorage. 0907 Secured from General Quarters, manned debarkation stations, prepared to unload ship. 0930 Commenced unloading ship, approaching anchorage. 0945 Anchored in Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, in 22 fathoms of water on the following anchorage bearings: Right tangent Paruata Island 053°T, Left tangent of Paruata Island 045°T. 1111 Underway, shifting anchorage berths, continued unloading while underway. 1157 Anchored in 13 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the water's edge in Empress Augusta Bay.

*[Signature]*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before in 13 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain at the water's edge, unloading ship. 1256 General Quarters. 1300 Underway, Emergency 210. Maneuvering at various courses and speeds in accordance with signal from OTC. Standing by to repel enemy air attack. 1341 Bombs reported to be dropping off port bow of formation guide. 1346 Enemy planes bearing 320°T, dropping bombs ahead of convoy. 1355 Screen throwing up AA barrage. 1417 Screen reported area cleared of all enemy aircraft. 1423 Commenced returning to anchorage, proceeding independently. 1424 Secured from General Quarters, took debarkation stations. 1458 Anchored in Empress Augusta Bay in 11 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: Left tangent Paruata Is. 118°T;

Approved:

81418

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Consulting Officer.

*[Signature]*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday

1 November

1943

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

1200-1600:Cont'd:- Right tangent Puruata Island 142°T. Continued unloading ship. 1520 Completed unloading No.5 hold.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before, unloading ship. 1616 Completed unloading No.1 hold. 1631 All marines debarked. 1743 Completed unloading No.3 hold. 1802 Under way in accordance with signal from CTU. Cargo 98% unloaded. 1846 Took position, fourth ship in second section. Set condition III watch. 1857 Course set on 220°T, 221°G. Standard speed 15 knots (84RPM). 1902 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.38(1940 p). 1900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 2000 Changed course to 180°T, 181°G. (Note: 4 LCV's and 1 LCM(3) lost in landing operations).

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 180°T, 181°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84RPM). 2010 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.38(1940 D). 2015 Task Force 39 reported bearing 170°T, distance about 18 miles. 2030 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 2030.5 Turned right 60° to 240°T, 241°G. 2040 Turned left 60° to 180°T, 181°G. 2046 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.38(1940 Diagrams). 2128 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course 180°T, 181°G. 2208 Steady on new course 159°T, 153°G. 2254 Observed tracer fire bearing 350°T, apparently from screen. 2309 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with plan No.12 (1940 Diagrams). \*2330 Returning section of Task Unit 31.5.1 detached. 2355 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81 RPM). \*(2330 Section detached, consisting of USS HUNTER LIGGETT, CRESCENT CITY, ALCHIBA, AMERICAN LEGION and 5 DD's.).

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Commanding Officer.

Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Tuesday 2 November 19 43

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	06°-54'E	08°-54'E	08°-54'E
Long.	156°-54'E	157°-23'E	159°-04'E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with modified formation task unit 31.5.1 consisting of USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, GEORGE CLYMER, FULLER, LIBRA, HAYES, ADAMS, ALHENA, and TITANIA with escorts TERRY, WADSWORTH, HOVEY, SOUTHARD, CONWAY, LAUB, SIGOURNEY, HOPKINS, and DORSEY. Ship is darkened. Standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM) on base course 132°T, 133°G. Zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). OTC, OTU in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. Condition III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 79.3.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 132°T, 133°G at standard speed, zig zagging on plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0504 Exercised at General Quarters. 0604 Secured from General Quarters, light ship, set condition III. 0650 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0700 Changed course and axis to 117°T, 118°G. 0710 Resumed zig zagging on plan #12. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78.2.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 117°T, 118°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1020 Passed Rendova Island abeam to port, distance 18 miles. 1025 Sighted four friendly destroyers on horizon bearing 320°T. 1130 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 1140 Changed base course to 090°T, 091°G. 1150 Resumed zig zagging according to plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.8.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 090°T, 091°G, at standard speed 14.5 (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1307 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 1311 Changed course to 100°T, 101°G. 1314 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #12. 1520 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course 100°T, 101°G. 1524 Changed base course to 087°T, 088°G. 1530 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #12. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 77.0

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 087°T, 088°G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1821 Darkened ship. Sounded General Quarters. 1835 Passed Buraku Island abeam to starboard, distance 5 miles. 1922 Secured from General Quarters. Av.Steam 460 Av.RPM 77.2

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 080°T, 081°G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 2030 Changed speed to two-thirds speed. 2036 Changed speed to standard speed. 2045 Changed course and axis to 126°T, 126°G. 2103 Russell Is. abeam to starboard, distance approximately 7 miles. 2317 Changed course to 115°T, 116°G. 2330 Savo Island abeam to port distance 5 miles. 2345 Section two forming on bearing 180°(relative) from section one. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 76.8

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r, USN  *commanding officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR.  *Navigator.*



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Wednesday 3 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming as before on base course 115°T at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM) in company with modified formation of task unit 31.5.1. OTC, CTU., and Guide in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, formation in line of sections, section one PRES. JACKSON, GEORGE CLYMER, FULLER, & LIBRA, section two astern of section one, PRES. ADAMS, PRES. HAYES, ALHENA, & TITANIA, escort, TERRY, WADSWORTH, HOVEY, SOUTHARD, CONWAY, LAUB, SIGOURNEY, HOPKINS, and DORSEY, ship darkened and condition of readiness III set, proceeding towards Koli anchorage. 0152 PRES. ADAMS, GEO. CLYMER, & WADSWORTH sending ashore casualties. 0232 Proceeding towards Lengo channel in column. 0314 Changed course to 090°T. 0348 Changed course to 060°T. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 44.5

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 060°T, 061°G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM). 0425 Changed base course to 150°T. 0440 Changed course to 240°T, 241°G. 0450 General Quarters. 0500 Changed base course to 270°T, 271°G. 0549 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. 0553 Passed Nugu Island on starboard beam. 0630 Changed base course to 000°T, 001°G, passing Koli Point abeam to port, distance 2 miles. 0657 Changed formation to column open order. 0656 Changed speed to two-thirds. 0700 Nugu Island abeam to starboard, distance 10 miles. 0730 Proceeding independently to anchorage, Captain at the conn, proceeding at various speeds and courses. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 77.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before at various speeds on various courses conforming to the channel approaching Gavutu Harbor, Florida Is., Solomon Islands. Standard speed 14 knots (78 RPM). 0903 Passed Gavutu Is. abeam to port distance 750 yards. 0914 Anchored in berth 26 Gavutu Harbor, Florida Is., Solomons Islands in 26 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor, on the following bearings: front range 273 T.; beacon "P" 018 T.; beacon "R" 135 T.; S.H. 003 T. 0940 USS FULLER stood out. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 22.4

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before. 1210 Received YP-415 on port side. 1230 Commenced taking on diesel fuel. 1542 YP-415 cast off, fueling not completed. 1555 Underway in accordance with TransDivTwo order to fuel in Purvis Bay. Speed 15 knots, (84 RPM). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 27.6

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before at various courses and speeds in Gavutu Harbor, proceeding to Purvis Bay. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. 1801 Passed beacon "R" abeam to port, distance 300 yards. 1812 Passed beacon "A" abeam to port, distance 1200 yards. 1825 Passing through anti-torpedo net. 1827 Passing through submarine net. 1849 Moored port side to on starboard side of YO-164, with standard 8-inch manila lines, in berth #6 Port Purvis, Florida Island. 1706 Commenced fueling ship. 1723 USS MONTPELIER, CLEVELAND, COLUMBIA, and DENVER standing in. 1750 YP-415 moored alongside with her port side to our starboard quarter. 1843 YP-415 underway. 1850 Completed fueling of ship. Received 87,700 gallons of fuel. 1910 Underway, Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. Steaming at various courses and speeds. 1948 Passing through anti-submarine net. 1950 passing through anti-torpedo net. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 27.6.

*E. C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr.USN *Commanding Officer*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt.D-M, USNR *Navigator*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Wednesday 3 November, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400: Steaming as before on various courses at various speeds standing into Tulagi Harbor. 2030 Passed through anti-submarine net. 2045 Anchored in berth #6, Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 26 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to stbd anchor at the water's edge on following anchorage bearings:- right tangent Mokambo Is. 012<sup>OT</sup>; left tangent Mokambo Is. 343<sup>OT</sup>. Tangent on Tulagi Island 341<sup>OT</sup>. 2120 Received YO-415 alongside starboard side. 2129 Commenced receiving diesel oil from YO-415. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 33.0

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r. USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Thursday 4 November, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone Description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 24 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain at water's edge out to starboard anchor. Ship darkened, condition of readiness III. Receiving fuel from YP-415 along starboard side. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*E. T. Malone*  
Ens. E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. Receiving fuel as before. 0442 USS HUNTER LIGGETT stood in and anchored off our starboard quarter.

*J. R. Keller*  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0830 USS ALCHIBA, USS AMERICAN LEGION, USS CRESCENT CITY stood in and anchored. DD 830 stood in. 0942 Veered out to 90 fathoms of chain on deck. 1002 Heaved up to 75 fathoms of chain on deck. 1030 Veered out to 85 fathoms of chain on deck. 1100 USS PRINGLE stood out. YP-415 underway from alongside starboard side. Received 7,000 gallons diesel fuel. 1135 USS BINNETTE stood out. 1154 USS HUDSON stood out.

*S. N. Beery*  
Lt.(jg) S. N. BEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1210 USS ADVENT stood in. USS FOOTE (under tow) stood in. 1450 SS LEW WALLACE stood in.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(G), USNR

1600-2000: Anchored as before. Observed sunset 1818.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r, USN *Commanding Officer*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 5 November, 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 24 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain at water's edge, to starboard anchor. Water Barge (with tug) moored alongside with starboard side to our port bow. 0010 Commenced taking water from water barge. 0124 Condition Red at Russell Islands, Condition Yellow at Guadalcanal. 0210 Condition Green at Russell Islands, and Guadalcanal. 0225 Condition Red Tulagi; 0234 Condition Green at Tulagi. 0245 Completed taking on water from barge, 10,000 gallons. Water barge shoved off.

Lt. (JG) JAMES E. MESWORTHY, O-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0530 Made all preparations for getting underway. Set Special Sea Detail. 0600 Underway for Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, at various speeds and on various courses conforming to the channel pursuant to orders of ComTransDiv TWO Despatch 040703 of November. Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 0600 USS HOPKINS, SOUTHARD, HOVEY, HUNTER LIGGETT and DORSEY stood out. 0819 Passed outer anti-submarine net abeam. 0749 Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in berth #28, in 24 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Beacon "G" 127°T; Beacon "D", 166°T; Beacon "E" 252°T; Beacon "F" 274°T; Ship's head 272°T. 0750 Lowered away all boats. 0754 Secured special sea detail. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 56.7.

Lt. (JG) D.W. CHILDS, O-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0940 Commenced embarking troops. 1010 Commenced loading Hold #3. 1030 Commenced loading Hold #2. 1045 Commenced loading Hold No.1.

Lt. (JG) JAMES E. MESWORTHY, O-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. Loading all holds. 1230 Commenced loading Holds No. 4 and 5. 1730 USS PRES. ADAMS stood out. 1818 Observed sunset. Partially darkened ship.

Lt. H.M. PEPPER, O-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before. Loading all holds. 1800 USS TITANIA underway. 1818 Darkened ship. 1848 Observed Red flare off port beam. 1915 Ceased loading all holds.

Lt. H.M. PEPPER, O-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

Lt. (JG) S.M. BERRY, O-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 8

UNITED STATES SHIP	LIBRA(AKA12)	Saturday	6	November	19 43
		(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
Zone description - 11					
Position	0800	1200	2000		
Lat.					
Long.					
OPERATIONAL REMARKS (WAR DIARY)					
0000-0400: Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in 24 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain out at water's edge to port anchor on the following bearings:- B'n. "C" 127°0T; B'n. "D" 185°0T; B'n. "E" 252°0T; B'n. "F" 264°0T. Ship darkened. Engine room on 5 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0127 Condition Yellow at Guadalcanal. 0130 Engine room ready for getting underway. 0140 Heaved in to 60 fathoms on deck. 0205 Condition Green at Guadalcanal, engine room secured on 5 minutes notice, veered to 60 fathoms of chain at water's edge.					
<i>D. H. Rodgers, Jr.</i> Ens. D. H. RODGERS, Jr., D-V(G), USNR.					
0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0655 USS TITANIA stood in, anchored. 0655 Commenced loading ship, all holds.					
<i>B. C. Swafford</i> B. C. SWAFFORD, CBM, V-6, USNR.					
0800-1200: Anchored as before loading to all holds. 1050 Completed loading holds #3 and #5. 1115 USS PINKNEY stood in. 1145 #1 hold loaded.					
<i>James E. Nesworthy</i> Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.					
1200-1800: Anchored as before. Loading holds #2 and #4. 1530 Completed loading all holds. Commenced hoisting boats aboard.					
<i>H. M. Peppen</i> Lt. H. M. PEPPEN, D-V(G), USNR.					
1800-2000: Anchored as before. 1800 All divisions reported ship secure and ready for sea.					
<i>J. R. Keller</i> Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.					
2000-2400: Anchored as before.					
<i>James E. Nesworthy</i> Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.					
Approved: <i>F. F. Ferris</i> F. F. FERRIS, Comd'r. USN. Commanding Officer.			Examined: <i>Joseph Weiner</i> JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.		

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 9

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Sunday 7 November, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08°-53'S.	09°-03'S.	08°-20'S.
Long.	153°-45'E.	157°-53'E.	156°-15'E.

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

## (WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #28 off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in 24 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the port anchor on the following bearings: B'n. "C" 127°T; B'n. "D" 166°T; B'n. "E" 252°T; B'n. "F" 267°T. Ship darkened. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0052 Underway in accordance with C.T.U. 31.8.4 Mailgram 060184/Nov. Captain at conn, Navigator on bridge. Standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Steaming at various courses and speeds. 0200 Formed column open order in company with task unit 31.8.4 OTC, CTU., and Guide in the USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. 0227 Formed cruising disposition as follows: section one USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, USS TITANIA. Second section USS PRESIDENT HAYES, USS FULLER, and USS LIBRA. Set base course 304°T, 305°G, with following escorts screening in a circular formation. Comescort in USS GUEST; USS ANTHONY, USS BENNETT, USS HUDSON, USS WADSWORTH, USS WARRINGTON, USS HOPKINS, USS SOUTHARD, USS DORSEY, and USS HOUVEY. 0304 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0305 Savo Island abeam to starboard, distance 3 miles. Av.Steam 456.7, Av.RPM 58.4

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Steaming as before on base course 304°T, 305°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0455 Exercised at General Quarters. 0554 Friendly ships bearing 200°T, distance 9 miles. 0555 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. 0601 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course 304°T, 305°G. 0605 Changed course to 260°T, 261°G. 0616 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0655 Friendly surface craft sighted bearing 220°T, distance about 10 miles. Av.Steam 452, Av. RPM 76.9

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0600-1200: Steaming as before on base course 260°T, 261°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0800 Earaku Island abeam to port, distance 9 miles. 0915 Four friendly ships sighted bearing 270°T, distance 9 miles. 0953 Kiche Island abeam to starboard, distance 10 miles. 1104 Sighted friendly escort and oiler bearing 312°T, distance 11 miles. 1108 Gatuki Island abeam to port. 1148 Possible submarine contact dead ahead, emergency turn to left of 45° to 186°T. 1153 Emergency turn to left of 45° to course 141°T. 1154 Contact false, right 15° to 231°T. 1157 Resumed base course 261°G, 260°T. Av.Steam 487.5, Av.RPM 78.0

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 260 T, 261 G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 1208 Changed base course to 293 T, 294 G. 1210 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1426 Two friendly surface units bearing 319 T, distance 12 miles, reported by USS WADSWORTH. 1510 Sighted three cruisers, four destroyers on the horizon bearing 100 T, cruisers identified as USS SANTA FE, MOBILE, and BIRMINGHAM. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 77.9.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 293 T, 294 G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1642 Two surface craft reported on horizon bearing 320 T. 1748 Two ships, reported as friendly, sighted on horizon bearing 320 T. 1749 Six ships sighted on horizon by USS WARRINGTON bearing 320 T. 1824 Sunset, darkened ship. 1904 Ceased zig zagging

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 7 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

1800-2000: Conti- resumed base course. 1911 USS APACHE contacted on port side of formation. 1913 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams) 1920 USS APACHE joined T.U. 31.5.4, formed astern of transport group. 1929 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 1944 Changed base course to 319°T, 3200G. Av.Steam 458, Av.RPM 77.8.

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 319°T, 3200G at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 2106 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 2130 Surface contact bearing 000°T, distance 4 miles, USS GUEST investigated found barrage balloon which she deflated. 2146 Sound contact by USS GUEST, emergency turn to left to 304°T. 2147 Emergency turn to left to 259°T. 2157 Contact reported false, changed course to 349°T. 2158 Changed course to 319°T. 2203 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams) on base course 312°T, 3200G. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 77.7

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-N, USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AXA12) Monday 8 November 1943.

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0600-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.5.4 in formation as follows:-  
USS PRES. JACKSON is OTC and Guide as leader Section I followed by USS PRES. ADAMS;  
USS TITANIA; Section 2, USS PRES. HAYES, FULLER and LIBRA. Formation screened by  
USS GUEST (Com Escort), ANTHONY, SOUTHARD, DORSEY, BENNETT, HOPKINS, HOVEY, WARRINGTON,  
HUDSON, WADSWORTH. Ship darkened, Condition III set. Boilers 1 and 2 in use.  
0150 Treasury Island abeam to starboard, distance 8 miles. 0205 Ceased zig-zagging  
and resumed base course. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.7.

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lieut. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 319°T, 320°G at standard speed of  
14.5 knots (81 RPM). 0609 all hands to General Quarters. 0620 Changed base course  
to 000°T, 001°G. Section 2 commenced forming astern of Section 1. 0609 Secured  
from General Quarters, set Condition III. 0639 Changed base course to 037°T, 038°G.  
0715 All hands to General Quarters. 0722 Commenced opening interval to 1000 yds.  
0752 Changed base course to 025°T, 026°G. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 73.4.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 025°T, 026°G at standard speed of  
14.5 knots. All hands at General Quarters. 0812 Secured from General Quarters,  
took debarkation stations. 0825 Hoisted all ramp boats to rail. 0827 Changed  
base course to 020°T, 021°G. 0848 Changed course to 012°T, 013°G. 0902 Anchored  
in Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands in 28 fathoms of  
water with 55 fathoms of chain to water's edge to starboard anchor, on the follow-  
ing bearings: Left tangent FURUATA Island 056°T; Right tangent 092°T. 0909 Com-  
menced discharging cargo from No. 1 hold. 0940 All boats in water, commenced  
discharging cargo from 2, 3 and 4 holds. 0955 Commenced discharging cargo from No. 5  
hold. 1140 Many unidentified aircraft reported bearing 267°, distance 56 miles.  
1144 All hands to General Quarters. 1145 Getting underway, prepared to repel air  
attack. 1149 Underway on signal from CTU. Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 45.0.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before, maneuvering on signal from CTU, at General Quart-  
ers, prepared to repel enemy air attack. 1204 Screen opened fire at high altitude  
bombers. 1205 Commenced firing at high altitude bombers. 1206 Dive bombers  
attacking, number undetermined possibly 20 to 30. 1208 Ceased firing. 1209 more  
enemy planes reported bearing 300°T, distance 20 miles. 1214 Commenced firing  
at dive bombers. One plane exploded in midair from LIBRA barrage unaided by fire  
from other ship, also one other damaged. 1215 Ceased firing. 1237 Set course on  
signal from CTU to return to anchorage. 1240 Secured from General Quarters, set  
condition III. 1328 Anchored. 1329 Commenced unloading ship. 1423 No. 1 hold  
completely unloaded. 1435 No. 5 hold completely unloaded. Expended 90 rounds 3"  
ammunition; 1700 rounds 20mm.; 900 rounds 50 calibre.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- All hands to General Quarters, prepared to get underway by signal from  
CTU. 1605 Underway. 1609 Many enemy planes reported bearing 205°T, distance 27  
miles. 1620 Completed formation to repel air attack, LIBRA first ship in right  
column. 1636 Commenced returning to anchorage on signal from CTU. 1655 Secured  
from General Quarters, took debarkation stations. 1712 Anchored. 1830 Completed  
unloading all holds. 1934 Prepared to get underway. 1836 Underway, maneuvering  
on signal from CTU. 1900 ahead, standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), course 215°T.  
Av. steam 112.5. Av. RPM. 18.5.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved: *F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined: *Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Monday  
(Day)8  
(Date)November  
(Month)

1943

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 220°T, 221°G at standard speed of 15 knots (64 RPM). Unidentified aircraft detected throughout watch. 2215 Changed course to 180°T, 181°G. 2200 Changed base course to 140°T, 141°G. Formed cruising disposition with LIBRA second ship in second column consisting of USS FULLER, USS LIBRA and USS PRES. HAYES. 2218 Emergency turn to 185°T. 2218 Emergency turn to 230°T. 2230 USS WARRINGTON reported that suspected submarine contact was false. 2235 Resumed course 140°T. 2245 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams).

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Crossing Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIRRA (AKA 12) Tuesday 9 November 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Year)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08°-23'E.	08°-57'E.	08°-52'E.
Long.	158°-30'E.	157°-17'E.	159°-08'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 31.5.4. in the following formation: OTU., OTC., and Guide in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON leading first section followed astern by USS PRESIDENT ADAMS and USS TITANIA. Second section USS FULLER, USS LIRRA, and USS PRESIDENT HAYES. USS APACHE astern of convoy. Screened by the following escorts in a circular formation around convoy: Comescort in USS GUEST, USS ANTHONY, USS SOUTHARD, USS DORSEY, USS BENNETT, USS HOPKINS, USS HOUVEY, USS WARRINGTON, USS HUDSON, USS WADSWORTH, and two motor torpedo boats. Steaming on base course 140°T 141°G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0103 Unidentified aircraft bearing 250°T, distance 19 miles, course 050°T. Heavy anti-aircraft fire from friendly ships on starboard quarter. 0104 General Quarters. 0109 Screen opened fire on enemy planes. 0114 Emergency turn to 120°. 0129 Emergency turn to 090°T. 0136 Emergency turn to 110°. 0138 Emergency turn to 080°T. 0144 Emergency turn to 130°. 0148 Emergency turn to 140°. 0150 Emergency turn to 170°. 0154 Emergency turn to 140°. 0156 Emergency turn to 170°. 0158 Emergency turn to 140°. 0200 Emergency turn to 110°. 0204 Emergency turn to 080°. 0214 Emergency turn to 110°. 0215 Emergency turn to 140°. 0222 Changed course to 149°. 0226 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams) 0246 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. Av.Steam 487.5, Av.RPM 81.5

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 140°T, 141°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12. 0605 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 0607 Observed sunrise. 0611 Changed course to 117°T, 118°G. Section two changed speed to two-thirds speed. 0614 Section two changed speed to standard speed. 0617 Commenced zig zagging on plan #12. 0758 Sighted unidentified vessel bearing 350°T. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 80.9

*H. M. Pepper*  
Lt. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 117°T, 118°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0938 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 0940 Kolombangara Is. abeam to port. 0955 USS BIRMINGHAM joined formation astern of USS TITANIA in column one. 1056 Possible sub contact, emergency turn 15° rudder to course 127°T, 128°G. 1114 Changed course 80° left 15° rudder to base course 117°T, 118°G. 1119 Resumed zig zagging. 1127 Rendova Is. abeam to port, submarine contact false. Condition green Vella Lavella. Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 79.5

*J. D. Jones*  
Ens. J. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 117°T, 118°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1205 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course 117°T, 118°G. 1213 Changed base course to 090°T, 091°G. 1217 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1300 Tetinari Island abeam to port. 1400 Changed base course to 085°T, 086°G. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78.3.

*L. E. Jordan*  
Lt. L. E. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming on base course 085°T, 086°G as before, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1818 Darkened ship. 1822 Passed Baraku Island abeam to starboard, distance 5 miles.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Tuesday 9 November, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

1600-2000: Conti- Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.7.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(6), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 085°T, 086°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 2305 Ceased zig zagging. 2045 Changed base course to 107°T, 108°G. 2056 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 2200 Sighted Savo Island bearing 135°T, distance 10 miles. 2301 Ceased zig zagging. 2310 Changed course to 124°T, 125°G. Section two forming astern of section one. 2313 Savo Island abeam to starboard. 2345 Formed column, open order. Av.Steam 458, Av.RPM 79.6.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(6), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKAL2) Wednesday 10 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.5.4 in Column open order as follows: STU and Guide in USS PRES. JACKSON, followed by USS PRES. ADAMS; USS TITANIA, USS FULLER, USS LIBRA, USS PRES. MAYES, USS BIRMINGHAM steaming on various courses proceeding to anchorage at standard speed 14.5 knots (31RPM). Comescort in USS GUEST with USS ANTHONY, SOUTHARD, DORSEY, BENNETT, HOPKINS, HOVEY, WARRINGTON, HUDSON, WADSWORTH as circular screen with USS APACHE astern of convoy. Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. 0015 Set anchor detail. 0030 set special sea detail. Observed green flare off port beam. 0050 Proceeding independently at various speeds and courses. 0105 Captain conning. 0135 Anchored off Bungana Island, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in 40 fathoms of water with 105 fathoms of chain on deck to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Ship's head 080°T; White Beacon 105°T; Tineti Point left tangent 075°T; Tineti Point, right tangent 112°T. Av. steam 400. Av. RPM. 36.3.

*C. D. Jones*

Ensign C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

*L. N. Jordan*

Lieut. L. N. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0800 made all preparations for getting underway. 0843 Underway proceeding to anchorage in Purvis Bay in obedience to ComTransDiv2 despatch 092021/November. 0943 Captain at conn, Executive Officer, Navigator on the bridge, standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). Entering Purvis Bay. On various courses and speeds standing up Purvis Bay to anchorage. 1005 Secured Condition III set regular port watch. 1027 anchored in Berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Is., Solomon Islands in 19 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Ship's head 131°T; Beacon "D" 244°T; Beacon "I" 357°T; Beacon "H" 205°T. 1030 Secured special sea detail. 1100 USS FULLER standing in. 1105 USS DORSEY; USS TREVOR standing in. 1107 USS HOVEY stood in. 1130 USS HOPKINS stood in. Av. steam 230. Av. RPM. 13.7.

*S. N. Meery*

Lt. (JG) S. N. MEERY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1405 Underway in accordance with order (Via TBS) from STU 31.5.4 to fuel. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeded on various courses and speeds. Standard speed set at 12 knots. 1455 Hoored port side to starboard side of USS YO-164 with six 8" manila lines, in Berth #15, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands. 1510 Commenced fueling ship.

*E. C. Robinson*

Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Hoored as before- fueling ship - 1613 Completed fueling ship. Received 48000 gals. 1623 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1632 Underway. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 1653 Anchored in Berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 50 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Ship's head 134°T; Beacon "I" 085°T; Beacon "G" 277°T; Beacon "H" 204°T. 1655 Secured special sea detail. Engine Room standing by to get underway on 30 minutes notice by day, and 15 minutes notice by night.

*E. T. Malone*

Ensign E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*H. M. Pepper*

Lieut. H. M. PEPPER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Thursday 11 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored in berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor. Ship's Heading 135°G, 134°T on the following anchorage bearings: Beacon "J" 065°T; Beacon "G" 277°T; Beacon "H" 204°T. Engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use for auxiliary purposes. 0224 Condition RED at Tulagi. 0225 Condition YELLOW at Guadalcanal. 0238 Condition GREEN at Tulagi. 0247 Condition GREEN at Guadalcanal.

J. R. Keller  
Ensign J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before.

E. C. Robinson  
Ensign E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Anchored as before. 0912 YC-49 moored alongside. 0920 Commenced taking on Diesel Fuel. 1000 Finished taking on fuel. 1012 YC-49 cast off from alongside. Received 7305 gallons diesel fuel.

E. T. Malone  
Ensign E. T. MALONE, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Anchored as before. 1205 USS APACHE stood out. 1325 USS WADSWORTH stood out. 1402 USS ANTHONY and GUEST stood out. 1410 USS ROGERS stood out., USS BARON stood in. 1424 USS BRAING stood out. 1445 USS TERRY stood out.

James E. Resworth  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. RESWORTH, C-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1925 Received water barge alongside starboard side. 1955 Commenced receiving water from barge.

J. R. Shanks  
PMS'N J. R. SHANKS, U.S. Navy.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before. 2124 Condition YELLOW at Guadalcanal. 2140 Completed taking fresh water, having received 18000 gallons. Draft of ship forward 13'2". Draft aft: 19' 10". 2145 Water barge cleared ship. 2147 Condition GREEN at Guadalcanal.

D. W. Childs  
Lt.(JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

F. F. Ferris  
F. F. FERRIS, Commander, USN.

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Joseph Weiner  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-M, USNR.

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 12 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0300-0400: Anchored in berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: B'n. "J" 0680T; B'n. "G" 2770T; B'n. "H" 2040T. Boilers #1 and #2 in use.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0655 Received water barge starboard side to, port side #3.

*W. C. Horke*  
Ens. W. C. HORKE, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before taking on water from barge alongside No. 3 port. 0820 USS RENSHAW stood in. 0945 USS FULLAM stood out. 1028 Water barge cast off, received 15,000 gallons of water. 1047 USS ACREE stood in. 1053 USS DENT, stood in and moored alongside Y.C.-164. 1120 USS KILTY, McKEAN, STRINGHAM, CROSEY, and TALBOT stood in.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1330 USS GUIDE stood out. 1410 Condition RED at Tulagi. 1420 USS FULLAM stood in. 1445 Went to General Quarters. 1455 Secured from General Quarters, condition GREEN at Tulagi. USS MAURY stood in at 1500.

*S. W. Berry*  
Lt.(jg) S. W. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1818 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*R. H. Peppers*  
Lt. R. H. PEPPERS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*J. R. Keller*  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN *Commanding Officer*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-V, USNR. *Narrator*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 18

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Saturday 13 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: beacon "J" 055°T; beacon "Q" 277°T; beacon "H" 204°T. Engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*D. M. Seery*  
 Lt. (Jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(3), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0648 Observed sunrise, sight ship.

*H. W. Pepper*  
 Lt. H. W. PEPPER, D-V(3), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0828 USS RALPH TALBOT standing in. 0832 HMS AUSTRALIA standing in. 0835 HMS SHROPSHIRE standing in. 0837 HMS WARRAMUNGA standing in. 0848 HMS ARUKTA standing in. 0849 USS HELM standing in. 0918 USS SIGOURNEY underway. 1158 USS FULLER underway.

*J. R. Keller*  
 Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(3), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1250 USS SPENCE stood in and moored alongside USS WHITNEY. 1315 USS BAROM stood out. 1330 USS OCTANS stood in. 1520 USS PHILIP stood in.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(3), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1601 USS SAUFLY stood in, USS DYSON stood out. 1605 USS BORING stood in. 1610 USS CONWAY stood in. 1615 USS PRINGLE stood in. 1655 USS CONFLICT stood in. 1700 LST-447 stood in. 1729 USS WALLER stood in.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
 Lt. (Jg) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(3), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
 Lt. (Jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-N, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Sunday 14 November, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #16, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following bearings: B'n. "J" 065°T; B'n. "G" 277°T; B'n. "H" 204°T. Engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship darkened.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0727 HMS NATAI stood out. 0732 HMS-233 stood out.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
 Lt. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, C-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
 Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
 Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1630 USS COLUMBIA stood in. USS MONTPELLIER stood in. 1635 USS CONVERSE stood in. 1819 Observed sunset, darkened ship.

*J. W. Keller*  
 Ens. J. W. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*  
 Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Monday 15 November 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #15 Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on following bearings: B'n. "J" 085°T, B'n. "G" 277°T, B'n. "H" 204°T. Engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*Fred T. Barnes*  
Ens. FRED. T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0630 USS WALLER underway, stood out. 0635 USS SAUFLY, SIGOURNEY, CONWAY, WATERS underway, stood out. 0640 USS FULLER underway, stood out. 0645 USS STRINGHAM underway, stood out. 0646 USS PRINGLE underway, stood out. 0648 USS McKEAN underway, stood out. Observed sunrise. 0655 USS CROSBY, DENT, TALBOT underway, stood out. 0800 USS KILTY underway, stood out. 0625 USS CLAXTON underway, shifted berth. 0635 APC-47 underway, stood out. LST-447 underway, stood out.

*J.R. Keller*  
Ens. J. R. KELLER, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0800 LST-334 stood out. 0818 USS ADROIT and ADVENT stood out. 0850 USS AMERICAN LEGION standing in. 0925 USS TREVOR and USS SICARD standing in. 0937 USS DYSON standing in, anchored. 0940 USS DENVER anchored. USS GUEST and USS BENNETT standing in. 1002 USS ALCHIBA standing in, anchored. 1015 USS DORSEY standing in, anchored. 1045 USS GAMBLE standing in. 1137 USS MADSWORTH and TERRY standing in. 1142 DE-167 underway.

*E.C. Robinson*  
Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1320 USS BRAINE underway. 1420 HMS VASHTANUNGA underway and standing out. 1428 USS HELM and RALPH TALBOT underway. 1436 HMS AUSTRALIA and SHROPSHIRE underway.

*J.H. Shankles*  
Jos'n. J. H. SHANKLES, USN.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1712 USS BALCH stood in. 1820 Observed sunset, extinguished all unnecessary lights. 1910 USS STANLEY stood out.

*D.H. Rodgers, Jr.*  
Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*C.D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, COMDR, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER, Lt. D-N, USNA, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Tuesday 15 November 1943

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth #18, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 19 fathoms of water with 89 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: B'n. "J" 066° T; B'n. "G" 277° T; B'n. "H" 204° T, engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*W. C. Rorke*

Ens. W. C. RORKE, D-V(8), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before. 0507 Made all preparations to get underway. 0528 USS ROVEY underway. 0628 USS FULLER, USS PRES. JACKSON, and USS OCTANS underway. 0638 USS TREVOR underway. 0536 USS SCUTHARD underway. 0537 Underway in accordance with TransDivTwo order to proceed to Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands for taking on cargo, standing out of harbor on various courses at various speeds, standard speed 18 knots (84 RPM). Captain and Navigator on Bridge, Executive Officer at conn. 0748 Anchored in berth #28, Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Island, Solomon Islands in 22 fathoms of water with 89 fathoms of chain at water's edge to port anchor on following bearings: Ship's Head 178° T; B'n. "J" 273.5° T; B'n. "E" 249.5° T; B'n. "D" 167.5° T. Engine room standing by on 15 minutes notice during daylight and 5 minutes notice after sunset. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 1.8.

*J. H. Rodgers, Jr.*

Ens. J. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(8), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0948 Commenced loading #5 hold. 1000 Commenced loading #1 hold, commenced loading #3 hold. 1008 Commenced loading #4 hold. 1025 Commenced loading #2 hold.

*H. W. Peffer*

Lt. H. W. PEFFER, D-V(8), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before, loading all holds.

*H. W. Peffer*

Lt. H. W. PEFFER, D-V(8), USNR.

1800-2400: Anchored as before. Loading all holds. 2010 Completed loading #5 hold.

*James A. Keworty*

Lt. (jg) KEWORTY, D-V(8), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*

F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer

*Joseph Weiner*

JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKAL2) Wednesday 17 November 19 43

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0800: Anchored in berth #23, Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, in 21 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the port anchor at the water's edge on the following anchorage bearings: B'n. "F" 273.6°T; B'n. "E" 249.6°T; B'n. "D" 167.6°T. Engine room on 5 minutes notice, boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes. Loading holds #1, #3, and #4. 0235 Secured from loading #1 hold. 0433 Condition YELLOW, secured from unloading, darkened ship, made all preparations for getting underway. Heaved in to 45 fathoms on deck. 0450 Condition GREEN, resumed loading, walked anchor out to 60 fathoms on deck.

*H. K. Ferris*  
Lt. H. K. FERRIS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0630 Finished loading holds #3 and #4 completing loading of cargo, commenced hoisting boats aboard.

*B. C. Swafford*  
B. C. SWAFFORD, CBM, VS-USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000: Anchored as before. 1800 All boats aboard.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before. 2330 Set special sea detail, 3rd section. 2345 Hove short to 45 fathoms on deck.

*James E. Resworth*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. RESWORTH, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. *Navigator.*

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STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12)

Thursday 18 November, 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Re description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	9° - 10' S.	8° - 57' S.	7° - 59' S.
Long.	159° - 20' E.	157° - 17' E.	155° - 20' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored as before in berth #28, Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands, in 21 fathoms of water. Heaving around on the port anchor. Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0005 Underway in accordance with STU 31.5.1 despatch 170125/Nov. Captain at conn, Navigator on bridge. T.U. 31.5.1 formed with USS PRES. JACKSON as CTU, CTC, and Guide and leading column #1 followed by USS PRES. ADAMS, and USS FULLER. Column #2 consisting of USS PRES. HAYES, USS TITANIA, and USS LIBRA, following astern of column #1. Convoy screened by following escorts, comescort in USS FULLAM, USS GUEST, USS HUDSON, USS ANTHONY, USS TERRY, USS BRAINE, USS SOUTHARD, and USS HOVEY. Standard speed 15 knots (84RPM), steaming at various courses and speeds. 0150 Savo Island abeam to starboard, distance 3 miles. 0212 Changed base course to 285°G, 282°T. Column #2 took station on port beam of column #1. 0302 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 73.9.

*R. H. Giff*  
Lt. (JG) R. H. GIFF, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 282°T59, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 0420 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course 282°T, 285°G. 0430 Changed base course to 280°T, 281°G. 0436 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 0453 All hands to General Quarters. 0563 Secured from General Quarters, set condition III. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 80.2

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 280°T, 281°G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 0808 Sighted two friendly aircraft off starboard beam. 0835 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course. 0845 Changed base course to 290°T, 291°G. 0855 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams) 0859 Friendly surface craft bearing 324°T, distance 10 miles. 1125 Passing Tetipara Island, New Georgia Islands abeam to starboard, distance 8.8 miles. Av.Steam 452.2, Av.RPM 80.

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1800: Steaming as before on base course 290°T, 291°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1200 Changed standard speed to 14.8 knots (81 RPM). 1257 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course. 1305 Commenced zig tagging in accordance to plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1306 Passed Rendova Island abeam to starboard, distance 14 miles. 1430 Sighted convoy of 8 LST's and 4 destroyers on the horizon bearing 339°T. 1443 Ceased zig tagging and resumed base course. 1447 Turned left to course 261°G, 260°T. 1448 Sighted 5 destroyers on the horizon bearing 240°T. 1453 Turned left to course 231°G, 230°T. 1460 Turned right to course 291°G, 290°T. 1803 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1816 Sighted USS PAWNEE bearing 348°T on the horizon. 1838 USS PAWNEE joined task unit. 1850 Ceased zig tagging and resumed base course. Av.Steam 457, Av.RPM 77.7

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1800-2000: Steaming as before on base course 290°T, 291°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 1800 Changed course to 310°T, 311°G. 1806 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1835 General Quarters. 1938 Secured from General Quarters. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 77.8

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-N, USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP	<u>LIBRA (AKA18)</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>19 43</u>
		(Day)	(Hour)	(Month)	(Year)
Zone description	<u>- 11</u>				
Position	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>		
Lat.					
Long.					

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 310 T, 311 G, at standard speed 14.0 knots (81 RPM), zig zapping in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagram). 2045 Passed Treasury Island abeam to starboard, distance 23 miles. Av. Steam 460, Av. RPM 78.0

*P. W. Griffin*  
Lt. (JG) S. S. GRIFIN, D-V(O), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN *Commanding Officer.*

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. J-G, USNR. *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Friday 19 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

## OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 31.5.1, STU, OTC, and Guide in USS PRES. JACKSON, Formation as follows: Section 1, PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, FULLER Section 2, PRES. HAYES, TITANIA, LIBRA. Screened by USS FULLAM (Comdesron 45) GUEST HUDSON, ANTHONY, TERRY, SOUTHARD, HONEY, BRAINE; USS PAWNEE astern of formation. Steaming on base course 310°T, 311°G at standard speed 14.5 knots, zig tagging on plan #39. Shi darkened, condition III set, boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0155 Two unidentified planes bearing 038°T, distance 33 miles. 0202 Ceased zig tagging. 0211 Changed course to 000°T, 001°G. 0232 Commenced zig tagging on plan #39. 0310 Several unidentified planes bearing 300°, distance 40 miles. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 78

*H. W. Peffer*  
Lt. H. W. PEPPER, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 000°T, 001°G, at standard speed of 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams). 0408 All hands to General Quarters. Unidentified planes nearby. 0430 Ceased zig tag, resumed base course. 0443 Changed base course to 039°T, 039°G. 0453 Many unidentified planes reported bearing 005°T, distance 11 miles. 0500 Anti-aircraft fire observed off port bow. 0510 Secured from General Quarters, proceeding at various speeds to anchorage, formed in column, LIBRA last ship in column. 0533 38 friendly planes overhead. 0538 Took debarkation stations. 0539 Boat crews and hold working parties took stations. 0541 Proceeding independently at various speeds and courses to assigned anchorage. 0725 Anchored in Express Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, in 22 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to water's edge. 0731 Commenced discharging cargo from hold #1. 0732 Commenced disembarking troops. 0751 Commenced unloading #3 hold. 0749 Commenced unloading #4 hold. 0754 Commenced unloading #4 hold.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before, proceeding with combat discharge of cargo. 0809 Commenced unloading #2 hold; all boats lowered from ship and in water. 0839 LCT-321 alongside #2 and #3 holds. 0904 #1 hold unloaded. 0940 #5 hold unloaded. 1107 #3 hold unloaded. 1113 #2 hold unloaded. 1130 Commenced hoisting boats aboard.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before, unloading #4 hold. 1213 Completed unloading ship. 1228 Underway, steaming at various courses and speeds. 1314 Forming in single column with section #2 astern of section #1. Steaming at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1334 Changed course to 219°T, 219°G. 1401 Formed cruising formation in line of sections section #1 - USS PRES. JACKSON, ADAMS, and FULLER, section #2 - PRES. HAYES, TITANIA, and LIBRA. USS PAWNEE astern of formation, screened by USS FULLAM commesort, GUEST, HUDSON, ANTHONY, TERRY, BRAINE, and HONEY, and SOUTHARD. 1422 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81 RPM). 1427 Changed course to 215°T, 215°G. 1438 Possible sound contact off port bow of convoy. 1457 Emergency turn to the right to 260°T, 260°G. 1439 Changed course to 215°T, 215°G. 1500 Changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1520 Changed course to 180°T, 181°G. 1637 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM), commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #39 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 82.5

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(5), USNR

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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 UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Friday 19 November, 19 45  
(Day) (Date) (Month)
Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			7° - 27' S.
Long.			155° - 24' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 130°T, 131°E, at standard speed of 14 knots (72 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #33 (1940 diagrams). 1600 Ceased zig zagging resumed base course, 1605 Commenced zig zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 1608 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (72 RPM). 1635 Ceased zig zagging. 1648 Changed course to 130°T, 131°E. 1700 Commenced zig zagging on plan #33 (1940 diagrams). 1800 Treasury Island sighted bearing 116°T, distance 30 miles. 1808 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 1812 Commenced zig zag on plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1815 Changed speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1838 General Quarters. 1938 Secured from General Quarters. 1938.5 Emergency turn 45° right to 136°T, 1940 turned left 45° 121°T. 1944 Resumed zig zagging. Av. Steam 450, Av. RPM 74.8.

*L. M. Jordan*  
Lt. L. M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 130°T, 132°E, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 2020 Passed Treasury Island abeam to port, distance 9 miles. 2040 Condition RED at Treasury Island. Several unidentified aircraft in general vicinity. 2131 Made an emergency turn to course 160°T, 2154 Made emergency turn to course 130°T. 2156 Made emergency turn to course 090°T. 2200 Made emergency turn to course 130°T. 2205 Resumed zig zagging. 2220 Made emergency turn to course 190°T. 2225 Made emergency turn to course 130°T. 228 Resumed zig zagging. 2238 Observed searchlights and anti-aircraft firing on Treasury Island. 2245 No further aircraft contact. Av. Steam 457.5, Av. RPM 81.8

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN, Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 20 November, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	80- 57'N.	80- 57'N.	
Long.	157°- 23 'E.	158°- 18'E.	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

0000-0400:

(WAR DIARY)

Steaming in company with task unit 31.5.1 in the following formation: OTU, OTC, and Guide in USS PRES. JACKSON, section #1 - USS PRES. JACKSON, USS PRES. ADAMS, & USS FULLER, section #2 - USS PRES. HAYES, USS TITANIA, and USS LIBRA. Screened by the following escorts, consort in USS FULLAN, USS HUDSON, USS SMITHARD, USS ANTHONY, USS HOWAY, USS GUEST, USS PAMISE astern of convoy. Steaming on base course 130°T, 131°G at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. 0035 Observed sunrise. 0235 Simbo Island abeam to port, distance 8 miles. 0250 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course. 0300 Changed base course to 118°T, 116°G. 0310 Resumed zig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 457, Av.RPM 81.3.

*R. H. Siff*  
Lt. (Jg) R. H. SIFFIN, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 118°T, 116°G, at standard speed 15 knots, zig tagging on plan #12. 0505 Exercised at General Quarters. 0517 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (USS PAMISE reported unable to maintain convoy speed of 15 knots). 0533 16 friendly planes reported on station as fighter cover. 0601 Observed sunrise, secured from General Quarters, set condition III, light ship. 0620 Rendova Island abeam to port, distance 8 miles. 0650 Ceased zig tagging. 0700 Changed course to 085°T, 095°G, section 2 changed speed to 2/3 speed. 0703 Section 2 resumed standard speed. 0710 Resumed zig tag plan #12. Changed standard speed to 13 knots. 0725 Planecrashed in water ahead of convoy. 0730 Emergency turn to course 152°T, 152°G. 0730 Sighted two cruisers, 4 DD's bearing 175°T. 0730 Tetipari Island abeam to port, distance 7 miles. 0741 Turned to course 187°T, 182°G. 0747.5 Turned left to course 090°T. 0752 Turned right to 030°T. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78.4

*H. K. Penner*  
Lt. H. K. PENNER, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 090°G, 085°T, at standard speed 13 knots (72 RPM) steaming at 036°T. 0906 Right 15 rudder to base course 090°G, 195°T. 0907 Resumed zig tagging according to plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0920 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 0922 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course. 0935 Changed base course to 085°T, 087°G. 0931 Resumed zig tagging. 0950 5 surface craft sighted on horizon bearing 320°T, distance 11 miles. 1025 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course 085°T, 087°G. 1100 Sighted Baraku Island on starboard bow distance approximately 25 miles. 1104 Resumed zig tagging. 1152 USS TERRY left screen to proceed as previously ordered. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 80.0

*C. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(5), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 187°G, 085°T, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1300 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (72 RPM). 1408 Baraku Island abeam to starboard distance 6 miles. 1500 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1540 Russell Islands abeam to starboard, bearing 177°G, 176°T

*L. L. Jordan*  
Lt. L. L. JORDAN, D-V(5), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 085°T, 087°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 1620 Ceased zig tagging, resumed base course. 1630 Changed course to 110°T, 112°G.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN *Commanding Officer*

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-N, USNR. *Navigator*



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UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday 20 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Year)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

1800-2000: Conti- 1840 Resumed zig zagging. 1707 USS TERRY rejoined formation and took position astern. 1743 Adjusted course to 108°T, 110°G. 1823 Ceased zig zagging and resumed base course. 1824 Section II formed astern of section I. 1824 Reduced speed to two-thirds. 1832 Changed course to 132°G, 130°T. 1838 Resumed standard speed. 1840 Resumed course 110°G, 108°T. 1845 Formed column open order. 1910 Passed Savo Island abeam to starboard, distance 5 miles. 1940 Set special sea detail. 1955 Pursuant orders from CGU 31.5.1, proceeded independently to anchorage.

*D. W. Childs*  
 Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(0), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on various courses and speeds proceeding independently to anchorage. Captain has conn, Navigator on bridge. 2053 Anchored off Bungana Island, Solomon Islands in 40 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to starboard anchor on following bearings: White Rock 084°T; R.T. Tineti Point 120°T; R.T. Bungana Island 183°T. Av. Steam 11.6, Av. RPM 7.1

*R. H. Griffin*  
 Lt. (jg) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(0), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
 JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP	LIBRA(AKA12)	Sunday	21	November, 19 43
Zone description - 11		(Day)	(Date)	(Month)
Position	0800	1200	2000	
Lat.			6° - 23' S.	
Long.			160° - 58' E.	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored off Bungana Island, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in 40 fathoms of water with 80 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor. Ship heading 098 T, 100 G on following anchorage bearings: White Rock on Tineti Pt. 098 T, Right Tangent on Tineti Pt. 128 T; Right Tangent on Bungana Island 158 T. Ship is darkened, condition of readiness III set. Engine room standing by on 5 minutes notice for getting underway. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*C. D. Jones*  
ENS. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0600: Anchored as before. 0510 USS TITANIA underway. 0615 USS IMPERION, WALLER, SAUFLY, BENNETT, HENSHAW stood out of Port Purvis. 0734 USS BALCH and TERRY stood out. 0742 USS BRAINE underway.

*James E. Nesworthy*  
LT. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before. 0815 USS FULLER underway. 0843 USS CONWAY underway. 0855 USS JACKSON underway. 1132 USS DE-226 underway.

*S. N. Berry*  
LT. (JG) S. N. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Anchored as before. 1335 USS BALCH, WARRINGTON, and DENVER stood out. 1345 USS WOODWORTH and TUMULT underway. 1350 USS DORSEY stood out. 1400 Set special sea detail. 1410 USS FULLER and TITANIA stood in from Guadalcanal. 1415 USS ALHENA underway. 1424 Set condition III. 1440 USS PRES. ADAMS underway. 1443 USS PRINGLE stood out of Purvis Bay. 1445 Underway in accordance with ComTransDiv. Eight mailgram 0015/Nov.20,1943. 1455 USS PRES. HAYES underway. 1517 Formed cruising formation #2, section 1, USS GEORGE OLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, FULLER, PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, section 2, USS LIBRA, TITANIA, ALHENA, and PRES. HAYES. OTU, OTU, and Guide in USS GEORGE OLYMER. Screened by USS ANTHONY (comescort) QUAST, PHILIP, PRINGLE, DORSEY, SOUTHARD, HOVEY, and TREVER. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 3.7

*James E. Nesworthy*  
LT. (JG) JAMES E. NESWORTHY, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on various courses and speeds taking departure from Guadalcanal - Florida Island. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1610 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (72 RPM). Captain conning, Navigator on the bridge. 1630 Officer of the Deck took over the conn. 1710 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). 1725 Formed cruising formation #1, section #1, USS PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, PRES. HAYES, section #2, USS GEORGE OLYMER, OTU, OTU, and Guide, followed by USS CRESCENT CITY, FULLER, section #3 USS LIBRA, TITANIA, ALHENA. Base course 090 T, 098 G. 1800 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81 RPM), commenced zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1820 Observed sunset. Darkened ship. 1905 Ceased zig sagging, resumed base course. 1915 Changed base course to 128 T, 130 G. 1925 Resumed zig sagging. Av.Steam 457, Av.RPM 21.8

*C. D. Jones*  
ENS. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 128 T, 130 G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 2221 Ceased zig sagging, resumed base course. 2235 Changed base course to 098 T, 100 G. 2300 Commenced zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 2321 Changed standard speed to 16 knots (84 RPM) Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 24.8

*R. H. Griffin*  
LT. (JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10) Monday 22 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10° - 51' S.	11° - 27' S.	10° - 03' S.
Long.	163° - 16' E.	163° - 59' E.	164° - 50' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.1. with OTC, OTU, and Guide in USS GEORGE CLYMER. Task unit consisting, Section #1 - USS PRES. JACKSON, USS PRES. ADAMS, USS PRES. HAYES, section #2 - USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER, section #3 - USS LIBRA, USS TITANIA, USS ALHENA. Steaming on base course 098°T, 100°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Screening in circular formation are the following with Comescort in USS ANTHONY. USS TRAVER, USS GUEST, USS PHILIP, USS PRINGLE, USS DORSEY, USS SOUTHARD, USS HOVEY. Ship darkened with condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. 0041 Ceased zig sagging, resumed base course. 0110 Changed base course to 127°T, 129°G. 0122 Resumed zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 78.7

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 127°T, 129°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 0434 General Quarters. 0505 USS SOUTHARD investigating sound contact bearing 360°T; proved negative. 0534 Secured from General Quarters, observed sunrise, lighted ship. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 77.7

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. C. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 127°T, 129°G. Steaming at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78

*S. H. BERRY*  
Lt. (jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 127°T, 129°G. Steaming at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1255 Changed course to 161°T, 163°G. Av.Steam 466, Av.RPM 77.8

*J. U. TRAVIS*  
Lt. Cdr. J. U. TRAVIS, D-V(S), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 163°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). 1711 Nine ships sighted bearing 175°T, hull down, distance 16 miles. 1730 Passed convoy off starboard beam, consisting of six transports and three DE's, steaming on northerly courses toward Solomon Islands. 1758 Friendly aircraft approached convoy from port quarter. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.9

*JAMES B. REYNOLDS*  
Lt. JAMES B. REYNOLDS, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 163°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), zig sagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.8

*R. H. OPIWIK*  
Lt. (jg) R. H. OPIWIK, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. FERRIS*  
F. F. FERRIS, COMUSCANTON, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weines*  
JOSEPH WEINES, Lt. D-V, USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA 12) Tuesday 21 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	15° -22' S.	15° -50' S.	17° 02' S.
Long.	165° -10' E.	165° -50' E.	167° -16' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 32.4.1, in line of sections USS GEORGE CLAYTON, OTG, OTV, & Guide. Section one, USS PREG. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, and PRES. HAYES; section two, USS GEORGE CLAYTON, CRESCENT CITY, and FULLER; section three USS LIBRA, TITANIA, ALHENA, steaming on base course 151°T, 157°G, sig tagging according to plan #8 (1940 diagram). Screened ahead Convoy USS ANTHONY, PHILIP, PRINGLE, DORSEY, SOUTHARD, ROVEY, and TREVER. Standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use for steaming purposes. 0201 Observed moonrise. 0253 USS ANTHONY reported lead bearing 112°T, distance 63 miles. Av.Steam 450, Av.RPM 78.7

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(5), USNR.

0400-0600: Steaming as before on base course 151°T, 157°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), sig tagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagram). 0530 Changed course to 130°T, 132°G. 0534 Changed to 2/3 speed. 0537 Resumed standard speed. 0540 Resumed sig tagging. 0650 Sighted Espirito Santo Islands bearing 055°T, distance 30 miles. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78.2

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(5), USNR.

0600-1200: Steaming as before on base course 130°T, 132°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), sig tagging in accordance with plan #8 (1940 diagram). 1115 Ceased sig tagging. 1121 Changed course to 165°T, 167°G. 1125 Commenced sig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagram). 1145 USS ALCHIRA joined this formation as fourth ship in section three and the USS PHILIP joined the screen. Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 79.5

*J. G. Thwing*  
Lt. JG. J. G. THWING, D-V(5), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 165°T, 167°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), sig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagram). Av.Steam 455.5, Av.RPM 78.8

*S. M. Berry*  
Lt.(jg) S. M. BERRY, D-V(5), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 165°T, 167°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), sig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagram). Av.Steam 457.5, Av.RPM 78.8

*James E. Desworthy*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. DESWORTHY, D-V(5), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 165°T, 167°G, at standard speed of 15 knots (84 RPM), sig tagging according to plan #12 (1940 diagram), ship darkened, condition III set. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.9

*J. G. Thwing*  
Lt. JG. J. G. THWING, D-V(5), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr, USN, Commanding Officer.

*Joseph H. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LISRA (AKA19) Wednesday 24 November 1943  
(Ship) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	25° - 33'S.	21° - 24'S.	25° - 34'S.
Long.	158° - 14'E.	158° - 25'E.	158° - 59'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.1, CGC, CTU, and Guide in USS GEORGE CLYMER; Ships in following formation: first section, USS PRES. JACKSON, USS PRES. ADAMS, USS PRES. HAYES. Second section, USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER; third section USS LISRA, USS TITANIA, USS ALBEMA, and USS ALBEMA. Convoy screened by following escorts in circular formation, consist of USS ANTHONY, USS BORSKY, USS FRINGLE, USS TREVOR, USS SOUTHARD, USS PHILIP, USS NOVBY. Steaming on base course 185°T, 187°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84RPM) zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Av.Steam 452, Av.RPM 79.0

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(3), USNR.

0400-0600: Steaming as before on base course 185°T, 187°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0500 Observed sunrise, lighted ship. 0600 Passed through heavy rain squall, visibility 1,000 yards. 0718 Sighted friendly aircraft bearing 210°T, distance 12 miles. Av.Steam 453, Av.RPM 79.8

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(6), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 185°T, 187°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0928 Changed course to 170°T, 172°G. 1004 Changed zig zag plan to #38 (1940 diagrams). 1148 Sighted Mare Island, Loyalty Islands bearing 252°T, distance 15 miles. Av.Steam 459, Av.RPM 78.2

*S. R. Beery*  
Lt.(JG) S. R. BEERY, D-V(6), USNR.

1200-1600: Steaming as before on base course 170°T, 172°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1208 Ceased zig zagging, changed base course to 190°T, 192°G. 1215 Resumed zig zagging according to plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1248 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.7.

*James E. Masworthy*  
Lt.(JG) JAMES E. MASWORTHY, D-V(3), USNR.

1600-2000: Steaming as before on base course 190°T, 192°G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with zig zag plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 1808 Sighted unknown ships bearing 255°T, hull down. Av.Steam 460, Av.RPM 78.8

*J. G. Whiting*  
Lt. Cmdr. J. G. WHITING, D-V(3), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 190°T, 192°G, at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM), zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). 2000 Ceased zig zagging, resumed base course. 2005 Changed base course to 220°T, 222°G. 2010 Changed base course to 247°T, 249°G. 2020 Resumed zig zagging in accordance with plan #38 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 78.8

*R. H. Griffin*  
Lt.(JG) R. H. GRIFFIN, D-V(3), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Comdr. USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH W. WEINER, Lt. D-N, USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA10) 25 Thursday November, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00°-33' E		
Long.	182°-12' E		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with ships of Task Unit 32.4.1 in line of sections. CTC, CTU and guide in USS GEORGE CLYMER. Section 1: USS PRES. JACKSON; PRES. ADAMS; and PRES. HAYES. Section Two: USS GEORGE CLYMER; CRESCENT CITY and FULLER. Section Three: USS LIBRA; TITANIA; ALMENA and ALCHIBA. Steaming on base course 247°T, 249°G, at standard speed 14 knots (76 RPM). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 D.) Screened by the following ships in a circular formation: USS ANTHONY, DORSEY, PRINGLE, TREVOR, SOUTHARD, PHILIP and HOVEY. Ship darkened and in Condition III. Boilers 1 and 2 in use. 0155 Ceased zigzagging and resumed base course. 0200 Changed course to 280°T, 282°G. 0210 Changed course to 306°T, 308°G. 0220 Commenced zigzagging in accordance with Plan #12, (1940D). Av. Steam 457.5. Av. RPM. 75.7.

0400-0600: Steaming as before on base course 306°T, 308°G, at standard speed 14 knots (76 RPM). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 D). 0502 Cease zigzagging. 0510 Changed base course to 335°T, 337°G. 0523 Changed base course to 000°T, 002°G. 0555 Resumed zigzagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 D). 0600 Changed zigzag plan to Plan #38 (1940D). 0702 Ceased zigzagging. 0708 Changed base course to 025°T, 027°G. Steaming at various courses and speed changing formation. 0765 Changing formation to cruising formation #3 (single column). Av. steam 460. Av. RPM. 75.0.

0800-1200: Steaming as before. Changing formation to single column. 0810 Change of formation completed. Formation of column is as follows: USS GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER, PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, USS PRES. HAYES, LIBRA, TITANIA, ALMENA, ALCHIBA. 0830 Set special sea detail. 0845 Proceeding to anchorage on various courses and speeds. 0911 Entered Bulari Passage. 0916 Passed Tabu Light abeam to port. Distance 1000 yds. 0934 Escort proceeding ahead. 1008 Lt. Comdr. BARTON at conn. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. 1052 Passing over Deгаussing Range. 1108 Passed Anti-Submarine net abeam. Standing into Great Roads, Port Mousca, New Caledonia on various courses and speeds. 1135 Anchored in Berth #A-12 Great Roads, New Caledonia in 6 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain at water's edge to starboard anchor. Ship's head 108.6°T on following anchorage bearings: Beacon "K" 339°T, Beacon "L" 180°T, Beacon "N" 212°T, Chimney 110.6°T. 1147 Secured special sea detail, set regular port watch. Av. steam 455. Av. RPM 53.7.

1200-1800:- Anchored as before. 1418 USS DORSEY stood in. 1430 USS PRINGLE stood in.

1800-2000:- Anchored as before.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

Approved:

F. F. FERRIS, Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. D-N, USNR,  
Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA19) Friday 28 November, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description - 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Anchored in berth A-12, Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the starboard anchor, on following anchorage bearings: Chimney 110.5° T, B'n. "L" 180° T, B'n. "M" 210° T, B'n. "N" 330° T. Boiler #3 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*Fred T Barnes*

Ens. FRED, T. BARNES, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Anchored as before.

*E. C. Robinson*

Ens. E. C. ROBINSON, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Anchored as before.

*Mr. Berry*

Lt.(jg) S. H. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1800: Anchored as before.

*D. W. Childs*

Lt.(jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

1800-2000: Anchored as before.

*D. H. Rodgers, Jr.*

Ens. D. H. RODGERS, JR., D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400: Anchored as before.

*J. R. Shankles*

Ens. J. R. SHANKLES, USN.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. P. Ferris*

F. P. FERRIS, Captain, USN, Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weiner*

JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA (AKA12) Saturday, 27 November, 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.		22°-50'S.	24°-22'S.
Long.		155°-34'E.	157°-12'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Anchored in Berth A-12, Great Roads, New Caledonia in 5 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchoron following anchorage bearings:- Beacon "K" 330°T; Beacon "L" 180°T; Beacon "M" 212°T; Chimney 110.5°T. Ship's head 008°T. Boilers #2 in use for auxiliary purposes.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D.W. CHILDS, E-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Anchored as before. 0600 lit off No.1 boiler. 0715 Put No.1 boiler on main line. 0725 Made preparations for getting underway. 0730 Set special sea detail. 0758 Underway in accordance with ComTransDiv 8, Mailgram 252250/Nov. Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots. (84 RPM).

*D.H. Rodgers*  
Ensign D.H. RODGERS, E., D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Standing out of Great Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia, steaming at various speeds and various courses in company with Task Unit 32.4.2. Standard speed set at 15 knots (84RPM). 0833 Passed thru anti-submarine net. 0909 Changed speed to 12 knots (87 RPM). 1019 Passed thru Bulari Passage. 1022 Set base course 190°T, 152°E. Began forming cruising disposition as follows: USS PRES. JACKSON, PRES. ADAMS, PRES. HAYES as Section I. Section II: USS LIBRA, TITANIA, ALHENA. Section III: USS GEO. CLYMER (CTU), USS CRESCENT CITY, FULLER. 1040 Escorts took position as follows: USS ANTHONY ahead, USS HOVEY starboard bow; USS STRIKHAM starboard beam; USS TREVET port beam; USS DORSEY port bow. 1049 LIBRA assumed position as formation guide. 1050 turned 20° left to 160°T, 152°E. 1102 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 84.1.

*L.M. Jordan*  
Lieut. L.M. JORDAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 190°T, 152°E at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). 1300 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 1308 Changed course to 151°T, 153°E. Changed speed to two-thirds. 1311 Resumed standard speed. 1316 Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 D). 1402 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (81RPM). Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 79.1.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt. (JG) D.W. CHILDS, E-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 151°T, 153°E., at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. steam 455. Av. RPM. 78.0.

*J.E. Mesworthy*  
Lt. (JG) JAMES E. MESWORTHY, E-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 151°T, 153°E, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 Diagrams). Av. Steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.

*S.W. Berry*  
Lt. (JG) S.W. BERRY, E-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Captain, U. S. Navy.  
Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. R-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKAL2) Sunday 28 November 19 45  
(Dist) (Dist) (Dist)

Zone description - 11 A-12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	22° - 47' S.	27° - 38' S.	22° - 47' S.
Long.	163° - 49' E.	169° - 09' E.	170° - 13' E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400: Steaming in company with task unit 38.4.3 as leading ship in section two as formation guide with CGC and CTU in USS GEORGE CLYMER. Formation in following order; section #1, USS PRES. JACKSON, USS PRES. ADAMS, USS PRES. HAYES. Section #2, USS LIBRA, USS TITANIA, USS ALHENA; Section #3, USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER. Screen consists of Convoyort in USS ANTHONY, USS DORSEY, USS TREVER, USS HOVEY, and USS STRINGHAM. Steaming on base course 161°T, 183°G, zig tagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams) at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM). Ship darkened, condition of readiness III set. Boilers #1 and #2 in use. Av.Steam 480, Av.RPM 76.0

*R. H. Giff*  
Lt.(Jg) R. H. GIFFIN, D-V(S), USNR.

0400-0800: Steaming as before on base course 161°T, 183°G, at standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM) zig tagging in accordance with plan #17 (1940 diagrams). 0444 Sighted friendly aircraft carrier bearing 118°T, distance 10 miles. 0522 Observed sunrise, light ship. 0604 Ceased zig tagging. 0608 Left 15° rudder to course 131°T, 183°G. 0616 Right 15° rudder to base course 161°T, 183°G. 0620 Resumed zig tagging. 0630 Screen detached from this task unit, USS ANTHONY, DORSEY, TREVER, HOVEY, and STRINGHAM. 0639 USS JACKSON, ADAMS, HAYES, TITANIA, and ALHENA detached from this task unit, changed course to 086°T, 088°G with USS LIBRA astern of USS FULLER in single column. 0647 Changed course to 148°T, 150°G, forming section one USS FULLER, LIBRA, section two USS GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY. 0650 Commenced zig tagging in accordance with plan #12 (1940 diagrams). 0652 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (84 RPM). Av.Steam 486, Av.RPM 76.8.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200: Steaming as before on base course 148°T, 150°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #25 (1940 diagrams). 1059 Ceased zig tagging and resumed base course. 1100 Changed clocks to comply with minus 12 zone time. Av.Steam 488.3, Av.RPM 78.5

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt.(Jg) D. W. CHILDS, D-V(S), USNR.

1200-1500: Steaming as before on base course 148°T, 150°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). 1302 Changed base course to 140°T, 149°G, resumed zig tagging in accordance with zig tag plan #12 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 455, Av.RPM 78.3.

*James E. C. Kinnaman*  
Lt.(Jg) JAMES E. KINNAMAN, D-V(S), USNR.

1500-2000: Steaming as before on base course 140°T, 149°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #19 (1940 diagrams). 1921 Darkened ship. Av.Steam 457.8, Av.RPM 78.0

*Sam Leary*  
Lt.(Jg) S. W. LEARY, D-V(S), USNR.

2000-2400: Steaming as before on base course 140°T, 149°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM), zig tagging in accordance with plan #19 (1940 diagrams). Av.Steam 457.8, Av.RPM 77.7

*E. D. Jones*  
Ens. E. D. JONES, D-V(S), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*F. P. Ferris*  
F. P. FERRIS, Capt, USN Commanding Officer.

*Joseph W. Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lt. D-M, USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKAL2) Monday 29 November, 1945.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -12

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31°-11'S.	31°-54'S.	33°-17'S.
Long.	172°-00'E.	172°-34'E.	173°-38'E.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.2, OTC, OTU and Guide in USS GEORGE OLYMER, in the following formation: Section #1: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA. Section #2: USS GEORGE OLYMER, USS CRESSWELL CITY. Steaming on base course 146°T, 148°G, at standard speed 15 knots (34RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). Ship darkened. Condition of Readiness III set. Boilers #1 and 2 in use. Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 78.5.

*R. P. Duff*  
Lt. (jg) R.H. GRIPVAIN, D-V(G), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 148°G at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 78.5.

*D. W. Childs*  
Lt. (jg) D.W. CHILDS, D-V(G), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 148°G, at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 452.5. Av.RPM. 78.0.

*James E. Mesmority*  
Lt. (jg) JAMES E. MESMORITY, D-V(G), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 148°G, at standard speed 15 knots (34RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). Av.Steam 457.5. Av.RPM. 78.8.

*S. M. Berry*  
Lt. (jg) S.M. BERRY, D-V(G), USNR.

1600-2000:- Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 148°G, at standard speed 15 knots (34RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). 1615 Un-identified ship sighted bearing 200° hull down proceeding in opposite course. 1650 Friendly Lockheed Hudson circled ship. 1917 Observed sunset, darkened ship. Av.steam 460. Av. RPM. 78.7.

*E. D. Jones*  
Ensign E.D. JONES, D-V(G), USNR.

2000-2400:- Steaming as before on base course 146°T, 148°G at standard speed 15 knots (34 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). 2250 ceased zig-zagging. 2300 Changed course to 170°T and 172°G. 2310 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19 (1940 Diagrams). Av.steam 460. Av.RPM. 78.8.

*R. H. Duff*  
Lt. (jg) R.H. GRIPVAIN, D-V(G), USNR.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*Joseph Weimer*  
JOSEPH WEIMER, Lieut. D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP LIBRA(AKA12) Tuesday 30 November 1945  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0000-0400:- Steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.2 consisting of USS GEORGE CLYMER, OTC and Guide, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER and USS LIBRA, second ship in first section astern of USS FULLER on base course 170°T, 172°G, at standard speed 15 knots (84 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19(1940 Diagrams) Ship darkened and Condition III set. Boilers No.1 and 2 in use. 0039 USS CRESCENT CITY reported surface contact bearing 285°T, distance 1800 yards. 0041 Turned left to course 100°T, 172°G. 0102 Turned right to course 170°T, 172°G. Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19(1940 Diagrams). 0215 Sighted Cape Brett light bearing 184°T, distance 30 miles. Av. steam 450. Av. RPM. 78.5.

*D.W. Childs*  
Lt.(jg) D.W.CHILDS, D-V(O), USNR.

0400-0800:- Steaming as before on base course 170°T, 172°G, at standard speed 15 knots(84 RPM). Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #19(1940 Diagrams) 0411 Ceased zig-zagging resumed base course. 0420 Formed single column with USS GEORGE CLYMER as guide followed by USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER and USS LIBRA, in that order. 0440 Changed base course to 230°T, 232°G. 0520 Passed Cape Brett Light abeam to starboard distance 2.2 miles. 0526 Changed speed to 16 knots (90 RPM). 0530 Changed course to 155°T, 157°G. 0650 Passed Poor Knights Islands abeam to port, distance 7.4 miles. 0723 Changed course to 179°T, 181°G.

*James E. Resk Army*  
Lt.(jg) JAMES E. RESK ARMY, D-V(S), USNR.

0800-1200:- Steaming as before on base course 179°T, 181°G, at standard speed 16 knots(90 RPM). 0819 Bream Head abeam to starboard, distance 3.4 miles. 0828 Chicken Island abeam to port. 0846 Taranga Islands abeam to port, distance 2 miles. 0852 Changed course to 146°T, 147°G. 0854 Sail Rock abeam to port, distance 1.5 miles. 1005 Changed course to 185°T, 157°G. 1012 Little Barrier abeam to port, distance 9.5 miles. 1022 Sighted Flat Rock Light bearing 172°G., distance 9.5 miles. 1055 changed course to 214°T, 216°G. 1056 Flat Rock Light abeam to port, distance 3.4 miles. 1112 Kawau Point abeam to starboard, distance 3.5 miles. 1139 Tiri Tiri Matangi Island abeam to port, distance 1 mile. Changed course to 180°T, 182°G. 1159 Changed speed to 2/3 ahead. 1201 Changed speed to 1/3 ahead.

*S.N. Berry*  
Lt.(jg) S.N.BERRY, D-V(O), USNR.

1200-1600:- Steaming at various courses and speeds in column astern of USS FULLER. 1202 Secured from Condition III, set special sea detail. 1210 Proceeding independently to Auckland Harbor, Auckland, New Zealand. 1218 Received pilot aboard, Lt. R.N. Carter, R.N.Z.N. Changed standard speed to 15 knots(84 RPM) making 2/3 ahead, Pilot took the conn. 1305 Passed Rangitoto Light abeam to port. 1330 passed anti-submarine net abeam. 1425 Received tug(Te Awahia) on port bow. 1455 Received tug (William C. DeLoey) on port quarter proceeding to Western Breakwater Pier, Auckland, New Zealand, at various speeds and courses. 1520 Stop. 1530 Heaved starboard side to Western Breakwater Pier, Auckland, New Zealand with six 8" mainline lines doubled up. 1530 Secured special sea detail set regular port watch. 1537 Secured master gyro and No.1 boiler.

*C. B. Jones*  
Ensign C. B. JONES, D-V(O), USNR.

1600-2000:- Anchored as before. 1928 Observed sunset.

*H.M. Griffin*  
Lt.(jg) H.M.GRIFFIN, D-V(O), USNR.

2000-2400:- Anchored as before.

*J.C. Swafford*  
Examined: J.C. SWAFFORD, EN(PA), USNR.

Approved:

*F.F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS, Captain, U.S. Navy.  
Commanding Officer.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER, Lieut. E-M, USNR.  
Navigator.

F48  
U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

Reg. No. 829  
U.S. No. 02651

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16(01)

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
4 January 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. FLEET.  
Subject: WAR DIARY - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) COMINCH Rest.1tr FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152,  
dated 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, USS LIBRA, for the month of  
December 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A)  
is submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U. S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

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U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

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AKA12/A16/A12.

WAR DIARY

DECEMBER 1943.

1 December 1943: USS LIBRA attached to Transport Division EIGHT, Third Amphibious Force, now moored at Calliope Wharf W., Davenport, New Zealand, undergoing repairs. Present also in the harbor are : USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS FULLER and USS CRESCENT CITY.

2 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

3 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

4 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

5 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

6 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

7 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

8 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs.

9 December 1943: Moored at Calliope Wharf W., undergoing repairs. 1604 - USS LIBRA left Calliope Wharf W., and anchored off the graving dock, waiting for the USS FULLER to clear the drydock.

1831 - LIBRA moored starboard side too Training Jetty awaiting for morning to enter the drydock. The USS FULLER moored to Calliope Wharf, W.

10 December 1943: LIBRA moved forward to enter drydock, at 0915 ship was resting on keel blocks.

11 December 1943: Resting on keel blocks in Calliope Drydock, Davenport, New Zealand.

12 December 1943: At 0625 began flooding the drydock, and at 0735 the ship was waterborne. The gates were opened; the ship moved out of the graving dock and moored alongside Training Jetty.

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WAR DIARY

DECEMBER 1943

13 December 1943: At 0734 the USS LIBRA got underway to take advantage of slack water and anchored off the Training Jetty in Auckland Harbor, waiting for the rest of the Task Unit. At 0862 underway in accordance with ComTransDiv.#8 message 092205/December. The USS LIBRA in company with the USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS FULLER, and USS CRESCENT CITY stood out of Auckland Harbor. All ships ran the degaussing range off Tiri Tiri Matangi Light-house. The LIBRA making her run at 0934 and ending at 1005, then stood by waiting for the other ships to complete their runs. At 1245 Task Unit 32.4.2 formed in the following order: OTC, CTU and Guide in the USS GEORGE CLYMER, followed by USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER and USS LIBRA. The Task Unit proceeded toward Cape Brett, New Zealand, following the recommended track. At 1409 in accordance with previous arrangements, firing practice was held by all ships of the convoy, at a sleeve towed by a plane. The LIBRA fired at 1434, 1439 and 1528. Three runs were made by the plane. Ammunition expended: 22 rounds 3" 50 calibre; 1755 rounds 20mm and 855 rounds of .50 calibre. 1840 Passed Cape Brett Light abeam to port. At 1915 the convoy formed cruising disposition Two (Lines of Sections). Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY. Section 2: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA. The OTC set a course of 010° True, heading directly for the Fiji Islands and commenced zig-zagging.

2000 Position: Lat. 34°-58½'S.  
Long. 174°-30' E.

14 December 1943: Steaming as before on base course 010° True. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.40 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots.

0800 Position: Lat. 32°-31'S.  
Long. 175°-09'E.

1200 Position: Lat. 31°-46'S.  
Long. 175°-19'E.

2000 Position: Lat. 30°-07'S.  
Long. 175°-37'E.

15 December 1943: Steaming as before on base course 010° True. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No.40 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots. At 0755 adjusted course to 008° T and changed zig-zag plan at 1755 to plan No.19 (1940 Diagrams). At 2041 adjusted course to 010° True.

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AKA12/A16/A12.

WAR DIRRY

DECEMBER 1943.

15 December 1943: 0800 Position: Lat.  $27^{\circ}-44\frac{1}{2}'S$ .  
Long.  $176^{\circ}-09'E$ .

1200 Position: Lat.  $27^{\circ}-00'S$ .  
Long.  $176^{\circ}-15\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

2000 Position: Lat.  $25^{\circ}-15'S$ .  
Long.  $176^{\circ}-31\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

16 December 1943: Steaming as before on base course  $010^{\circ}$  True. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 19 (1940 Diagrams), at standard speed of 15 knots. At 0532 the escorts rendezvoused with the Task Unit and reported for duty in accordance with ComTransDiv.#8 dispatch 121830/December. At that time the escort consisting of USS HOVEY, Comesort, USS SOUTHARD and USS DORSEY, took screening positions. At 0720 friendly aircraft was sighted (patrol craft). Unit changed standard speed to 14 knots. At 2250 Cape Washington Light on Kandavu Island was sighted.

0800 Position: Lat.  $22^{\circ}-35'S$ .  
Long.  $177^{\circ}-08'E$ .

1200 Position: Lat.  $21^{\circ}-48'S$ .  
Long.  $177^{\circ}-12'E$ .

2000 Position: Lat.  $19^{\circ}-56'S$ .  
Long.  $177^{\circ}-31\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

17 December 1943: At 0000 upon the authority of CTU 32.4.2 visual despatch 152021/December, the LIBRA with USS DORSEY as escort proceeded independently towards Navula Passage Viti Levu. Reference ComNavBase Fiji Islands despatch 120023/December and ComTransDiv.#8 despatch 122150/December designating LIBRA to proceed to Lautoka. The remainder of the convoy proceeded to Suva, Fiji Islands. Set course of  $332^{\circ}T$ , speed 15 knots and zig-zagging in accordance with Plan No. 39 (1940 Diagrams). At 0535 raised Navula Reef Light. 0600 Ceased zig-zagging and made preparations to enter the harbor. At 0625 the LIBRA passed through Navula Passage at the same time releasing the USS DORSEY who had orders to proceed to Suva. 0817 Anchored off Vunda Pt., Tomba Konandi Bay, Viti Levu Island, Fiji Islands. At 1005 began loading cargo for Torokino, Bougainville Island. 2045 Completed loading cargo. All cargo combat loaded, consisting of 200 tons provisions; 1 ton ammunition; 124 tons general cargo; and 155 tons vehicles (60).

18 December 1943: Remained at anchor off Vunda Point.

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AKA12/A16/A12

WAR DIARY

DECEMBER 1943.

19 December 1943: Anchored as before. At 0825, 9 officers, and 251 enlisted men of the Americal Division reported aboard for transportation. The USS ALCHIBA moored to the wharf in Lautoka, made arrangements to get underway to meet the LIBPA at 1400 (Reference LIBRA dispatch 100249/Dec.1943). At 1402 the LIBRA underway in accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 Mailgram 092145/December 1943, with the USS ALCHIBA following, both ships heading for Navula Passage at speed of 15 knots. At 1523 passed thru Navula Passage and headed for the rendezvous to meet the rest of the Task Unit. At Navula Passage the USS TREVOR joined the LIBRA and ALCHIBA as escort. Course set was 172° True, all ships zig-zagging. At 1840 joined Task Unit 32.4.2 forming cruising disposition two.  
Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY.  
Section 2: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA and USS ALCHIBA.  
Comescort in USS DORSEY plus SOUTHARD, TREVOR, HOVEY.  
At 1841 set course 300° True and commenced zig-zagging in accordance to plan #40 (1940 Diagrams).

2000 Position: Lat. 18°-22'S.  
Long. 176°-58½'E.

20 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 0028 a friendly convoy was contacted. At 0100 sighted patrol plane. At 0610 the base course was changed to 291° True. At 1700 retarded clocks from Zone -12 to Zone -11.

0800 Position: Lat. 17°-07'S.  
Long. 174°-33½'E.

1200 Position: Lat. 16°-43'S.  
Long. 173°-42'E.

2000 Position: Lat. 16°-02'S.  
Long. 174°-31½'E.

21 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 0041 two friendly surface vessels were contacted bearing 210° T at a distance of 16 miles. At 0705 Aurora Island was sighted bearing 271° T at a distance of approximately 50 miles. The convoy passed north of Aurora Island and south of the Banks Group. At 1800 after passing north of Esperito Santo the Unit changed course northward to 318° True.

0800 Position: Lat. 15°-22'S.  
Long. 169°-36½'E.

1200 Position: Lat. 14°-42½'S.  
Long. 167°-54½'E.

2000 Position: Lat. 14°-04½'S.  
Long. 166°-11'E.



22 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 1355 the course was altered to 309° True. At 1550 San Christobal was sighted bearing 280° T at a distance of approximately 40 miles. After steaming along the northeast coast of San Christobal at 2216 the convoy changed course to 276° T and steamed by the northwest coast of the island.

0800 Position: Lat. 12°-08'S.  
Long. 164°-21'E.

1200 Position: Lat. 11°-25'S.  
Long. 163°-43'E.

2000 Position: Lat. 10°-14'S.  
Long. 162°-27½'E.

23 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 0044 the convoy turned north to 315° True. At 0451 the course was changed to due west. At 0730 the U.S.S. LIBRA proceeded independently and anchored in berth #23 off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands. At 2327 the USS LIBRA got underway in accordance with CTU 32.4.2, despatch 230526/December.

24 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 15 minutes after midnight the USS LIBRA took proper station in formation #2, lines of sections: Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY. Section 2: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA and USS ALCHIBA. The screen now was formed of the USS CONWAY, USS ANTHONY, USS HUDSON, USS RENSHAW, USS PRINGLE and USS SAUFLEY, with Comescort in USS CONWAY. Steaming at 300° True the convoy passed between Cape Esperance and Savo Island at 0128. Changed course at 0137 to 260° True and the convoy commenced zig-zagging according to Plan #25(1940 Diagrams), twenty-three minutes later. At 0452 the zig-zag plan was changed to #39. The convoy sailed south of the Russell Islands, then turned north and sailed along the south west coast of the New Georgia Group. At 0702 the USS SAUFLEY had a possible submarine contact. After making emergency turns the contact was believed negative and the convoy resumed zig-zagging at 0711. At 0835 the convoy assumed cruising formation #3. Lines of sections. Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY. Section 2: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA. Section 3: USS ALCHIBA. At 0850, 18 friendly planes were sighted on the horizon on our starboard beam on a northwesterly course. At 1240 the USS ANTHONY reported air coverage on stations. At 1611 the Unit changed course to 313° T and twelve minutes later began zig-zagging according to Plan No. 25(1940 Diagrams). At 1624 the USS SIOUX was sighted bearing 292° T, at a distance of 6 miles and took position astern of the USS ALCHIBA at 1720. At 1830 sighted Cruiser Div. 12 Task Force 39 headed in opposite direction.

24 December 1943: At 2256 Treasury Island had a Condition Red. They secured from Condition Red at 2315.

0800 Position: Lat. 09°-06'S.  
Long. 158°-21'E.

1200 Position: Lat. 08°-53'S.  
Long. 157°-29'E.

2000 Position: Lat. 08°-02'S.  
Long. 156°-02'E.

25 December 1943: Steaming as before. At 0318 the USS CONWAY reported three friendly small surface craft bearing 324°T, distance 1100 yards. At 0435 the convoy changed course to 025°True and took formation No.1. All ships formed in one column: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER, USS LIBRA, USS ALCHIBA. At 0727 the LIBRA proceeded independently and anchored at 0802, approximately 2 miles north of Cape Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands. At 0827 all boats were in the water and began unloading the ship. At 1100 all combat cargo was completely unloaded and at 1115 the 9 officers and 231 enlisted men of the Americal Division had completely disembarked. At 1522 all boats had been hoisted aboard and the ship was ready to get underway. Underway at 1552 and formed formation No.2. At 1846 the Unit commenced zig-zagging according to Plan No.19(1940 D.) At 1945 the USS ANTHONY reported the navy night fighter on station and was in communication with her. At 2203 Condition Red was reported on Treasury Island and Condition Green was reported at 2225.

26 December 1943: Steaming as before on various courses and zig-zag plans running along the coast of New Georgia, South of Buraku Island and the Russell Islands. 1751 Changed formation to formation #2(Lines of Sections) Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY; Section 2: USS FULLER, USS LIBRA and USS ALCHIBA, with USS SIOUX astern of convoy. 2130 passed North of Savo Island and headed for Tenaru anchorage, at various courses and various speeds. 2248 All ships formed one column: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS FULLER, USS LIBRA, and USS ALCHIBA.

0800 Position: 08°-37'S.  
156°-59½'E.

1200 Position: 08°-55'S.  
157°-53'E.

2000 Position: 08°-56'S.  
159°-34'E.



27 December 1943: Proceeding towards Tenaru anchorage. 0055 Anchored off Tenaru River, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands. 1555 Underway for Viti Levu, Fiji Islands in accordance with CTU.32.4.2 . Reference mailgram 092145/Dec.1943, changed 12/25/43 as per visual 252310 from CTU 32.4.2. Since the USS FULLER had received orders to return to the United States, the USS FOMALHAUT was ordered to take her place. The convoy formed in two sections, Section 1: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY. Section 2: USS LIBRA, USS FOMALHAUT and USS ALCHIBA. The convoy was now screened by the USS TREVOR, USS SOUTHARD, USS HOVEY and USS DORSEY. Commander Div.5 in USS HOVEY. At 1700 the convoy passed through Lengo Channel. At 1900 the course was changed to 127°True. At 2208 the course was again changed to 098°True.

2000 Position: 08°-56'S  
159°-34'E.

28 December 1943: Steaming as before. 0040 passed South of Ulawa Island. At 0124 course was changed to 129°True, set standard speed at 14.5 knots. The USS ALCHIBA received orders to take new position 235° from the USS CRESCENT CITY. At 1300 the course was changed to 133°True and continued zig-zagging. At 1732 the USS TREVOR claimed underwater contact was recorded. Prompt evasive action was taken by the CTU. 45° emergency turns and contact was lost. At 2100 the USS SOUTHARD reported an emergency contact, which later proved to be false.

0800 Position: 10°-45'S.  
163°-13'E.

1200 Position: 11°-19'S.  
163°-55'E.

2000 Position: 12°-32½'S.  
165°-12'E.

29 December 1943: Steaming as before on course 133°True, continued zig-zagging. The convoy passed between the Banks Group of Islands and the New Hebrides. 1154 Changed course to 110°True. At 1300 the clocks were advanced from Zone -11 to Zone -12. All ships of the convoy were observed to hold emergency drills. 1426 Course was changed to 114°True. 1604 Course was again changed to 125°True. At 2200 two merchant ships were identified as friendly. 2217 the USS TREVOR reported underwater contact. Contact later lost.

0800 Position: 14°-13'S. 1200 Position: 14°-42'S.  
167°-01½'E. 167°-48'E.

2000 Position: 15°-25'S.  
169°-12½'E.

30 December 1943: Steaming as before on course 125° True. 0030 Course was changed to 106° True, heading directly for Navula Passage. Zig-zagging did not stop. 0850 Course was adjusted to 108° True. During this day the convoy was again observed to hold emergency drills and firing practice. At 2300, USS ALCHIBA escorted by the USS HOVEY left the convoy and proceeded to Suva as previously directed by ComTransGroupThirdPhibFor and agreed to by Commanding General at Suva. 2340 Changed base course to 102° True.

0800 Position: 16°-35'S.      1200 Position: 16°-46'S.  
                  171°-42'E.                                172°-31½'E.

2000 Position: 17°-18'S.  
                  174°-15'E.

31 January 1943: Steaming as before on course 102° True, heading for Navula Passage. 0503 Viti Levu Island was sighted. 0601 course was adjusted to 104° True. 0813 the Task Unit formed one column in the following order: USS GEORGE CLYMER, USS CRESCENT CITY, USS LIBRA, USS FOMALHAUT, and prepared to enter the harbor. 0855 passed through Navula Passage, following in the wake of the vessel ahead. At 1027 Pilot N.W. McDonald was received aboard the LIBRA. The USS LIBRA followed by the USS FOMALHAUT proceeded to Port Lautoka, passing the USS GEORGE CLYMER and USS CRESCENT CITY, who had anchored off Vunda Point, Tambo Ko Nandi. 1234 Moored to finger pier in Port Lautoka, Viti Levu, Fiji Islands. At 1415 commenced loading the ship.

0800 Position: 17°-53'S.  
                  176°-58'E.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

*F.F. Ferris*  
APPROVED: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

F-48

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012137

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 03.

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
4 February 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : ✓ The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh.Restr.1tr.FF1/A12-1/A16-3/ Serial  
7152 of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: ✓ (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA(AKA12), for the  
month of January 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A)  
is submitted herewith.



F. F. FERRIS.

67539

JANUARY 1944

1 January 1944: U.S.S. LIBRA attached to Transport Division EIGHT, Third Amphibious Force, moored to Finger Wharf, Lautoka Harbor, Vitu Levu, Fiji Islands loading cargo for Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville. At 0510 completed loading cargo; all cargo combat loaded;- 180 tons of vehicles, 96 tons general cargo, 138 tons ammunition. LIBRA left wharf at 0808 and proceeded to anchorage. At 0855 anchored off Vunda Point, Tomba Ko Nandi Bay, Vitu Levu. At 1030 received aboard for transportation Bn.Hq. 57th Engineer combat battalion, Major John Rowan, U.S.A., in charge of 219 men and 9 officers for further transportation to Torokina.

2 January 1944: Anchored as before. At 1400 the oiler ATASACOSA moored to port side of LIBRA and commenced fueling. At 1532 the FOMALHAUT, who had proceeded from Lautoka, moored alongside the oiler and began fueling. She completed fueling at 1715, got underway, and anchored off Vunda Point. At 1830 LIBRA completed fueling, having received 130,700 gallons of fuel. By permission of the Commanding Officer the ATASACOSA remained alongside of LIBRA all night.

3 January 1944: Anchored as before. At 0850 the ASATASCOSA got underway and anchored off Vunda Point. 0945 Task Unit 32.4.2 stood in. PRESIDENT JACKSON, HAYES, ALHENA, and escorts HOPKINS, WASMUTH and DMS21 anchored off Vunda Point. PRESIDENT ADAMS and TITANIA proceeded to Lautoka. At 1430 Task Unit 32.4.2 got underway in accordance with movement order No. 2-43 of 29 November 1943 serial 0019A, for Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville. O.T.C. was Commander Transport Division EIGHT in GEORGE CLYMER. The unit proceeded at various courses and speeds towards Navula Passage. The GEORGE CLYMER led followed by the CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA, and FOMALHAUT. The escorts had left earlier to cover the sortie. At 1620 the Task Unit arrived off Navula entrance and passed through. Course was set at 256° True. At 1630 the remainder of the Task Unit, ALCHIBA and HOVEY, was sighted. At 1637, on orders of the C.T.U., formed cruising formation two. Lines of sections, section 1 - GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, section 2 - LIBRA and FOMALHAUT, escorts TREVER, FRUITT, and DORSEY. At 1651 commenced zig zagging on plan #17 (1940 diagrams). At 1747 ceased zig zagging to permit ALCHIBA to take station. At 1755 base course was changed to 291° True. At 1800 ALCHIBA took station astern of the CRESCENT CITY. HOVEY took her position in the screen and became Comescort. At 1801 commenced zig zagging on plan #17 (1940 diagrams).

2000 Position Lat. 17° - 49'S.  
Long. 176° - 29'E.



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AKA12/A16/A12.

WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944.

4 January 1944: Steaming as before on base course 291°T. At 0813 the course was altered to 292°T. At 1700 the clocks were changed from Zone -12 to Zone -11. At 2336, after entering a very heavy rain squall which cut our visibility to zero, the unit ceased zig zagging.

0800 Position Lat. 17° - 01½'S.  
Long. 174° - 06'E.

1200 Position Lat. 16° - 41½'S.  
Long. 173° - 17'E.

2000 Position Lat. 15° - 55'S.  
Long. 171° - 16'E.

5 January 1944: Steaming as before. At 0830, after passing thru squall area, the convoy resumed zig zagging. At 0902 after passing to the north Aurora Island the convoy altered its course 13° to the South. Sailing on this course, the convoy passed south of the Banks group and north of Espiritu Santo. At 1250 a friendly patrol plane began circling the formation. At 1745 the convoy turned north to 318°T

0800 Position Lat. 14° - 55'S.  
Long. 167° - 39'E.

1200 Position Lat. 14° - 38'S.  
Long. 167° - 50'E.

2000 Position Lat. 14° - 04'S.  
Long. 166° - 13'E.

6 January 1944: Steaming as before. At 1420 two aircraft carriers with three destroyers as escorts were sighted bearing 030°T at a distance of approximately 13 miles. At 1648 Santa Ana Island was sighted bearing 260°T at a distance of approximately 30 miles. The convoy sailed up the north east coast of San Christobal until 2227 when the course was changed to 276°T. At 2233 the speed was changed to 13.5 knots.

0800 Position Lat. 12° - 01'S.  
Long. 164° - 29'E.

1200 Position Lat. 11° - 22'S.  
Long. 163° - 52'E.

2000 Position Lat. 10° - 18½'S.  
Long. 162° - 28'E.

7 January 1944: Steaming as before. At 0055 the convoy again changed course and steamed along the north east coast of Guadalcanal. At 0720 the convoy entered Lengo Channel. From Lengo Channel LIBRA proceeded to her berth off Lunga Point where she dropped anchor at 0844. At 0915 five LCV's were sent to Lunga boat pool for storage. At 2305 in company with Task Unit 32.4.2 in accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 Mailgram 092145, LIBRA got underway and began to form cruising formation #2. At the time the convoy was screened by a new group of escorts, consisting of CONWAY, GUEST, BENNETT, OSTERHAUS, RENSHAW, and SIGOURNEY, Comesort in CONWAY.

8 January 1944: Steaming as before on various courses and speeds, forming cruising formation two. At 0028 the formation was formed as follows: section one - GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, section two - LIBRA, FOMALHAUT, and ALCHIBA. 0118 passed south of Savo Island and set course of 260°T, sailing south of the Russell Islands. At 0200 began zig zagging. At 0415 changed course to 282°T. At 0609 passed south of Buraku Island and proceeded on the same course with the intention of sailing south of the New Georgia group. Between 0800 and 0900 various ships of the unit held emergency drills. At 1000 the convoy formed cruising formation three, ALCHIBA moving up and making the 3rd section. At 1028 adjusted course to 287°T. At 1210 passed Tetipari Island to the northward. At 1420 passed 8 miles south of Rendova Island. At 1700 changed course to 312°T. At 1710 sighted tug MENOMINEE, who had orders to join this task unit off Simbo Island. At 1741 passed 8 miles south of Simbo Island. The MENOMINEE at this time joined the unit and fell in astern of ALCHIBA. On this day we encountered continued squally weather, the rain during some of the squalls being so heavy as to reduce visibility to 1,000 yards. The task unit went to General Quarters one hour before sunrise, and one hour after sunset, and zig zagged throughout the day.

0800 Position Lat. 9° - 08½'S.  
Long. 158° - 22'E.

1200 Position Lat. 8° - 55'S.  
Long. 157° - 36'E.

2000 Position Lat. 8° - 05'S.  
Long. 156° - 06'E.

9 January 1944: Steaming as before on course 312°T, passing 8 miles south of Treasury Island at 0004. At 0009 adjusted course to 316°T. At 0345 changed course to 025°T, heading directly for Torokina. At this time the unit formed a single column, sections 2 and 3 falling in behind section 1. CONWAY took position ahead of the column and led the convoy towards the anchorage. At 0533 the crew went to General Quarters. At 0708 anchored in Empress Augusta Bay,



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WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944.

Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands. Lowering of boats and unloading of cargo began immediately upon anchoring at 1058. At 1108 the ship, on orders of C.T.U., prepared to get underway; this was caused by unidentified aircraft in the vicinity which later proved to be friendly. At 1114 six army transports approaching at incorrect altitude and bearing caused the ships to prepare to get underway until the planes were properly identified. At 1125 troops of the 3rd Marine Division consisting of 12 officers and 218 men reported aboard for further transportation to Guadalcanal. At 1140 112 rounds of service 3 inch 50 cal A.A. ammunition was transferred to L.C.I.#24. The ship was completely unloaded by 1215 and boats were being hoisted aboard in preparation for getting underway. At 1455 this ship got underway in accordance with visual orders from C.T.U. 32.4.2, formed cruising formation #1, a column formation consisting of GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA, FOMALHAUT, and ALCHIBA in that order. The convoy was steaming on an approximate course of 215<sup>OT</sup> then altered course to 136<sup>OT</sup>. Passed Stirling Island on port hand. When changing course to 136<sup>OT</sup>, the convoy changed its formation to formation #3.

10 January 1944: Steaming as before on course 135<sup>OT</sup>, passing along the southwest coast of the New Georgia group. At 0900 all the ships of the transport group took part in a flag hoist drill. At 1530 the convoy changed course in order to pass north of the Russell Islands and when Russell Islands were abeam the convoy again altered its course and headed for the Guadalcanal anchorage, passing between Savo Island and Cape Esperance. At 2031 LIBRA was ordered to proceed independently and anchored off the Tetera River, Guadalcanal Island at 2111. The remainder of the task unit anchored near by. The escorts assumed screening (night) stations.

11 January 1944: Anchored as before. 218 men and 12 officers of the 21st Marines, Third Marine Division on board for transportation were completely disembarked at 1000. In accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 Mailgram 092145/Dec. the task unit got underway and proceeded toward Purvis Bay, Florida Island, Solomon Islands. At 1646 LIBRA anchored in berth 22, Port Purvis, Florida Island, Solomon Islands.

12 January 1944: Anchored as before. In accordance with ComTransDiv EIGHT orders this day began an intensive training program. In the forenoon held boat maneuvers and landing exercises. In the afternoon held signal exercises for officers and enlisted men.

13 January 1944: Anchored as before, proceeding with training program. This forenoon exercised officers and men in small boat maneuvers and landing exercises. Exercised the naval platoon from this ship in their proper functions. In the afternoon signal drills for officers and men (signalmen) were held; also small boat gunnery exercises.

14 January 1944: This forenoon one officer and twenty men attended fire-fighting school and practised proper methods for combating various types of fires. Exercised Naval Platoon of the Shore Party from this ship in their proper functions. In the afternoon the entire ships complement exercised at fire drill, and held signal drill for all signalmen.

15 January 1944: This forenoon eight officers and all General Quarters gun crews attended anti-aircraft gunnery exercises at the training center, Siota, Florida Island, Solomon Islands. In the afternoon tactical drill was held for all deck officers.

16 January 1944: This afternoon Officers Tactical Conference was held for all deck officers. In the afternoon holiday routine was set for entire ship's complement.

17 January 1944: This forenoon exercised officers and men in small boat maneuvers and landing exercises, and trained the Naval Platoon of the Shore Party from this ship in their proper functions, simulating actual landing of combat forces. In the afternoon held Officers Tactical Conference for all deck officers. Also held abandon ship drill for entire ship's complement.

18 January 1944: This forenoon nine officers attended fire-fighting school. Exercised remaining officers and men in small boat maneuvers and landing exercises. In the afternoon held supervised semaphore drill for all signalmen and signalmen strikers.

19 January 1944: This forenoon four officers and twenty men attended fire fighting school. Exercised the Naval Platoon of the Shore Party from this ship. In the afternoon held tactical drill for all deck officers.

20 January 1944: This forenoon exercised officers and men in small boat maneuvers and landings. Simulated actual landings as outlined in the Transport Doctrine. In the afternoon held tactical conference for all deck officers.

21 January 1944: This forenoon exercised officers and men in small boat maneuvers and landings, simulating actual landings as outlined in the Transport Doctrine. In the afternoon officers tactical conference was held for all deck officers.

22 January 1944: This forenoon the Commanding Officer made inspection of personnel and all weather decks. Various drills, such as: Fire, General Quarters, Abandon Ship, were held for entire ship's complement. In the afternoon all deck officers attended a supervised tactical conference.

23 January 1944: At 0700 got underway in accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 mailgram 180700/January. Ships in task unit were GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA, TITANIA, and FOMALHAUT escorted by TREVOR, FRUITT, DORSEY, and HOVEY. Upon signal from C.T.U. in GEORGE CLYMER, left Purvis Bay and crossed to northwest side of Guadalcanal. Proceeded from there in a easterly direction through Lengo Channel to operating area in Indispensable Strait. All ships participating in division tactical exercises enroute. At 1300 LIBRA proceeded to assigned operating area and practiced individual ship control exercises, shifting steering control and operating from emergency steering stations also ship handling by Executive Officer and Heads of Departments. At 1600 enroute to assigned anchorage at Tambunimane, Guadalcanal.

24 January 1944: At 0700 underway for operating area, practicing division tactical exercises enroute. Bridge radio was used as means of communications. At 0900 steamed to individual operating area and made practice runs for 5", 3", and 20mm surface firing, as outlined in the Transport Doctrine. At 1200 ships formed cruising formation two with GEORGE CLYMER, C.T.U. and guide and CRESCENT CITY in section 1, LIBRA, TITANIA, and FOMALHAUT in section 2. At 1300 all ships exercised in emergency maneuvers as directed by C.T.U. At 1600 enroute to same anchorage as used on the previous night.

25 January 1944: At 0700 underway for operating area. Practiced division tactical exercises enroute, using T.B.S. as a means of communication. At 1000 proceeded to assigned area for individual underway ship and gun drills, using auxiliary ship fire control and communication appliances. At 1300 formed cruising formation 1, with section 2 astern of section 1 and laid smoke screen upon order from C.T.U. At 1330 the task unit practiced anti-aircraft firing. Rounds expended - 3"/50 cal. - 21; 20mm - 2,692; .50 cal. - 2,230. 1600 Enroute to same anchorage as used on the previous night.

26 January 1944: At 0700 underway to operating area. Practiced division tactical exercises enroute, using T.B.Y. (radio) as means of communication. At 0900 ships formed cruising formation 1 for surface firing. At 1000 surface firing began, all ships firing in turn from van to rear. LIBRA fired 5"/51, 3"/50, and 20mm. Number of rounds expended during test run was: 5"/51 - 5 rounds, 3"/50 - 10 rounds, and 20mm - 500 rounds. At 1300 LIBRA returned to anchorage of previous night, lowered 16 boats to the water and exercised in ship to shore movements. The LIBRA's landing was composed of four waves: Each wave made one trip to the beach simulating landing of troops and equipment, returning to the ship to be hoisted aboard.



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AKA12/A16/A12.

WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944.

27 January 1944: At 0700 underway to operating area. Practiced division tactical exercises enroute, using T.B.S. as the means of communication. At 1000 proceeded to assigned area for individual underway ship and simulated gun drills, using auxiliary fire control and communication devices. At 1300 all ships formed cruising formation 1 and upon order from Division Commander laid a smoke screen. At 1330 the Task Unit practiced anti-aircraft firing on sleeve towed by a land based plane;- number of ammunition rounds expended by LIBRA's guns was: 3"/50 - 17, 20mm - 2,566, and .50 cal. - 1,344. At 1600 steaming enroute to assigned anchorage at Tambunimane, Guadalcanal.

28 January 1944: At 0700 underway to operating area. Practiced division tactical exercises enroute, using T.B.S. as the means of communication. The Executive Officer and Heads of Departments took the deck, for practice in ship handling and changing to auxiliary methods of steering. At 1300 all ships in the Task Unit assembled and had division tactical exercises using flag hoists, with C.T.U. as originator. At 1400 proceeded to transport debarking area, five miles off Tambunimane Beach, Guadalcanal. At 1500 conducted landing exercises as outlined in the Transport Doctrine, simulating the landing of troops and equipment on the beach and establishing a beach head. At 1600 LIBRA moved in and anchored in assigned berth at Tambunimane, Guadalcanal.

29 January 1944: At 0430 put all boats in the water and participated in simulated landing operations with the Task Unit. At 1000 got underway upon order from C.T.U. and proceeded to Purvis Bay area via northwest to Lengo Channel, thence west through Lengo Channel to a point north of Koli, Guadalcanal; then north to our assigned anchorage in berth #25 Gavutu Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands.

30 January 1944: At 0600 underway in accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 mailgram 282255/Jan. Left Gavutu Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands and headed in a southerly direction to the west entrance of Lengo Channel; passed through Lengo Channel and proceeded in a southeasterly direction along the coast of Guadalcanal. At 1000 ships formed cruising formation #3, composed of GEORGE CLYMER, C.T.U. and guide and CRESCENT CITY, in section 1, LIBRA and TITANIA in section 2, FOMALHAUT, and ROCHAMBEAU in section 3. Assigned escorts were: HOVEY, PRUITT, DORSEY, and TREVOR. Proceeded past the south tip of Malaita and then in a southeasterly direction off the east coast of San Christobal Island, Solomon Islands.

1200 Position Lat. 9° - 38'S.  
Long. 161° - 09'E.

2000 Position Lat. 10° - 28'S.  
Long. 162° - 46'E.

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AKA12/A16/A12.

WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944.

31 January 1944: Steaming as before on base course 156<sup>0</sup>T, zig zagging in accordance with plan #11 (1940 diagrams). At 2300 ROCHAMBEAU, escorted by the DORSEY, left the formation and proceeded to Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides. The following positions were observed and recorded during the day:

0800 Position Lat. 12<sup>0</sup> - 31'S.  
Long. 164<sup>0</sup> - 30'E.

1200 Position Lat. 13<sup>0</sup> - 22'S.  
Long. 164<sup>0</sup> - 52'E.

2000 Position Lat. 15<sup>0</sup> - 05'S.  
Long. 165<sup>0</sup> - 39'E.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, U.S.N.R.,  
Navigator.

APPROVED:

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 08.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
4 March 1944.

F-48

Reg No.	3979
R.S. No.	013384

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh.Restr.ltr.FF1/A12-1/A16-3/ Serial  
7152 of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA(AKA12), for the  
month of February 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A)  
is submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.

68279



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

1 February 1944: LIBRA, attached to Transport Division Eight, Third Amphibious Force, South Pacific, steaming in company with Task Unit 32.4.2. Base course 150°T, zig zagging in accordance with Plan No. 11 (1940 Diagrams). Task Unit in cruising formation No. 2 with O.T.C. in GEORGE CLYMER as guide, followed by CRESCENT CITY in section No. 1. LIBRA, TITANIA, and FOMALHAUT forming section No. 2. Escorted by HOVEY, PRUITT and TREVOR.

0800 Position Lat. 17° - 38'S.  
Long. 166° - 25½'E.

1200 Position Lat. 18° - 27½'S.  
Long. 166° - 50'E.

2000 Position Lat. 20° - 03'S.  
Long. 167° - 44'E.

2 February 1944: Proceeding as before on course 150°T. Zig zagging in accordance with Plan No. 11 (1940 Diagrams). At 0300 unit changed course to 180°T. At 0500 changed course to 242°T and headed for Havannah Passage, with the intention of passing south of Mare Island. At 0548 DORSEY rejoined this task unit after having escorted ROCHAMBEAU to Espiritu Santos, New Hebrides. At 1045 Section No. 2 formed astern of Section No. 1, all ships made preparations to enter Havannah Passage. At 1130 entered Havannah Passage, transited same, and later via Woodin Passage to vicinity of Amedee Lighthouse. From Amedee Light, followed the prescribed track towards Dumbea Bay. LIBRA anchored in berth 43, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia, the rest of the task unit anchoring in the near vicinity.

0800 Position Lat. 21° - 56'S.  
Long. 167° - 51'E.

3 February 1944: While at anchor, LIBRA received sundry supplies, and at 1600 got underway in accordance with Mailgram 030130/Feb. for New Zealand ports. The unit proceeded in single column at standard speed of 14 knots (78 RPM) with LIBRA as third ship in column. At 1740 LIBRA passed through Northern Bulari Passage. The escorts, HOVEY, TREVOR and PRUITT, had preceded the heavy ships and covered the sortie outside the entrance. At this time the unit formed two sections, CLYMER and CRESCENT CITY in the first, LIBRA, TITANIA, FOMALHAUT in the second, the escorts took screening stations and all ships proceeded on a course of 180°T to pass well clear of the southern tip of New Caledonia. Commenced zig zagging at this time. At 2030 the course was changed to 156°T heading directly for New Zealand.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

3 February 1944 Cont:

2000 Position Lat.  $23^{\circ} - 01\frac{1}{2}'S$ .  
Long.  $166^{\circ} - 23\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

4 February 1944: Proceeding on course  $156^{\circ}T$ . Zig zagging. At 0535 PRUITT and TREVOR left the task unit and proceeded as previously directed having escorted the unit to the 25th parallel. This left the HOVEY as only remaining escort. At 1100 exercised at General Drills. At 1800 at approximately the 27th parallel LIBRA, TITANIA and HOVEY were detached from Task Unit 32.4.2 to proceed to Auckland, New Zealand, as directed in ComTransGroup ThirdPhib Serial 00100 of 9 January and despatch 310026 of 31 January. Ships formed in column with LIBRA, O.T.C. and guide and TITANIA astern. HOVEY continued screening ahead. At 1807 changed course to  $150^{\circ}T$  and increased speed to 16 knots (90 RPM) with the intention of making Cape Brett early in the morning. The remainder of the unit proceeding to Wellington, New Zealand.

0800 Position Lat.  $25^{\circ} - 33'S$ .  
Long.  $167^{\circ} - 24'E$ .

1200 Position Lat.  $26^{\circ} - 03'S$ .  
Long.  $167^{\circ} - 40'E$ .

2000 Position Lat.  $27^{\circ} - 32'S$ .  
Long.  $168^{\circ} - 38'E$ .

5 February 1944: Proceeding as before on base course  $150^{\circ}T$ . Zig zagging. During the day held fire and gas defense drills. We adjusted our course at 0800 to  $147^{\circ}T$  and at 2100 to  $149^{\circ}T$ . TITANIA developed trouble with her blowers, forcing unit to slow. This coupled to the fact that the sea became moderately rough delayed the unit about four hours. At 1700 advanced the clocks one hour to Zone -12 time.

0800 Position Lat.  $30^{\circ} - 01\frac{1}{2}'S$ .  
Long.  $170^{\circ} - 20\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

1200 Position Lat.  $30^{\circ} - 46\frac{1}{2}'S$ .  
Long.  $170^{\circ} - 56\frac{1}{2}'E$ .

2000 Position Lat.  $21^{\circ} - 52'S$ .  
Long.  $172^{\circ} - 05'E$ .

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

6 February 1944: Proceeding as before on base course 149<sup>0</sup>T. At 1040 sighted Cape Brett Light. Between the A.M. sights, and the time of sighting Cape Brett Light, the unit experienced a decided easterly set. We proceeded on various courses at 16.5 knots, following the swept channel, as designated by the New Zealand government towards Auckland. We were able to proceed at this speed, due to the fact that the TITANIA had made repairs to her blowers. At 1833 passed through the submarine nets and entered the harbor of Auckland, and at 1928 the LIBRA moored port side to Hobson Wharf, TITANIA subsequently moored on the other side of the wharf. HOVEY moored to our starboard side after LIBRA had completed securing.

0800 Position Lat. 34° - 06'S.  
Long. 173° - 50'E.

7 February 1944 to 23 February 1944: Moored port side to Hobson Wharf, Auckland Harbor, Auckland, New Zealand. Various repairs and additions were made on the ship, labor furnished by ship's crew and workmen from ashore. The major items of work accomplished were:- 180 tons of semi-permanent ballast divided evenly among the five holds was added to the ship; two 40mm gun platforms were manufactured and installed and our two 40mm single mounts and guns were installed; two stands for smoke generators were manufactured and installed and both smoke generators were mounted. In addition, the ship's force continued work on chipping, brushing and painting the ship's sides, super-structure, king posts, booms, gun tubs and boats. The crew was given all the liberty possible, compatible with ship's work and local naval regulations.

On 21 February, LIBRA began loading cargo for Noumea, New Caledonia, 31 tons of ammunition, 95 tons of vehicles, and 42 tons of general cargo. As the cargo did not arrive as scheduled, the completion of the loading was not accomplished until the morning of the 23rd. In the afternoon of the 23rd the following U. S. Army troops reported aboard for transportation to Noumea: Hq. Batt., 25th Div. Arty. - 8 enlisted men; 725th Ord. Co. - 2 enlisted men; 8th F.A. Bn. - 1 officer and 25 enlisted men; 90th F.A. Bn. - 4 officers and 16 enlisted men; 25th Med. Bn., Co. "C". - 4 officers and 92 enlisted men.

24 February 1944: At 0800 LIBRA got underway from Hobson Wharf, Auckland, New Zealand, for Noumea, New Caledonia, in company with Task Unit 32.4.2 in compliance with ComTransDiv Eight Mailgram 230215/Feb. The rest of the task unit (i.e. GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY, and FOMALHAUT) had arrived from Wellington, New Zealand, on 23 February. With GEORGE CLYMER in the lead, and the rest of the ships in column as follows: CRESCENT CITY, LIBRA, TITANIA, and FOMALHAUT, the task unit proceeded through the swept channel, passing abeam of Cape Brett at 1608.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

24 February 1944 Cont: At 1635 the unit changed course to 338°T. At 1643 the task unit formed 2 sections with LIBRA in the lead of the second section. At that time all ships commenced zig zagging. At 2000 all ships ceased zig zagging to take advantage of a moonless night.

2000 Position Lat. 34° - 24'S.  
Long. 174° - 08'E.

25 February 1944: Proceeding as before on course 338°T. At 0530 commenced zig zagging, adjusted course to 325°T. at 0600. During the forenoon, LIBRA and various ships of the unit exercised at general drills. At 1400 LIBRA test fired both new 40mm guns. Speed was increased to 14.7 knots. At 1900 all ships ceased zig zagging and adjusted course to 329°T. at 2000.

0800 Position Lat. 31° - 54½'S.  
Long. 172° - 47'E.

1200 Position Lat. 31° - 20'S.  
Long. 172° - 11'E.

2000 Position Lat. 29° - 35'S.  
Long. 170° - 38'E.

26 February 1944: Proceeding as before on base course 329°T. At 0500 Commenced zig zagging. At 0900 the escorts SICARD, PARRY, and DUFFY joined this task unit and took stations. Course was adjusted to 325°T. at 1010. During the forenoon, LIBRA exercised at various drills. While there was no moon this night also, the task unit did not cease zig zagging, as a submarine had been previously reported in these waters.

0800 Position Lat. 27° - 18'S.  
Long. 169° - 00'E.

1200 Position Lat. 26° - 34'S.  
Long. 168° - 27'E.

2000 Position Lat. 25° - 03'S.  
Long. 167° - 12'E.

013384



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

27 February 1944: Proceeding as before on base course 325<sup>0</sup>T. At 0400 course was changed to 000<sup>0</sup>T. and at 0656 to 050<sup>0</sup>T. At 0810 Amedee Lighthouse was sighted and 0910 the unit was ordered to form one column, with the second section astern. The O.T.C. maneuvered to approach Bulari Northern Passage exactly on the range. LIBRA in her turn passed through Bulari Passage at 0956. At 1041 LIBRA, upon orders from the Port Director, anchored in berth B-41, Dumbea Bay. TITANIA anchored in the immediate vicinity, FOMALHAUT in Great Roads, CLYMER and CRESCENT CITY went to Finger Pier docks at Noumea. At 1400 the officers and troops disembarked. The wind noticeably increased so that at 1730 it was found necessary to veer chain. The wind kept increasing and at 1830 regular sea watches were set and the engine room was placed on 5 minutes notice. This condition lasted until about 2200.

28 February 1944: At 0545 LIBRA got underway on orders of the Port Director, Noumea, (270655/Feb.) for Dock No. 8, Finger Pier, Noumea. Proceeded at various courses and at various speeds. At 0757 LIBRA moored starboard side to Dock No. 8 and commenced discharging cargo; discharging was completed at 1410. At 1735 commenced loading cargo for Guadalcanal, Soloman Islands.

29 February 1944: Moored as before, loading cargo. At 1945 LIBRA completed loading having loaded 735 tons of vehicles and general cargo. The ship also loaded 67 tons of lumber.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR.,  
Navigator.

*F. F. Ferris*  
Approved: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

No. 946  
R.S. No. 018467

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 014.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
5 April 1944.

From: ~~The~~ Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA.  
To : ~~The~~ Commander-In-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh. Restr. ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, serial  
7152 of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12), for the month  
of March 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is  
submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.



WAR DIARY

1 March 1944: LIBRA attached to Transport Division Eight, Third Amphibious Force, and part of Task Unit 32.4.2 now moored starboard side to dock 8 Finger Pier, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 0530, with loading operations completed, in accordance with orders from Port Director got underway and proceeded to berth A-5, Great Roads, Noumea, anchoring there at 0608.

2 March 1944: Anchored as before.

3 March 1944: At 1230 got underway and shifted berth to Dumbea Bay, New Caledonia, berth 32. LIBRA was moved so as to be closer to Transport Division Eight and clear the inner harbor for incoming ships.

4 to 7 March (inclusive): Anchored as before. Crew was exercised intensively at various drills, chiefly those involving ship to shore movement.

8 March 1944: At 1145, 2 officers and 75 enlisted men of the 14th Defense Battalion, First Marine Amphibious Corps reported aboard for transportation to Guadalcanal. LIBRA got underway for Guadalcanal at 1625 in company with Task Unit 32.4.2 in accordance with C.T.U. 32.4.2 mailgram 062245, Captain F.R. TALBOT, USN., Commander Transport Division Eight, GEORGE CLYMER, flagship. Escorts, DUFFY, BREESE, and STANSBURY, had preceded the heavy ships to cover their sortie. At 1805 LIBRA, in her turn, passed through Northern Bulari Passage. When all the ships had passed through, and upon orders of the C.T.U. in GEORGE CLYMER, the convoy was disposed into two sections: 1st section, GEORGE CLYMER, CRESCENT CITY; 2nd section, LIBRA, LEEDSTOWN, and FOMALHAUT. The escort took screening positions and the unit proceeded on course 296° and commenced zig zagging.

2000 Position Lat. 22°- 25'S.  
Long. 166°- 01'E.

9 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At dawn friendly patrol planes were sighted and at 0700 one plane began towing a sleeve. Upon orders from the C.T.U., the second section formed astern of the first in preparation for firing practice. The plane made a series of runs along the port and starboard side of the column. The ships firing in turn as the plane flew by. LIBRA commenced firing at 0717 and ceased firing on the last run at 0854. The O.T.C. had difficulty in establishing voice communication with the towing plane. This was later achieved and better runs subsequently resulted. Ammunition expended - 84 rounds 40mm, 1,022 rounds 20mm, and 757 rounds .50 cal. At 0930 the unit re-formed two sections. At 1015, while zig zagging, the main oil line to the starboard cylinder cracked, causing the hydraulic system to lose all oil and steering power was therefore lost. Prompt action was taken, the ship stopped, the danger whistle signal sounded, and the breakdown flag broken. All ships of the unit kept clear of LIBRA. On orders of the C.T.U. the LEEDSTOWN became section guide of column two, and DUFFY dropped back to escort LIBRA then proceeding at 1/3 speed. LIBRA, a bit later, increased speed to 2/3 as the condition of the wind and sea enabled a general course in the direction of the convoy to be maintained.

9 March 1944 continued: Repairs to the steering engine were undertaken promptly and at 1158, the line had been removed, welded, and replaced. The crack in the oil line was caused by vibration and aggravated by the gun fire. A brace has subsequently been installed on this line to reduce the normal vibration.

0800 Position Lat. 20°- 52'S.  
Long. 163°- 41½'E.

1200 Position Lat. 20°- 22'S.  
Long. 163°- 16'E.

2000 Position Lat. 18°- 52'S.  
Long. 162°- 27'E.

10 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0905 the RADFORD joined this task unit, and was assigned a position in the screen. At 0915 the unit, on orders from the C.T.U., commenced tactical maneuvering exercises as directed by confidential letter, Commander Transport Group, serial 0141 of 25 February 1944. The front was broadened at 1130, and the LEEDSTOWN became section III; this provided greater opportunity and scope for the exercises. At 1235 the exercises were concluded and the convoy proceeded toward Guadalcanal. LIBRA adjudged the methods as set forth in the above letter to be a decided improvement on the former methods for changing course and axis. At 2023 standard speed was reduced to 13 knots.

0800 Position Lat. 16°- 21'S.  
Long. 162°- 47'E.

1200 Position Lat. 15°- 24'S.  
Long. 162°- 52½'E.

2000 Position Lat. 13°- 40½'S.  
Long. 163°- 28½'E.

11 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1210 sighted San Christobal Island. The unit followed the prescribed track and passed Santa Anna Island at 1512. At 1808 the front was narrowed, LEEDSTOWN falling in astern of section 2. Still following the track the unit passed between Ulawa and Aliiti Islands at 1925.

0800 Position Lat. 11°- 27'S.  
Long. 163°- 50½'E.

1200 Position Lat. 10°- 57'S.  
Long. 163°- 08'E.

2000 Position Lat. 10°- 03'S.  
Long. 161°- 50½'E.

12 March 1944: Proceeding as before. Passed Nura and Rua Sura Islands to port. A single column was formed at 0457, to pass through Lengo Channel. LIBRA passed through at 0600, and anchored off Tetere River, Guadalcanal at 0627. The remainder of the unit anchored in the vicinity. At 0820 began unloading cargo and finished unloading all cargo belonging to the 14th Defense Battalion at 2115. The 14th Defense Battalion, U.S.M.C., disembarked at 2145.

13 March 1944: Anchored as before. Got underway at 0600 for Doma Cove, Guadalcanal, to discharge remaining cargo which was assigned to 27th Construction Battalion, U.S.N. Anchored there at 0811, and completed discharging cargo by 1330. In obedience to C.T.U. 32.4.2 visual message 131300 of March, got underway for Lunga Point, Guadalcanal and anchored there at 1602. Discharged lumber destined for the Supply Officer, Guadalcanal, by 2000.

14 March 1944: Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal. At 0602 got underway in accordance with Commander Transport Group, Third Amphibious Force despatch 120431/March for Tulagi, Florida Island escorted by DUFFY. Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island at 0748.

15 to 18 March (inclusive): Anchored as before. During this period intensive training exercises in landing operations and boat maneuvers were held.

19 March 1944: Anchored as before. At 0644 began loading cargo and finished at 1100. At 1130 got underway for Gavutu Harbor to pick up more cargo as ordered by Commander Transport Group, Third Amphibious Force NR radio despatch 180244 of March. LIBRA anchored in Gavutu Harbor at 1227 and commenced loading at 1430.

20 March 1944: Anchored as before. At 0629 LIBRA left Gavutu anchorage and anchored in Furvis Bay to pick up additional cargo. Began loading at 0722 and completed loading at 1405. At 1330 eight officers and 136 enlisted men reported aboard for transportation to Emirau Island.

21 March 1944: Anchored as before. At 0619 got underway for Tenaru, Guadalcanal to finish loading cargo. LIBRA was escorted to Tenaru by ENGLAD, anchoring off Tenaru River at 0817. LIBRA began loading the remainder of her cargo upon anchoring, and completed loading at 1610.

22 March 1944: Anchored as before. At 1300 LIBRA got underway in accordance with T.G. 31.4 movement order 210058/March, in company with T.G. 31.4. Captain A.B. ANDERSON, U.S.N., in command of Transport Division Two and T.G. 31.4., PRESIDENT JACKSON, flagship. This comprised the second echelon to Emirau Island. The T.G. consisted of T.U. 31.4.1 and 31.4.2. C.T.G. 31.4, C.T.U. 31.4.1, O.T.C. and Guide in PRESIDENT JACKSON. Task Unit 31.4.1 was disposed as follows: section one, PRESIDENT HAYES, ALCHIBA, MENOMINEE; section two, PRESIDENT JACKSON, LIBRA, BELLEGROVE; section three, PRESIDENT ADAMS, TITANIA. The escort was T.U. 31.4.2., C.T.U. in WALLER, the rest of the escort was disposed in anti-submarine screen and consisted of GREENWOOD, HUDSON, BENNETT, CONWAY, LOESER, RENSHAW, and PHILLIP. The convoy laid its course to proceed between Savo and Florida Islands, passed east of Santa Isabel and proceeded to its destination on the track laid down by Commander Transport Group, Third Amphibious Force.

2000 Position Lat. 7°- 57'S.  
Long. 159°- 59'E.



CONFIDENTIAL

23 March 1944: Steaming as before towards Emirau. At 0735 PAWNEE joined T.U. 31.4.1 and took station as 3rd ship in section three. PAWNEE had been detached from the 1st echelon, which was then returning to Guadalcanal.

0800 Position Lat. 5°- 43'S.  
Long. 158°- 23'E.

1200 Position Lat. 5°- 05'S.  
Long. 158°- 09'E.

2000 Position Lat. 4°- 01'S.  
Long. 156°- 54'E.

24 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1000 friendly fighter planes were sighted, these planes came from a carrier force in our vicinity. The C.T.G. held emergency maneuvering exercises in the morning. At 1440 an aircraft crash boat (C-24374) joined T.U. 31.4.1 and took station in the rear of the first section. At 1450 sighted Lihir Island to the southward.

0800 Position Lat. 2°- 32'S.  
Long. 154°- 36'E.

1200 Position Lat. 2°- 25'S.  
Long. 153°- 44'E.

2000 Position Lat. 2°- 07½'S.  
Long. 152°- 12'E.

25 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0517 the CONWAY and LOESER proceeded ahead to check navigation. At 0550 sighted Emirau Island. LIBRA was ordered to proceed to unloading area at 0623 and commenced discharging cargo at 0813. During this time LIBRA had been feeling her way in closer to shore. The sounding machine indicated a bank between Emirau and Elomusao Islands. LIBRA anchored at 0826 in 45 fathoms of water and at the same time continued unloading. At 1300 disembarked eight officers and 136 enlisted men, at the same time sending ashore 4 - LCM crews and 3 - LCM's to join the boat pool on Emirau Island. LIBRA completed unloading all cargo at 1316, hoisted all boats aboard and got underway at 1425 to get closer to the rest of the task unit. LIBRA lay to, waiting for the rest of the ships to unload. At 1910 C.T.G. gave orders for the ships to form cruising disposition. The GREENWOOD, BENNETT, and MENOMINEE were left behind to escort the BELLEGROVE, who had not completed unloading. The rest of the second echelon departed for Guadalcanal.

2000 Position Lat. 1°- 50'S.  
Long. 150°- 03'E.

26 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0220 a carrier task unit was contacted. This unit was the MANILA BAY, escorted by WARRINGTON, BALCH, and WILSON. At 0800 the carrier and her three escorts joined this T.G., and kept her fighter planes in the air all day covering the T.G. At 1910, MANILA BAY and her escorts left the formation.

0800 Position Lat. 2°- 17'S.  
Long. 152°- 26'E.

1200 Position Lat. 2°- 25'S.  
Long. 153°- 13'E.

2000 Position Lat. 2°- 41'S.  
Long. 154°- 41'E.

27 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1332 HUDSON reported a possible submarine contact. The O.T.C. took evasive action. At 1350 the convoy resumed its course towards Guadalcanal.

0800 Position Lat. 4°- 07'S.  
Long. 156°- 42'E.

1200 Position Lat. 4°- 42'S.  
Long. 157°- 27'E.

2000 Position Lat. 6°- 05'S.  
Long. 158°- 42'E.

28 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0940 passed between Savo Island and Florida Island. At 1052, LIBRA was detached from T.U. 31.4.1 and ordered to anchor in Gavutu Harbor, Florida Island.

0800 Position Lat. 8°- 40'S.  
Long. 160°- 01'E.

29 March 1944: Anchored as before. At 1610 got underway in accordance with Commander Third Fleet despatch 270500/March in company with T.U. 34.9.2. The unit rendezvoused off Bungana Island and proceeded in column toward Sealark Channel, passing through at 1833. On orders from the C.T.U., the unit formed cruising disposition as follows: section one, APPALACHIAN, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, BIDDLE; section two, FAYETTE, WARREN, LEEDSTOWN. The O.T.C., C.T.U., and guide in FAYETTE. Ships screened by DORSEY (Comescort), WILLIAMSON, and SICARD. The T.U. proceeded on route as ordered by Commander Transport Group, Third Amphibious Force towards Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

2000 Position Lat. 9°- 24'S.  
Long. 160°- 40'E.

30 March 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1650 HOPKINS and TREVOR joined this unit and took positions in the anti-submarine screen. HOPKINS assumed duties as Comescort.

0800 Position Lat. 9°- 16'S.  
Long. 163°- 01'E.

1200 Position Lat. 9°- 01'S.  
Long. 163°- 48'E.

2000 Position Lat. 8°- 27'S.  
Long. 165°- 26½'E.

31 March 1944: Proceeding as before. Test fired after 40mm gun. Rounds expended: 6 - 3"50 Cal (Star shells), 32 - 40mm (AP), and 17-40mm (AA).

0800 Position Lat. 7°- 36'S.  
Long. 167°- 49½'E.

1200 Position Lat. 7°- 18'S.  
Long. 168°- 36'E.

2000 Position Lat. 6°- 45'S.  
Long. 170°- 17'E.

*Joseph Weiner*  
JOSEPH WEINER,  
Lieut., D-M, USNR,  
Navigator.

*F. F. Ferris*  
Approved: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



Page No. 789  
S.S. No. 11 JUN 1944

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 020.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
10 May 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr FF1/A12-1/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12), for the month  
of April 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (a) is  
submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.

cc: CincPac.

74415

CONFIDENTIAL

## U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

- 12 Zone

1 April 1944: The LIBRA attached to Transport Division Eight (Captain Ralph Talbot, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division Eight, GEORGE CLYMER, Flagship), is presently operating with Transport Division Six (Captain William Brittain, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division Six, FAYETTE, Flagship). A part of Task Unit 34.9.6, LIBRA proceeding to Kwajalein. At 0300 the APPALACHIAN, ALCHIBA, and WILLIAMSON were detached and proceeded as previously directed. The remainder of the task unit remained on its northerly course.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 05°- 06'S	Lat. 04°- 15'S	Lat. 02°- 38'S
Long. 171°- 52'E	Long. 171°- 48'E	Long. 172°- 02'E

2 April 1944: Proceeding as before. During the morning, test fired the 3"/50 cal and 40 mm anti-aircraft guns, expending 3 rounds of 3"/50 cal star shells, 16 rounds of 3"/50 cal service, and 116 rounds of 40 mm.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 00°- 03'S	Lat. 00°- 48'N	Lat. 02°- 33'N
Long. 172°- 21'E	Long. 172°- 17'E	Long. 171°- 57'E

3 April 1944: Proceeding as before on a northerly course towards Kwajalein.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 04°- 48'N	Lat. 06°- 06'N	Lat. 07°- 44'N
Long. 171 2 13'E	Long. 170°- 52'E	Long. 169°- 57'E

4 April 1944: Proceeding as before on a northerly course. At 0445 sighted lights from Kwajalein bearing 301°T and at 0600 sighted Kwajalein Atoll. LIBRA entered the Atoll through Gea Passage and, after fueling ship, anchored in Southern Anchorage. At 1441 in accordance with visual instruction from C.T.U., got underway and formed column as follows: FAYETTE, LIBRA, LEEDSTOWN. Steered various courses conforming to the buoyed channel of the Kwajalein-Roi Highway and at 1815 anchored off Roi Island.

5 April 1944: Anchored as before. At 1447 got underway shifting berths and at 1502 anchored off Ennubin Island. Commenced loading ship at 1845.

6 April 1944: Anchored as before. Loading ship. The ship completed loading at 1345. During the loading operation, approximately 6½ hours time was lost because boats could not make the beach during low tide. During the loading period the following troops came aboard for transportation to Guadalcanal: 3 officers and 103 enlisted men of the Second Tank Co., 3 officers and 47 enlisted men of the Second Transportation Co. These troops were part of the 22nd Marine Regiment of the 1st Marine Division.

7 April 1944: Anchored as before.

8 April 1944: Anchored as before. Got underway at 0813 and passed out of Kwajalein Atoll through Ivan Pass. After passing around the northern end of the Atoll, LIBRA proceeded on a southerly course, in company with T.U. 34.9.6 for Guadalcanal.

8 April 1944: Continued:-

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 09°- 06'N	Lat. 07°- 19'N
	Long. 167°- 52'E	Long. 167°- 31'E

9 - 11 April 1944: Proceeding as before in a southerly direction.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
9th	Lat. 04°- 36'N	Lat. 03°- 46'N
	Long. 167°- 40'E	Long. 168°- 47'E

10th	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 00°- 23'N	Lat. 00°- 27'S	Lat. 02°- 10'S
	Long. 170°- 28'E	Long. 171°- 01'E	Long. 170°- 42'E

11th	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 04°- 45'S	Lat. 05°- 30'S	Lat. 06°- 35'S
	Long. 169°- 50'E	Long. 169°- 24'E	Long. 167°- 43'E

12 April 1944: Proceeding as before. In the morning anti-aircraft practice was held expending 4 rounds of 3"/50 cal star shells, 126 rounds of 40 mm, 1,167 rounds of 20 mm, and 990 rounds of .50 cal. At 1830 retarded all ship's clocks one hour to conform with zone -11 time. Ulawa Island was sighted at 2130 bearing 240°T, distance 25 miles.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 08°- 03'S	Lat. 08°- 36'S
	Long. 164°- 50'E	Long. 164°- 34'E
		Lat. 09°- 25'S
		Long. 162°- 42'E

13 April 1944: Proceeding as before. After passing south of Malaita, proceeded towards Guadalcanal along established routes. At 1034 LIBRA anchored off Tassafaronga. Began unloading ship at 1130 and were completely unloaded 5½ hours later.

14 April 1944: Anchored as before. At 0802 LIBRA got underway and proceeded to Tulagi Harbor, anchoring there at 1026 in berth #20.

15 - 19 April 1944: Anchored in Tulagi Harbor doing ship's work.

20 April 1944: Anchored as before. At 1000, LIBRA got underway in accordance with C.T.D. 24's Mailgram; proceeded in company with DU PAGE, WARREN, LEEDSTOWN, FAYETTE, and BIDDLE for Tenaru anchorage, anchoring there at 1445. At 1700 commenced loading ship.

21 April 1944: Anchored off Tenaru Beach; loading ship. At 1735 LIBRA was completely loaded.

22 - 24 April 1944: Anchored off Tenaru Beach. During this period ship's work was carried out. Emergency and general drills were held.

25 April 1944: Anchored as before. At 1558 LIBRA got underway in accordance with C.T.U. 31.9.6 visual despatch 241950/April, Movement Order Number 6-44 for Cape Gloucester, New Britain. WITTER, STANSBURY, TREVIER, and SIGOURNEY provided anti-submarine and anti-air screen as the rest of the Task Unit sortied in to cruising formation. At 1624 cruising formation was completed, with FAYETTE, O.T.C., C.T.U., and guide, LEMDSTOWN, WARREN in the first section; LIBRA, BIDDLE, DU PAGE in the second section. The escorts took their screening positions ahead of the formation. The Task Unit proceeded on a westerly course in order to pass between Savo Island and the northwest tip of Guadalcanal, then south of the Russell Islands.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
			Lat. 09° - 16'S
			Long. 159° - 15'E

26 April 1944: Proceeding as before in a westerly direction, zig zagging at all times. During the day Rendova and Simbo Islands were passed on our starboard hand.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 08° - 53'S	Lat. 08° - 42'S	Lat. 08° - 16'S
	Long. 156° - 44'E	Long. 155° - 51'E	Long. 154° - 06'E

27 April 1944: Proceeding as before on a westerly course. During the afternoon watch LIBRA test fired the port battery.. Rounds of ammunition expended: 6 rounds 3"/50 cal illuminating; 130 rounds of 40 mm, and 1,035 rounds of 20 mm.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 07° - 29'S	Lat. 07° - 13'S	Lat. 06° - 42'S
	Long. 151° - 35'E	Long. 150° - 40'E	Long. 149° - 06'E

28 April 1944: Proceeding as before in a westerly direction. Early during the mid-watch New Guinea Island was sighted and the course was changed to the northwest. This and numerous other course changes enabled the Task Unit to pass through the waters between New Guinea and Umboi Island. At 0730 the Task Unit passed south of Tolokiwa Island and commenced steaming on a northeast course. Passed Sakar Island abeam to starboard at 0945. The LIBRA anchored in Borgen Bay, New Britain at 1342 and shortly after commenced discharging cargo.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 05° - 20'S		
	Long. 147° - 43'E		

29 April 1944: Anchored as before unloading ship. At 0140 the LIBRA was completely unloaded, and all troops were disembarked. At 0330 began loading equipment of the 1st Marine Division for transportation to Russell Islands. Upon order from C.T.U.

29 April 1944: Continued:- colors were flown at half mast, commemorating the death of the Secretary of the Navy.

30 April 1944: Anchored as before, loading ship. At 1100 the ship was completely loaded and all troops were embarked. During the afternoon watch troops were exercised at abandon ship drill.

*R. H. Griffin*

Submitted: R. H. GRIFIN,  
Lieut.(jg), D-V(G), USNR,  
Navigator.

*F. F. Ferris*

Approved: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.


## U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 022.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
6 June 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr FF1/A12/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12), for the month  
of May 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is  
submitted herewith.

  
F. F. FERRIS.

cc: CincPac.

78325



U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)

WAR DIARY

MAY 1944

ENCLOSURE (A)

2

## U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

(ZONE TIME -11)

1 May 1944: The LIBRA attached to Transport Division Eight, (Captain Frank R. Talbot, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division Eight, GEORGE CLYMER, Flagship), is at present operating with Transport Division Six, (Captain T. B. Brittain, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division Six, FAYETTE, Flagship), as a part of Task Unit 34.9.6.;-LIBRA anchored in Borgen Bay, New Britain. Got underway shortly before the forenoon watch and took departure from Borgen Bay. Once outside the reefs, the task unit formed cruising disposition and set a westerly course, passing between Umboi and Tolakiwa Islands; thence in a southerly direction between Umboi and New Guinea. When the task unit reached a point south of Umboi Island, an easterly course was set towards the Russell Islands.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
		Lat. 06°- 27'S
		Long. 168°- 54'E

2 May 1944: Proceeding as before on an easterly course; towards Russell Islands, Solomon Islands.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 07°- 32'S	Lat. 07°- 52'S	Lat. 08°- 50'S
Long. 151°- 42'E	Long. 152°- 40'E	Long. 154°- 30'E

3 May 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1054 Favuvu Island was sighted bearing 070°T, distance 49 miles. LIBRA anchored in Macquitti Bay, Russell Islands at 1720 and commenced unloading ship ten minutes later.

4 May 1944: Anchored as before, unloading ship. The ship was completely unloaded at 0245 and at 1152, in accordance with verbal instructions from C.T.U. 34.9.7; LIBRA, acting as formation guide, got underway in company with DU PAGE, BIDDLE, and LEEDSTOWN for Guadalcanal area. The CONFLICT and DARING provided anti-submarine screen. The FAYETTE and OSTERHAUS joined the formation at 1400 and the FAYETTE assumed formation guide. The LIBRA received orders to proceed independently at 1518 and choose the passage between Savo Island and Cape Esperance, anchoring in berth #18, Lunga Point, just before dark. Here we picked up additional radio receivers and equipment assigned to LIBRA by ComTransGroupThirdPhibFor.

5 May 1944: Anchored as before. At 0631 got underway and proceeded to Gavutu Harbor anchorage.

6 - 9 May 1944: Anchored in Gavutu Harbor. During this period a Sugar Charlie Radar was installed and L.C.C. #C-21142, with 2 officers and 12 enlisted men, was assigned to the LIBRA.

10 May 1944: Anchored as before. LIBRA got underway at 0630, in accordance with ComTransGroupThirdPhibFor despatch 090704/May, and proceeded across Iron Bottom Sound, to berth #86, off Tetere, Guadalcanal, preparatory to loading the bottom load of cargo to be carried in the impending operation.

11 May 1944: Anchored as before.

12 - 14 May 1944: Anchored as before. On these days, LIBRA loaded ship during daylight hours, with material and supplies belonging to the Third Marine Division.

15 May 1944: Anchored as before.

16 May 1944: Anchored as before. LIBRA got underway at 0702, in accordance with C.T.U. 53.3 training order #13-44, serial 0700/14 May and proceeded to assigned transport area to participate in exercises. Shortly after noon, with scheduled exercises completed, the LIBRA steamed towards her former anchorage. While retiring to anchorage, the LIBRA found it necessary to slow to 1/3 speed; due to excessive vibration in the low pressure turbine. Upon anchoring, gearing, bearings, couplings, packing, sump tank, and propeller were inspected but no evidence of damage was found.

17 May 1944: Anchored as before. In accordance with ComTransGroupThirdPhibFor radio despatch 161415/May, LIBRA got underway during the early morning watch and proceeded towards Florida Island; anchoring in Gavutu Harbor entrance at 0831. While proceeding to Gavutu the engine functioned normally. The propeller was examined by divers, but no scars or damage found.

18 May 1944: Anchored as before, doing ship's work. On the 17th and 18th the low pressure turbine casing was lifted and inspected. No damage was found. The exact cause of the vibration on 16 May was not determined.

20 May 1944: Anchored as before. At 0800, in accordance with ComTransGroup ThirdPhibFor radiogram 190045/May, LIBRA got underway and proceeded to Tetere, testing low pressure turbine at various speeds en route. Turbine functioned satisfactorily. Anchored in berth #86 at 1110. The LIBRA loaded three Sherman tanks and a few small vehicles, in the afternoon, for the training exercises that were to follow.

21 May 1944: Anchored as before.

22 May 1944: Anchored as before. Underway at 1316, in accordance with C.T.F. 53's secret training operation order #154-44, serial 00104, in company with Task Force 53. At 1400 cruising disposition 3"T" was formed and the Task Force steamed on the established track as laid out in the training program.

23 May 1944: Proceeding as before in accordance with training order program. Shortly after 1700, with training exercises completed, LIBRA was instructed to proceed to her anchorage, and anchored off Doma Reef, Guadalcanal, at 1805.

24 May 1944: Anchored as before. During the forenoon watch, the LIBRA, in company with the transports of Task Force 53, got underway for the Tetere anchorage; anchoring there at 1113. During the afternoon, the tanks taken aboard for the exercises were unloaded from the ship.

25 May 1944: Anchored as before.

26 May 1944: Anchored as before. Underway at 1503, in accordance with ComTransDivEight visual message 260045 and proceeded to anchorage in Gavutu Harbor. While at Guvutu the T.B.S. radio antenna was relocated on top of the radar antenna, to facilitate better reception.

27 May 1944: Anchored as before.

28 May 1944: Anchored as before. Got underway upon signal from ComTransDiv Eight and proceeded to our former anchorage off Tetere.

29 - 31 May 1944: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*

Submitted: R. H. GRIFFIN,  
Lieut. (jg), D-V(G), USNR,  
Navigator.

*F. F. Ferris*

Approved: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding U.S.S. LIBRA.

Reg. No. 1056

R. S. No.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 024.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
7 July 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr FF1/A12/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA(AKA12), for the month  
of June 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is  
submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.

cc: CincPac.

79583

1 June 1944: LIBRA now attached to Transport Division Eight, (Captain F. R. TALBOT, USN., Commander Transport Division Eight, CRESCENT CITY, Flagship). This division plus GUNSTON HALL at present composes Task Unit 53.3.2. Anchored in berth #86, off Tetere, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands; loaded with cargo of the Third Marine Division, for the coming operation.

2 June 1944: Anchored as before. During the morning watch 5 officers and 137 enlisted men of the Third Marine Division and 9 enlisted men of the 25th Construction Battalion, came aboard for transportation to our objective.

3 June 1944: Anchored as before. During the forenoon, General Drills were held.

4 June 1944: Anchored as before. LIBRA in company with T.G. 53.3 got underway at 0705, in accordance with C.T.F. 53 movement order #A163-44 of 19 May 1944. Formed cruising disposition 3-"T" as designated in this movement order. LIBRA taking station as fifth ship in column of the left flank transport division (Trans Div. 8). The formation steamed on an easterly course through Lengo Channel, thence northward through Indispensible Straits. After passing through Indispensible Straits, the Task Group set a direct course for Kwajalein. At 1015 C.T.F. 53, in APPALACHIAN, assumed tactical command, designating the DUPAGE as fleet guide. Gunnery exercises were held during the afternoon, expending ammunition as follows: 13 rounds - 3"/50; 125 rounds - 40mm; 670 rounds - 20mm; 628 rounds - .50 cal.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 05°- 55'S	Lat. 07°- 19'S
	Long. 160°- 30'E	Long. 160°- 20'E.

5 June 1944: Proceeding as before. This morning, and every morning at sea, Condition I was set one hour before sunrise and Condition III resumed at sunrise. At 0725 T.G. 53.7 was sighted hull down, bearing 105°T and later during the forenoon watch T.G. 53.7 took their proper station in the disposition. Gunnery exercises were held again today and following ammunition was expended: 173 rounds - 40mm; 1,320 round - 20mm; 841 rounds - .50 cal.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 04°- 55'S	Lat. 04°- 06'S	Lat. 02°- 37'S
Long. 161°- 16'E	Long. 161°- 38'E	Long. 162°- 17'E

6 - 7 June 1944: Proceeding as before towards Kwajalein. During the afternoon watch, on the 7th, tactical exercises were held in accordance with ComGrThree, FifthPhib orders A16-3/P11.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
6th Lat. 00°- 17'S	Lat. 00°- 38'N	Lat. 02°- 05'N
Long. 163°- 29'E	Long. 163°- 43'E	Long. 164°- 30'E

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
7th Lat. 04°- 19'N	Lat. 05°- 01'N	Lat. 06°- 20'N
Long. 165°- 30'E	Long. 165°- 52'E	Long. 166°- 33'E



JUNE 1944

8 June 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0655 passed Lip Island abeam to port, distance 11 miles. Kwajalein Atoll was sighted at 0815, bearing 035 T. Upon entering the Atoll, the LIBRA went directly alongside the PECOS and fueled. After fueling was completed, proceeded to berth A-6 and anchored there at 1502.

Positions: 0800  
 Lat.  $08^{\circ}-33'N$   
 Long.  $170^{\circ}-30'E$ .

9 - 11 June 1944: Anchored as before, provisioning and doing ship's work; provisioning from CASCADE was accomplished by ship's boats and working parties working on 8 hour shifts. At 1116 the morning of the 9th, condition RED was signaled from the beach and General Quarters was set, securing from Condition I upon receipt of signal, Flash White, at 1121. During the afternoon of 11 June, the Captain briefed the ship's company on the operations about to start, and stressed the part to be accomplished by LIBRA.

12 June 1944: Anchored as before. Underway at 0540 in accordance with C.T.F. 53 movement order A163-44. As soon as the Task Group had cleared the Atoll, cruising disposition 3-"T" was formed, and a northwesterly course was set in the general direction of our objective. Anti-air and anti-sub patrol was provided by the aircraft of T.G. 53.7 during daylight hours.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
	Lat. $09^{\circ}-13'N$	Lat. $10^{\circ}-08'N$
	Long. $166^{\circ}-43'E$	Long. $165^{\circ}-16'E$

13 June 1944: Proceeding as before. Eniwetok Atoll was sighted at 1120, bearing  $210^{\circ}T$ , distance 16 miles. The Task Group passed this Atoll to the north and set a course of  $282^{\circ}T$ .

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. $11^{\circ}-27'N$	Lat. $11^{\circ}-56'N$	Lat. $12^{\circ}-22'N$
Long. $163^{\circ}-01'E$	Long. $162^{\circ}-16'E$	Long. $160^{\circ}-44'E$

14 June 1944: Proceeding as before. During the morning tactical exercises were held in accordance with C.T.F. 53's serial 00160. All ship's clocks were retarded one hour, at 2100, to conform with zone -10 time.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. $12^{\circ}-52'N$	Lat. $13^{\circ}-01'N$	Lat. $13^{\circ}-23'N$
Long. $158^{\circ}-19'E$	Long. $157^{\circ}-26'E$	Long. $155^{\circ}-45'E$

15 June 1944: Proceeding as before. At 1025 strange aircraft were reported bearing  $255^{\circ}T$ , distance 40 miles and at 1036 went to General Quarters. Subsequent word was received that one of the aircraft had been destroyed, and at, 1107, General Quarters was secured.

Positions: 0800	1200	2000
Lat. $13^{\circ}-57'N$	Lat. $14^{\circ}-07'N$	Lat. $14^{\circ}-24'N$
Long. $153^{\circ}-08'E$	Long. $152^{\circ}-21'E$	Long. $150^{\circ}-39'E$

JUNE 1944

16 June 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0930 bogeys were reported, and C.T.G. informed us that one enemy aircraft had been destroyed and that one other had been sighted and destroyed. One day previous orders were received by C.T.F. 53, from C.T.F. 51, to affect that William Day had been set back one day. In compliance with C.T.F. 51's instructions our Task Group reversed its course early during the mid-watch. Shortly after noon the course was reversed again and we steamed in a westerly direction towards our objective. Later word was received from C.T.F. 51 that William Day was again postponed and to delay our arrival at the objective. To accomplish this our Task Group reversed its course as it did earlier in the day.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 14°- 14'N	Lat. 14°- 13'N	Lat. 14°- 24'N
	Long. 151°- 02'E	Long. 151°- 50'E	Long. 150°- 37'E

17 - 18 June 1944: Proceeding as before in an easterly direction. Shortly after 0800 the Task Group again reversed its track and proceeded in a westerly direction. These delaying maneuvers continued until midnight of the 18th, when the Task Group headed for a rendezvous point at which fueling would take place. During the morning watch of the 17th unidentified aircraft were reported bearing 310 T at a distance of 53 miles and soon after all hands went to General Quarters. These aircraft were later reported friendly and General Quarters was secured.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
17th	Lat. 14°- 07'N	Lat. 13°- 55'N	Lat. 14°- 16'N
	Long. 152°- 41'E	Long. 152°- 15'E	Long. 150°- 42'E

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
18th	Lat. 13°- 42'N	Lat. 14°- 06'N	Lat. 14°- 22'N
	Long. 152°- 12'E	Long. 152°- 16'E	Long. 150°- 38'E

19 June 1944: Proceeding as before towards fueling rendezvous. During the morning watch the Task Group arrived in the rendezvous area, and several transports dropped astern of the formation and began fueling destroyers. Several other Task Groups of Task Force 53 were also fueling in the general area. The LIBRA, as ordered, was rigged and ready to fuel a destroyer but was not required to do so. After fueling the Task Group proceeded in accordance with instructions from T.F. 51. (ie) To be at a point 130 miles from Saipan, headed in a westerly direction, at 1800 every evening.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 14°- 04'N	Lat. 14°- 04'N	Lat. 14°- 26'N
	Long. 151°- 20'E	Long. 152°- 00'E	Long. 150°- 42'E

20 June 1944: Proceeding as before. After sunrise the Task Group continued with its fueling operations.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 14°- 43'N	Lat. 14°- 46'N	Lat. 14°- 50'N
	Long. 148°- 48'E	Long. 148°- 01'E	Long. 146°- 51'E

JUNE 1944

21 - 24 June 1944: Proceeding as before, delaying our proceeding to objective until so directed by C.T.F. 51. On the 23rd the CRESCENT CITY hoisted the breakdown flag and sheered out of the formation, at 1417. At 1800 she resumed her position as section guide. Physical exercise for all troops was conducted daily.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
21st	Lat. 14°- 43'N Long. 148°- 08'E	Lat. 14°- 44'N Long. 148°- 48'E	Lat. 14°- 19'N Long. 147°- 42'E
Positions:	0800	1200	2000
22nd	Lat. 14°- 45'N Long. 149°- 42'E	Lat. 15°- 02'N Long. 149°- 07'E	Lat. 15°- 19'N Long. 147°- 29'E
Positions:	0800	1200	2000
23rd	Lat. 15°- 18'N Long. 149°- 31'E	Lat. 14°- 57'N Long. 149°- 11'E	Lat. 15°- 15'N Long. 147°- 39'E
Positions:	0800	1200	2000
24th	Lat. 14°- 47'N Long. 149°- 47'E	Lat. 14°- 49'N Long. 149°- 47'E	Lat. 15°- 10'N Long. 148°- 16'E

25 June 1944: Proceeding as before on a westerly course. During the afternoon watch, when ordered by C.T.F. 53, the Task Group reversed its course and headed eastward towards Eniwetok Atoll as directed. At 2110 WAYNE indicated "breakdown" and fell astern of the center column of transports, rejoining as last ship of that column at 2130.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 14°- 58'N Long. 149°- 46'E	Lat. 14°- 55'N Long. 150°- 01'E	Lat. 14°- 41'N Long. 149°- 40'E

26 June 1944: Proceeding as before on an easterly course towards Eniwetok. At 0000 on 26 June, WARREN fell out of column with a steering casualty. She rejoined at 0900. During the night of 25-26 June another fueling task group was passed, and excessive use of the TBS channel was again noted. Some compromise of the "Shackle" code was evident.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 13°- 58'N Long. 152°- 10'E	Lat. 13°- 47'N Long. 152°- 53'E	Lat. 13°- 32'N Long. 154°- 34'E

27 June 1944: Steaming toward Eniwetok. At 1552 HARRISON came alongside our port quarter and delivered anchorage charts of Eniwetok.

Positions:	0800	1200	2000
	Lat. 13°- 13'N Long. 156°- 57'E	Lat. 13°- 01'N Long. 157°- 41'E	Lat. 12°- 43'N Long. 159°- 14'E

28 June 1944: Proceeding as before in an easterly direction. At 0000 PRESIDENT MONROE fell out of the right flank column with boiler power from one boiler. She followed at reduced speed, with HAGG and SKYLARK screening. Engebi Island was sighted at 1050, bearing 160°T at a distance of 13 miles. The Task Group proceeded around the eastern edge of the Atoll towards Deep Passage. Upon entering, the LIBRA went directly to berth #238 and anchored at 1607. No use of the TBS or SCR channels were made by LIBRA at any time during any underway period covered by this report.

28 June 1944: continued -

Positions: 0800  
Lat. 12°- 08'N  
Long. 161°- 45'E

29 June 1944: Anchored as before. At 0614 got underway in accordance with Com TransGroup Three, FifthPhib mailgram 280825 to shift anchorage. LIBRA proceeded northward via the buoyed channel and anchored in berth #876, Northern Anchorage, off Engebi Island, at 0816. This change was made in order that recreation activities and training for the troops on board might be more easily accomplished.

30 June 1944: Anchored as before.

*R. H. Griffin*

Submitted: R. H. GRIFFIN,  
Lieut.(jg), D-V(G), USNR,  
Navigator.

*F. F. Ferris*

Approved: F. F. FERRIS,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding U.S.S. Libra.

g. No. 1063  
R. S. No. 20 AUG 1944

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA12)

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 025.

Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
31 July 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr FF1/A12-1/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA(AKA12), for the  
month of July 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure  
(A) is submitted herewith.

*F. F. Ferris*  
F. F. FERRIS.

cc: CincPac.

82372



6

1 July 1944 (-11 Time Zone): LIBRA now attached to Transport Division EIGHT (Captain F. R. TALBOT, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division EIGHT, CRESCENT CITY, Flagship). This division plus GUNSTON HALL at present composes Task Unit 53.3.2. Anchored in berth No. 876, Northern Anchorage, off Engebi Island, Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands, loaded with cargo of the Third Marine Division for the coming operation. Between the first and sixteenth of the month LIBRA lay at anchor in the Northern Anchorage utilizing the time to best advantage. During this time the ship was fueled and provisioned to capacity. After shifting berth on the 3rd to berth No. 740, the crew left the ship daily for recreation and the Marine personnel, on board for transportation, also left for recreation and training in order to maintain proper combat physical fitness. In compliance with instructions from SOPA the ship was completely darkened every night. Ship's work was continued with an eye towards the coming operation. On 4 July at 1734 after having received word over the harbor circuit of an air-flash-red, went to General Quarters. At 1803 upon the word of air-flash-white, secured from General Quarters.

17 July 1944: Anchored as before. At 1322 got underway in accordance with mailgram 140935/July of C.T.G. 53.3. LIBRA proceeded out of the atoll in company with T.G. 53.3 and at the beginning of the dog watch was in proper station in cruising formation "3 AL" as laid down in C.T.F. 53 operation order A10-44. The Task Group steamed around the southern end of Eniwetok Atoll and proceeded on prescribed route in a westerly direction towards objective.

Position 2000  
 Lat. 11° 23'N.  
 Long. 161° 50'E.

18 - 20 July 1944: Proceeding as before in a westerly direction towards objective. On these days at one hour before sunrise all hands went to General Quarters and secured at sunrise. Each night STARLING and SKYLARK took position off the quarter of the starboard and port flank of the formation. On the 20th during the afternoon dropped astern of the formation and fueled the NOA and McKEE.

Positions	0800	1200	2000
18	Lat. 11° 48'N. Long. 159° 14'E.	12° 03'N. 158° 15'E.	12° 26'N. 156° 23'E.
19	Lat. 12° 56'N. Long. 153° 57'E.	13° 03'N. 153° 01'E.	13° 25'N. 151° 14'E.
20	Lat. 13° 41'N. Long. 148° 35'E.	13° 41'N. 147° 47'E.	13° 43'N. 146° 17'E.



21 July 1944: Proceeding as before around the northern coast of Guam. During the dark hours flares were seen continuously over the objective. At 0415 changed course and began the approach to the transport area. At 0523 the Task Group formed the approach cruising disposition. Surface vessels were observed to open fire on the beach. At 0613 all boats were ordered into the water and 42 minutes later all boats were water borne. At 0630 37 friendly dive bombers passed over head and proceeded onward to bomb the beach. At 0655 all LIBRA's boats had been dispatched to the designated ships. At 0800 the first wave started for the beach and at 0830 word was received that they had landed successfully and on schedule. At 1011 and 1013 LCT 945 and LCT 995 respectively came alongside to receive tanks and tank retriever. At 1114 a Marine working party from the CRESCENT CITY came aboard. As LIBRA's boats returned, unloading of the ship began. At 1700 got underway in company with TransDiv 8 plus GUNSTON HALL and TransDiv 24 minus DuPAGE plus EPPING FOREST and assigned screen and proceeded on prescribed retirement course. All LCM(3)'s and unloaded LCV(P)'s were left at Agana Bay. At the time of getting underway the ship was 26 per cent unloaded.

22 July 1944: Proceeding as before along retiring route. At 0745 arrived back in transport area. After lowering boats into the water LIBRA was instructed to take a position one mile inshore of the transport area. In this station unloading was begun without any delay. The ship's boats which were left over night promptly returned to the ship. During the morning watch 16 Marine casualties were received on board from the beach for medical treatment. The ship was completely darkened at sunset, but unloading continued however. During the night the area was continuously illuminated by star shells. Our surface craft intermittently shelled the beach and large amounts of fire were observed on the beach. At midnight LIBRA was 40 per cent unloaded.

23 July 1944: Maneuvering in Agana Bay, Guam, unloading ship. At 0955 three Marine casualties received from the beach on the previous day were returned to the beach for duty. At 1338 a T.B.F. made a crash landing one-fourth of a mile off our port bow, the crew however was picked up by a nearby boat. During the morning the SOLACE stood in and lay to in the same area as the LIBRA. Shortly after 1600 4 Marine casualties were received from the beach. During the day unloading progressed very slowly. There were few LCT's and pontoon barges available and as a consequence LIBRA was only 48 per cent unloaded.

24 July 1944: Maneuvering as before in Agana Bay, unloading ship. At 0805 four more Marine casualties were received from the beach. From 1645 until 1910 the 21 Marine patients on board were transferred to the SOLACE. During the day seven pontoon barges were received alongside and the discharge of cargo on the beach was fairly rapid. Due to the latter and the excellent work on the part of ship's company the ship was completely unloaded at 2000.

25 July 1944: Maneuvering as before. During the morning one officer and 18 enlisted men were detached from temporary duty and left for Boat Pool No. 16. At 1320 began forming up with Task Unit 53.15.1 in accordance with C.T.F. 53's despatch 250009. Formed cruising formation in accordance with C.T.U. 53.15.1 visual despatch and headed around the southern coast of Guam on the prescribed route.

Position 2000  
 Lat. 12° 59'N.  
 Long. 145° 30'E.

26 - 28 July 1944: Proceeding as before in an easterly direction towards Eniwetok Atoll on prescribed route.

Positions	0800	1200	2000
26	Lat. 12° 57'N. Long. 148° 05'E.	12° 56'N. 148° 51'E.	12° 50'N. 152° 24'E.
27	Lat. 12° 28'N. Long. 153° 01'E.	12° 20'N. 153° 51'E.	11° 55'N. 155° 34'E.
28	Lat. 11° 23'N. 158° 12'E.	11° 17'N. 159° 02'E.	11° 10'N. 160° 41'E.

29 July 1944: Proceeding as before. At 0430 sighted Eniwetok and at 0754 passed through Deep Passage into the Atoll itself anchoring in berth No. 218 at 0830.

30 July 1944: Anchored as before.

31 July 1944: (Until 1200) anchored as before.

Submitted:

*R. H. Griffin*  
 R. H. GRIFFIN,  
 Lt.(jg) D-V(G), USNR,  
 Navigator.

Approved:

*F. F. Ferris*  
 F. F. FERRIS,  
 Captain, U.S. Navy,  
 Commanding.

U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA 12)  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.

Reg. No. 1184  
R. S. No. \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 024

Fleet Post Office.  
San Francisco, Calif.  
6 September 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. LIBRA.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Transmittal of.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr FF1/A12/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diary, U.S.S. LIBRA(AKA12), for the  
month of August 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure  
(A) is submitted herewith.

*F. M. Scofield*  
F. M. SCOFIELD.

CC:CincPac.

94107

1 August 1944 (-11 Time Zone): LIBRA is at present attached to Transport Division TWELVE (Captain F. R. TALBOT, U.S.N., Commander Transport Division TWELVE, CRESCENT CITY, Flagship). At 1355 the 31st July 1944 got under way in accordance with order of Port Director Eniwetok of 31 July 1944. T.U. 57.19.9 consists of the LIBRA as O.T.C., C. T. U. and guide. President MONROE and RICHARD S BULL formed up outside of Eniwetok Atoll and headed in an easterly direction towards Kwajalin. At 1023 Kwajalin Atoll was sighted, bearing  $160^{\circ}$  at a distance of 16 miles. The Task Unit was dissolved after passing through Mellsu Passage and LIBRA anchored in Berth A-11, Roi Anchorage at 1330.

Position 0800  
 Lat.  $09^{\circ}-44'N$   
 Long.  $166^{\circ}-21'E$

2 August 1944. Anchored as before. During the afternoon watch commenced loading cargo of the 15th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion.

3 August 1944. Anchored as before. At 0315 completely loaded ship. At 0559 got underway in accordance with orders from the Port Director, Roi Island and proceeded towards Kwajalin, via the Roi-Kwajalin Highway. LIBRA anchored - Berth 14-14 off Kwajalin Island at 0921. At 1631 got underway in accordance with Port Director, Kwajalin, Orders, Serial "K". 0081, company with convoy DP-1, composed of LIBRA, as Convoy Commander, O.T.C. and guide, S.S. CAPE FRIENDSHIP AND PC 1139. On clearing the atoll the P.C. 1139 took screening position ahead of the LIBRA and the S.S. CAPE Friendship followed astern. A Northeasterly course toward Pearl Harbor was set.

4 August 1944. Proceeding as before. At 0615 the PC 1139 was detached and ordered to proceed as previously directed. At 1800 advanced clock to conform with -12 Time Zone.

Positions 0800	1200	2000
Lat. $07^{\circ}27'N$	Lat. $07^{\circ}-26'N$	Lat. $07^{\circ}-49'N$
Long. $170^{\circ}20'E$	Long. $171^{\circ}11'E$	Long. $172^{\circ}34'E$

5 August 1944. Proceeding as before. At 1910 altered course to avoid contact with convoy detected by radio.

Positions		
Lat. $8^{\circ}-58'N$	Lat. $9^{\circ}-19'N$	Lat. $10^{\circ}01'N$
Long. $174^{\circ}-50'E$	Long. $175^{\circ}-37'E$	Long. $177^{\circ}-08'E$

5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 August 1944. Proceeding as before. At 0000 retarded the time one day to comply with Western Hemisphere date.

7 August 1944 at 0200 advanced clock to conform with -11 Time Zone



5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 August 1944(cont): 9 August 1944 advanced clock to conform with -10 Time Zone.

Positions	0800	1200	2000
5	Lat. 10°-51'N Long. 179°-00'E	Lat. 11°-14'N Long. 179°-38'E	Lat. 12°-04'N Long. 178°-50'W
6	Lat. 13°-03'N Long. 176°-33'W	Lat. 13°-22'N Long. 175°-46'W	Lat. 14°-01'N Long. 174°-07'W
7	Lat. 14°-52'N Long. 171°-45'W	Lat. 15°-11'N Long. 170°-43'W	Lat. 15°-44'N Long. 168°-58'W
8	Lat. 16°-32'N Long. 166°-27'W	Lat. 16°-55'N Long. 165°-35'W	Lat. 17°-51'N Long. 163°-56'W
9	Lat. 18°-37'N Long. 161°-05'W	Lat. 18°-55'N Long. 160°-1'W	Lat. 19°-39'N Long. 158°-51'W

10 August 1944. Proceeding as before. At 0100 advanced clocks ahead one half hour to conform with -9½ Time Zone. At 0428 sighted numerous lights on Oahu, bearing 010°T. At 0723 entered entrance channel to Pearl Harbor. LIBRA proceeded to mooring platform F-8 off Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Oahu Island, Hawaiian Island and moored at 0833.

11 August 1944. Moored as before. At 0643 got underway to shift berths in accordance with Navy Yard Dispatch 110838. At 0705 moored to Dock K-1, Magazine Wharf, Pearl Harbor and commenced unloading ship.

12 August 1944. Moored as before. At 1553 got underway in accordance with ComActComPhibForPac movement order #24-44, 11 August 1944, in company with T.U. 55.1.15 composed of LIBRA, as O.T.C., C.T.U., and guide, WINGED ARROW and DICKERSON. After taking departure from Pearl Harbor the Task Unit took formation as follows: DICKERSON, screening ahead, followed by LIBRA and WINGED ARROW, in that order. After passing between Oahu and Molokai, a northeasterly course towards San Francisco.

Position

2000  
Lat. 21°-18.5'N  
Long. 157°-32'W

13-18 August 1944. Proceeding on a Northeasterly course towards San Francisco. 14 August 1944 advanced clock to conform with -9 Time Zone. 16 August 1944 advanced clock to conform with -8 Time Zone. 18 August 1944 advanced clock to conform with -7 Time Zone.

13-18 August 1944.(cont).

Positions	0800	1200	2000
13	Lat. 22°-56'N Long. 155°-24'W	Lat. 23°-24'N Long. 154°-41'W	Lat. 24°-24'N Long. 153°-09'W
14	Lat. 25°-50'N Long. 150°-31'W	Lat. 26°18.5'N Long. 149°-40.5'W	Lat. 27°-09'N Long. 148°-00'W
15	Lat. 28°-28'N Long. 145°-40'W	Lat. 29°-06'N Long. 144°-23'W	Lat. 29°-56'N Long. 142°-33'W
16	Lat. 31°-19'N Long. 139°-50'W	Lat. 31°-49'N Long. 139°-02'W	Lat. 32°-31'N Long. 137°-27'W
17	Lat. 33°-38'N Long. 134°-39'W	Lat. 34°-02'N Long. 133°-44'W	Lat. 34°-44'N Long. 131°-51'W
18	Lat. 35°-43'N Long. 128°-53'W	Lat. 36°-00'N Long. 127°-54'W	Lat. 36°-32'N Long. 126°-05'W

19 August 1944. Proceeding as before. 0856 sighted Faralla Island, bearing 028°T, distance seven miles. At 1100 entered main channel. At 1121 passed Miles Rock Light, abeam and entered Inland Waters. LIBRA proceeded to anchorage #9 where the ship was unloaded. At 1531 in accordance with Com 12, Visual 182150 got under way and proceeded to Anchorage #13 where LIBRA anchored at 1615. The discharge of ammunition began shortly afterward. At 1909 having discharged all ammunition got under way and proceeded to Anchorage #8 where LIBRA anchored at 2011.

20 August 1944. Anchored as before. In accordance with Com 12, Visual 182150 got underway and proceeded to Oakland Harbor Channel. At 0803 LIBRA moored starboard side to Hurley Marine Works Inc., dock, Oakland Harbor, Oakland, California.

21 - 31 August 1944. Moored as before. During this period contracted repair and alteration took place. Leave for officers and men was granted, keeping, however, a sufficient number of officers and men on board to aid in the completion of ship's work.

Submitted: *R. H. Griffin*  
R. H. GRIFFIN,  
Lt.(jg) D-V(G), USNR,  
Navigator.

Approved: *F. M. Scofield*  
F. M. SCOFIELD,  
Lieutenant, D-V(S), USNR,  
Commanding.



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Reg. No. 1166

N. O. No.

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 028

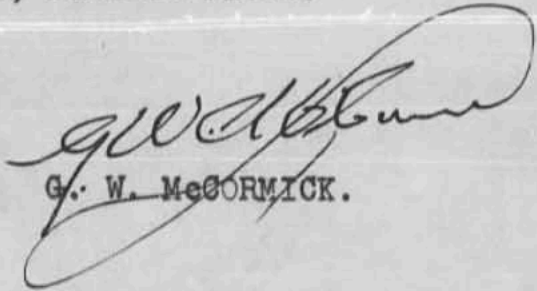
6 October 1944

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of September 1944.

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.

1 September to 30 September 1944 inclusive: LIBRA attached to Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet, temporary duty while undergoing overhaul. During this availability LIBRA at Hurley Marine Works, Inc., Oakland, California, undergoing contract alterations and repairs. From 27 September to 30 September 1944, inclusive, LIBRA at Moore Drydock Co., Oakland, California for drydocking and underwater repairs. Leave and liberty were granted in accordance with Navy Regulations and current policy of the Commander-In-Chief, Pacific Fleet.

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

None

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 032.

8 November 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-In-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of October 1944.

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of October is submitted.

2. U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12) at present attached to ComPhistraPac, San Diego, California, for temporary duty under overhaul; also temporarily attached to Transport Division Four, Division Commander Captain J. B. McGOVERN, USN., U.S.S. ZEILIN. LIBRA undergoing contract alterations and repairs, by Hurley Marine Works Inc., Oakland, California. Leave and liberty being granted consistent with completion of ship's work.

1 October 1944.- Resting on keel blocks in Dock #4, Moores Dry Dock Company, Oakland, California; work on the hull being carried out.

2 October 1944.- Resting on keel blocks as before. LIBRA waterborne at 0852 and left Moores Dry Dock Company at 0909 and proceeded to Hurley Marine Works Inc., mooring port side to dock #4 at 1125.

3 - 8 October 1944.- Moored as before, undergoing contract alterations and repairs.

9 October 1944.- Moored as before. 0645 Got underway in accordance with verbal instructions from Port Director, 12th Naval District, San Francisco, California. Proceeded through Oakland Estuary to Pier #90, mooring at 1015. Loading of the ship was turned over to the stevedores and loading commenced.

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U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

(2)

10 - 11 October 1944.- Moored as before, with stevedores loading ship.

12 October 1944.- Moored as before with stevedores loading ship. At 1640 received ammunition barge along starboard side and commenced receiving ship's allowance of ammunition from Naval Ammunition Depot, Mare Island, California.

13 October 1944.- Moored as before with stevedores loading ship. At 1455 completed loading ammunition and at 1510 ammunition barge cast off.

14 October 1944.- Moored as before with stevedores loading ship. Ceased loading at Pier # 90 and at 1340 underway in accordance with this vessels readiness for sea schedule for 14 October 1944. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeded on various courses and at various speeds to Treasure Island Degaussing range. LIBRA then proceeded through North Bay to San Rafael Degaussing range, commencing runs at 1621. With these runs completed LIBRA proceeded to anchorage #8, South San Francisco Bay, anchoring at 1855.

15 October 1944.- Anchored as before. At 1315 LIBRA was underway in accordance with this vessels readiness for sea schedule for 15 October 1944. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1324 compensation of compasses was begun, steering on various courses at various speeds in the South Bay area, completing runs at 1715. LIBRA then proceeded in accordance with verbal orders from Captain, U. S. Naval Dry Docks, Hunters Point, San Francisco, California, mooring starboard side to berth #11, Hunters Point at 1806. At 2000 Engineering officer reported the LIBRA was taking on water in #6 double bottom diesel fuel tank, cause unknown.

16 October 1944.- Moored as before. At 0710 LIBRA got underway in accordance with Operation Office, Western Sea Frontier, routing order #20 AU of 12 October 1944. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and the Navigator on the bridge. Steaming on various courses and at various speeds, standing out of San Francisco Bay. LIBRA entered International waters at 0902 and proceeded north east of Farallon Islands to designated

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

(3)

16 October 1944. (Cont)

target area. 1209 Commenced test firing all guns. When the test firing was completed LIBRA returned to the Bay area; full power run of the engines being carried out during the day. At 1815 entered Graving Dock #4 at U. S. Naval Dry Docks, Hunter's Point, San Francisco, California, to determine the cause of the leak in #6 double bottom diesel fuel tank. The cause of the leak was found to be a rivet which had dropped out in the way of keel and the necessary repairs were made.

17 October 1944.- Resting on keel blocks. At 0555 LIBRA was waterborne and at 0719 underway from Graving Dock in accordance with orders of the Commanding Officer of this vessel. Due to heavy fog in San Francisco Bay LIBRA anchored off Hunter's Point at 0752. Underway once more at 1025, mooring port side to berth #2, Hunter's Point, San Francisco, California, where Radar Calibration and adjustment was carried out. Underway at 1307, shifting berths; anchoring in berth #12, South San Francisco Bay at 1353.

18 October 1944.- Anchored as before. 1640 Hove up anchor and proceeded in accordance with this vessels readiness for sea schedule for this date. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeded on various courses and at various speeds to Dock #10, Richmond Fisheries Inc., San Pablo, California, mooring starboard side to, at 0807. Loading of dynamite in holds Numbers 2 and 4, by stevedores, commenced at 0945.

19 October 1944.- Moored as before with stevedores loading dynamite.

20 October 1944.- Moored as before with stevedores loading dynamite. LIBRA was completely loaded at 1425 and preparations for getting underway were made. Cast off all lines at 1616 and got underway in accordance with Routing Officer, San Francisco, California, movement order # 335 - C & R, of 2130, 19 October 1944. Proceeding on various courses and at various speeds to conform to the channel. At 1905 took departure for sea with Farallon Island abeam to starboard, distance two miles, enroute from San Francisco, California to Milne Bay, New Guinea. At 2055 contact with U. S. S. UVALDE and at 2135 UVALDE took station astern of LIBRA.

Position	Latitude	Longitude
2000	37° 30' North	123° 25' West



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

(4)

21 - 25 October 1944.- Proceeding as before in company with UVALDE. 21 October 1944, retarded clock to conform with plus 8 time zone. 22 October 1944 retarded clock to conform with plus 9 time zone. 24 October 1944, retarded clock to conform with plus 10 time zone. Ships held tactical maneuvering drills daily and LIBRA exercised ships complement at general drills.

	Position	Latitude		Longitude	
21	0800	35° 56'	North	125° 38'	West
	1200	35° 24'	North	126° 31'	West
	2000	34° 14.5'	North	128° 37'	West
22	0800	32° 43'	North	131° 41'	West
	1200	32° 14'	North	132° 42'	West
	2000	31° 04'	North	135° 02'	West
23	0800	29° 37'	North	138° 11.5'	West
	1200	28° 59'	North	139° 10'	West
	2000	27° 58'	North	141° 03.5'	West
24	0800	26° 23'	North	143° 55'	West
	1200	25° 36'	North	144° 46'	West
	2000	24° 26'	North	146° 47'	West
25	0800	22° 32'	North	149° 17'	West
	1200	21° 42.5'	North	150° 20'	West
	2000	20° 28'	North	151° 55'	West

26 October 1944.- Proceeding as before in company with UVALDE. At 0900 UVALDE left this unit and proceeded independently as previously directed. During the forenoon watch, ships complement was exercised at general drills.

	Position	Latitude		Longitude	
26	0800	18° 28'	North	154° 32'	West
	1200	17° 40'	North	155° 12'	West
	2000	16° 06'	North	156° 35'	West

27 - 31 October 1944.- Proceeding as before and zig zagging. During this time ship's complement was exercised at general drills each morning. 27 October 1944 retarded the clock to conform with plus 11 time zone. 30 October 1944, retarded the clock to conform with plus 12 time zone.

4

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

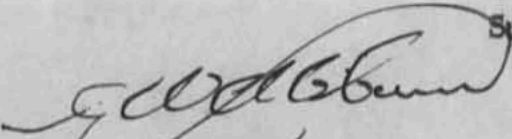
FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA


(5)

27 - 31 October 1944.-(Cont)

	Position	Latitude		Longitude	
27	0800	13° 54'	North	158° 52'	West
	1200	13° 15'	North	159° 38'	West
	2000	11° 44'	North	161° 29'	West
28	0800	09° 31'	North	163° 39'	West
	1200	08° 52'	North	164° 25'	West
	2000	07° 32'	North	165° 57'	West
29	0800	05° 29.5'	North	168° 15'	West
	1200	04° 58'	North	168° 45.5'	West
	2000	03° 35'	North	170° 10'	West
30	0800	01° 36.5'	North	172° 38'	West
	1200	00° 55.5'	North	173° 27'	West
	2000	00° 36'	South	175° 18'	West
31	0800	03° 17'	South	177° 09'	West
	1200	04° 12'	South	177° 45'	West
	2000	05° 54'	South	179° 01'	West

Approved:   
G. W. McCORMICK,  
Commander, DM, USNR.

Submitted:

  
E. C. ROBINSON,  
Lt.(jg) D, USNR.,  
Navigator.



1291  
Rep. No.  
R. S. No.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

November 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 033

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

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of November is submitted.

2. U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12) at present operating independently, proceeding to Milne Bay, New Guinea, to discharge cargo under orders from Com Twelve (12) Naval District, with further orders to report to Commander Seventh Fleet and Commander of Amphibious Force of the Pacific Fleet for duty, by dispatch, upon completion of discharge of cargo.

1 November 1944 - This day was dropped from ship's calendar when time was advanced twenty-four (24) hours to conform with East longitude time.

2 November 1944 - (Zone -12 time) Proceeding independently enroute from San Francisco, California, to Milne Bay, New Guinea. Ship's clocks were advanced twenty-four (24) hours at 0001 to conform with East Longitude time. LIBRA zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). At 0822 Ship's complement was exercised at general drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°04'S	08°29'S	08°31'S
Longitude	178°58.5'E	178°07'E	176°11'E

3 November 1944 - Proceeding as before, zig-zagging. Exercised at general drills, during forenoon watch. At 1800 retarded ship's clocks one hour to conform with minus eleven (-11) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°26'S	08°27'S	08°27'S
Longitude	179°03'E	172°07'E	169°55'E

CONFIDENTIAL

4 November 1944 - (Zone -11 time) Proceeding as before, zig-zagging at all times. At 0830 ship's complement was exercised at general drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°45'S	08°57'S	09°16'S
Longitude	167°19'E	166°25'E	164°26'E

5 November 1944 - Proceeding as before, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams). Passed Ulawa Island abeam to port, distance four (4) miles, at 0630, and Maramasike Island abeam to starboard, distance thirteen (13) miles at 0805. At 0938 passed San Cristobal Island abeam to port, distance ten (10) miles. At 1120 passed Guadalcanal Island abeam to starboard, distance eighteen (18) miles.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°49'S	10°12'S	10°00'S
Longitude	161°40'E	162°52'E	159°00'E

6 November 1944 - Proceeding as before, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11 (1940 Diagrams) and Plan #24 (USF 10A). At 1308 LIBRA held firing practice for all guns, using target balloons. Ammunition expended: 630 rounds 20 mm, 108 rounds 40 mm, and 5 rounds 5"/38 calibre. At 1800 retarded ship's clocks to conform with minus ten (-10) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	12°07'S	12°20'S	12°36'S
Longitude	156°18'E	155°10'E	152°51'E

7 November 1944 - (Zone -10 time) Proceeding as before. Sighted New Guinea Island at 0705 and proceeded on a Northerly course to China Strait. At 1040 LIBRA entered China Strait, and anchored in Waga Anchorage off Gamadodo at 1253.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	11°08'S	--	--
Longitude	150°36'E	--	--

8 November 1944 - Anchored as before. Hove up anchor and got underway at 0656, shifting to Gamadodo Wharf No. 1, in accordance with visual dispatch 07/0732 from Harbor Master, Shosta Number two (2). Pilot at conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 0811 LIBRA moored port side to Gamadodo Wharf #1, Milne Bay, New Guinea. At 0850 working party from 24th and 25th Special Construction Battalion came aboard and commenced unloading ship.

9 November 1944 - Moored as before, with 24th and 25th Special Construction Battalions unloading ship. During the forenoon watch, ship's landing group complement was exercised at boat maneuvers and fire drill was held.

CONFIDENTIAL

10 - 12 November 1944 - Moored as before with 24th and 25th Special Construction Battalion unloading ship. Boat maneuvering exercises were carried out each morning and boat crews held small arms firing practice each afternoon. Ammunition expended: nine thousand (9000) rounds 30 calibre, three thousand, three hundred fifty (3350) rounds 50 calibre.

13 November 1944 - Moored as before with 24th and 25th Special Construction Battalion unloading ship. Boat maneuvering exercises were carried out during the forenoon watch.

14 November 1944 - Moored as before with 24th and 25th Special Construction Battalion unloading ship. Boat maneuvering exercises were carried out during the forenoon watch. LIBRA at 1835 transferred to LCT 1092 for Flotilla 6, nineteen thousand, nine hundred eighty, (19,980) rounds of HET and HEI 20 mm ammunition.

15 November 1944 - Moored as before with the 24th Special Construction Battalion unloading ship. LIBRA was completely unloaded at 0145 and at 0756 cast off all lines and proceeded to Hilimoi Fueling Dock, mooring at 0943. Upon completion of fueling the LIBRA got underway and proceeded to Gili Anchorage, Milne Bay, New Guinea, anchoring at 1621.

16 - 17 November 1944 - Anchored as before. During this period general drills were held and ships work was carried out.

18 November 1944 - Anchored as before. Hove up anchor and got underway, at 0722, in accordance with CTF 79, Radio Dispatch 170732 and routing orders from Royal Australian Navy, Naval Control Officer, Milne Bay, New Guinea. At 0956 LIBRA passed through Raven Channel, took departure for sea, enroute from Milne Bay, New Guinea to Manus Island, Admiralty Islands, and followed recommended tract along the North East coast of New Guinea.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	09°55'S	08°49'S
Longitude	--	150°33.5'E	148°48'E

19 November 1944 - Proceeding as before. During afternoon watch, exercised ship's complement at Battle Problem.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	06°27.5'S	05°43.5'S	04°08'S
Longitude	148°06.5'E	147°36'E	147°22'E

CONFIDENTIAL

20 November 1944 - Proceeding as before. LIBRA entered Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands at 0831, and anchored in Berth #203 at 1011. At 1800 retarded all ship's clocks one (1) hour to conform with minus nine (-9) time zone.

21 November 1944 - (Zone -9 time) Anchored as before in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet.

22 November 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet.

23 November 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet. During the forenoon watch held emergency drills and exercised landing group complement in small boat maneuvers.

24 November 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet. LIBRA got underway at 0755 in accordance with Commander Seventh Fleet, Radio Dispatch, 171135, November, and Port Director, Seeadler Harbor, movement order Number 219, proceeding independently to Cape Torokina, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands. During afternoon watch, exercised ship's complement at general drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	08°20.5'S	04°30'S
Longitude	--	147°10.5'E	147°20'E

25 November 1944 - Proceeding as before. LIBRA exercised at emergency drills and held firing practice during the afternoon watch. Ammunition expended: 5 rounds 5"/38 calibre; 72 rounds 40 mm; 589 rounds 20 mm. At 1445 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #10 (1940 Diagrams). At 1800 advanced all ship's clocks to conform with minus ten (-10) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	07°02'S	07°24'S	07°03'S
Longitude	148°57'E	149°48'E	151°30'E

26 November 1944 - Proceeding as before. At 0500 sighted Bougainville Island, proceeded to anchorage, anchoring off Purata Island, Cape Torakina, Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands at 1148. At 1200 advanced ship's clocks to conform with minus eleven (-11) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	06°29'S	--	--
Longitude	154°27'E	--	--

CONFIDENTIAL

27 November 1944 - Anchored as before. During the morning watch LIBRA got underway to fuel from the U. S. S. CELTIC. Upon completion of fueling LIBRA returned to previous anchorage. At 1846 LIBRA commenced loading ship with cargo of the U. S. Army, 37th Division.

28 - 30 November 1944 - Anchored as before. Loading ship.

  
G. W. McCORMICK. *ewc.*

CC-CincPac

(5)

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U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1379

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

1 January 1945.

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

Subject: War Diary, Month of December 1944.

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of December is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) operating temporarily under Transport Division 5, Transport Division Commander, Captain R. W. ABBOTT, U.S.N., USS OLMSTEAD, flagship. A part of Task Group 77.9, Task Group Commander, Rear Admiral R. L. CONOLLY, U.S.N., USS APPALACHIAN, (AGC1), flagship. Now operating with Task Unit 77.9.2, Task Unit Commander, Commander C. J. BALLREICH, U.S.N., USS PRESIDENT POLK (AP103) Flagship.

1 December 1944 - (Time -1100 Zone). Anchored off Purata Island, Cape Torokina, Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands. Loading cargo and material for the U. S. Army, 37th Division. At 0628 underway in accordance with Port Director, Bougainville, Visual Dispatch, 344525, shifting berths, anchoring off Cape Torokina at 0743. At 1028 completed loading cargo.

2 - 18 December 1944 - Anchored as before. During this period Ship's Crew were exercised at general drills and classes were held in Recognition, First Aid, Damage Control and Boat Crew Instruction.

19 December 1944 - Anchored as before. At 0819 LIBRA underway in accordance with verbal orders from CTU 77.9.2, in company with USS PRESIDENT POLK, CTU and Guide and USS HARMON screening ahead. Proceeding from anchorage to drill area, to stream paravanes. Exercises completed LIBRA returned to anchorage, anchoring in Berth #5 at 1301. During the afternoon watch, tested HC Smoke Pots and Generators.

20 December 1944 - Anchored as before. At 0827 LIBRA underway in accordance with Port Director, Bougainville Visual Dispatch 190450, accompanied by USS HARMON as escort. Proceeding from anchorage to drill area to stream paravanes. With exercises



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AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 January 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of December 1944.

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20 December 1944 -(Cont.)

completed LIBRA returned to anchorage, anchoring in Berth #12 at 1202.

21 December 1944 - Anchored as before. At 0230 exercised crew at general drills.

22 December 1944 - Anchored as before. During the afternoon watch, embarked ten officers and two hundred thirteen enlisted men of the 37th Division, U. S. Army, for the impending operation.

23 December 1944 - Anchored as before. At 0754 hove up anchor and got underway in accordance with C.T.U. 77.9.2 visual dispatch 210500. In company with USS PRESIDENT POLK, O.T.C., C.T.U., and Guide and USS HARMON as escort. At 0821 Beacon "E" bearing 025° true, set base course 205° T&G, took departure for sea. At 0950 formed cruising disposition with LIBRA on starboard beam of Guide, USS HARMON screening ahead. Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams) at 1031. At 1300 exercised crew at battle problem.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	06°31'S	06°42'S
Longitude	--	154°33'E	153°16'E

24 December 1944 - Proceeding as before, in company with Task Unit 77.9.2. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). 1300 Exercised ship's company at emergency drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	07°02'S	07°10'S	06°50'S
Longitude	151°12'E	150°32'E	149°17'E

25 December 1944 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Unit 77.9.2. Zig-Zagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 Diagrams). At 1200 commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	05°53'S	05°23'S	04°04'S
Longitude	147°40.5'E	147°25'E	147°21'E

26 December 1944 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Unit 77.9.2. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #38 (1940 Diagrams). At 0432 formed column LIBRA taking station astern of PRESIDENT POLK. At 0825 exercised Ship's Company at Battle Problem. At 1205 entered Seeadler Harbor and proceeded on various courses and at various speeds to USS SILVER-CLOUD in Berth

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 January 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of December 1944.

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26 December 1944 -(Cont.)

#334, for the purpose of fueling ship. Upon completion of fueling, LIBRA got underway and anchored in Berth #8 at 1554. During the afternoon, instruction classes in Recognition, Ship's Organization, First Aid and Ship's Orders were held for Ship's Company. At 1400 retarded Ship's clocks one hour to conform with -1000 time zone.

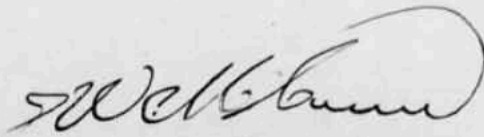

27 December 1944 - (Zone -1000 Time). Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. During the afternoon, classes were held in Recognition, Ship's Organization, First Aid and Ship's Orders for Ship's Company.

28 December 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. At 0753 LIBRA hove up anchor and got under way in accordance with Port Director, Manus Island, Visual Dispatch 262206, shifting berths, anchoring in berth W-30 at 0859. Instruction classes in Recognition, Ship's Orders, Ship's Organization, were held for Officers during the afternoon.

29 December 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. Early during the forenoon watch, exercised Ship's Company at general drills. During the afternoon, instruction classes in Recognition, First Aid, Ship's Orders, Ship's Organization were held for Ship's company.

30 December 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. During forenoon watch exercised Ship's Company at general drills. During the afternoon, instruction classes were held in Recognition, First Aid, Ship's Orders and Ship's Organization for all officers.

31 December 1944 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. During the forenoon watch, instruction classes were held in Recognition, First Aid, and discussion of the operation impending, for Ship's company.

  
G. W. McCORMICK.  


cc-cincpac

**U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)**

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 05

1 February 1945.

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

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of January is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) operating temporarily under transport Division 5, Transport Division Commander, Captain R. W. ABBOTT, U.S.N., USS OLMSTEAD, flagship. A part of Task Group 77.9, Task Group Commander, Rear Admiral R. L. CONOLLY, U.S.N., USS APPALACHIAN, (AGC1), flagship. Loaded with cargo and troops of the 37th Division, U. S. Army, awaiting the impending operation.

1 January 1945 - (Time - 1000 Zone). Anchored in berth W-30, Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands, in company with various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet. Instruction classes in recognition, and discussion of the operation impending were held for all officers.

2 January 1945 - Anchored as before. At 0647 hove up anchor and got underway in accordance with Commander Reinforcement Group Movement order #A174-44; making sortie from Seeadler Harbor in company with Task Group 77.9, being screened by escorts as designated in current Movement Order. Recognition, First Aid, and Gunnery instruction was held during the afternoon watch for ship's crew. At 2100 Ship's clocks were retarded to conform with -9½ Time Zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	01°36.3'S	00°29'S
Longitude	--	146°50'E	145°40'E

3 January 1945 - (Time -0930 Zone). Proceeding as before, in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging at all times in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). Exercised Ship's company at emergency drills and held firing practice in conjunction with the entire Task Group, firing at a sleeve being towed by a carrier based plane. Instruction classes were held in Recognition, First Aid and Gunnery for Ship's company. At 2100 Ship's clocks were retarded to conform with -9 Time Zone.

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3 January 1945 - (Cont.)

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	00°51'N	01°18'N	01°55'N
Longitude	143°26'E	143°07'E	141°38'E

4 January 1945 - (Time -0900 Zone). Proceeding as before in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10A). Exercised Ship's company at emergency drills and held firing practice in conjunction with the entire Task Group, firing at a sleeve towed by a carrier based plane. Recognition and Gunnery Instruction classes were held in the afternoon for the Ship's Company.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	02°50'N	03°10'N	03°50'N
Longitude	139°28'E	138°43'E	137°15'E

5 January 1945 - Proceeding as before, in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). LIBRA fueled the USS O'CONNOR in compliance with Fueling Exercise Direction from the Commander of Task Group. Recognition, First Aid, and Gunnery instruction classes were held for the crew. Instruction in Tactics was held for the Officers.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	04°54'N	05°13'N	06°00'N
Longitude	135°14'E	134°32'E	133°16'E

6 January 1945 - Proceeding as before, in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	07°13'N	07°37'N	08°29'N
Longitude	131°03'E	130°21'E	128°59'E

7 January 1945 - Proceeding as before, in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°46'N	10°16'N	09°47'N
Longitude	126°47'E	126°07'E	125°10'E

8 January 1945 - Proceeding as before, in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°54'N	09°00'N	09°54'N
Longitude	123°16'E	122°40'E	121°58'E



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9 January 1945 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	11°36'N	12°06'N	13°01'N
Longitude	121°17'E	121°00.5'E	120°13'E

10 January 1945 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Group 77.9. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	14°44'N	15°26'N	16°25'N
Longitude	119°18'E	118°09'E	119°26'E

11 January 1945 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Group 77.9. At 0245 the Task Group entered and proceeded down Lingayen Gulf. Task Unit 77.9.2, PRESIDENT POLK (SOPA) and LIBRA broke off from the Task Group at 0658 and proceeded as previously directed toward Lingayen Beaches. At 0822 LIBRA received orders from PRESIDENT POLK to anchor at discretion, anchoring at 0822 in vicinity of ships of Task Group 79.3 off Lingayen Town. Commenced lowering boats at once and sent beach party to beach for instructions. At 0910 commenced discharging cargo into boats. At 0915 received orders from Task Group 79.1 to anchor off Crimson Beach for unloading. Shifted berths and anchored at 1043, 1.4 miles off Crimson Beach. At 1040 received orders from C.T.D. 38 to discharge over Crimson and Yellow beaches. A high surf was running and boats beached with difficulty. During the afternoon no LCVP's could beach because of surf conditions. No army Shore Party was on the beach and all unloading was done by LIBRA Officers and Boat Crews. A Marine working party arrived at 1600 which had been requested from the PRESIDENT POLK by the LIBRA. At 1900 all unloading was stopped upon order of the Army Shore Party Commander. At 1823 went to General Quarters, ships under air attack. Made smoke with generators aft and two LCVP's to windward. Secured at 2022 for the night. During the day issued water and provisions to various small craft.

12 January 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. Went to General Quarters at 0617 and commenced making smoke with generator and LCVP's. At 0757 sighted enemy dive bombers. They were driven off shortly thereafter by intense anti-aircraft fire, having caused some damage to one of the smaller units. LIBRA withheld fire during this attack because nearby units would have been endangered. At 0808 secured from General Quarters and resumed discharging cargo. At 0830 received orders from 79.1 to shift

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berth as close to the mouth of Dagupan River as possible and discharge boats on beach at Dagupan. Anchored one mile off entrance to Dagupan River at 0922 and resumed unloading. The River and beach were surveyed by the Commanding Officer. Soundings were taken from Dagupan to the open sea, showing eighteen feet in the river and eleven feet over the bar, at entrance. The results of this survey were reported to 79.1, Chief of Staff. LIBRA requested assistance from the Boat Pool and received twelve boats at 1535 to assist in discharging. The Army shore party secured at 1900 for the night. The ship secured at 1800 and at 1803 shifted to a berth off San Fabian in accordance with orders from C. T. G. 79.1. The crew was at General Quarters and smoke was made during evening alert. During the day LIBRA issued water and provisions to various small craft.

13 January 1945 - At anchor off San Fabian in company with Task Group 79.1 and other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. At 0742 got underway in accordance with orders from C. T. G., 79.1 and anchored in previous berth off Dagupan River at 0802 and resumed discharging cargo. LSM #30 came alongside for cargo at 1045 and shoved off for Dagupan six hours later; Commanding Officer of LIBRA acting as pilot. At 1800 stopped unloading for the day. Held General Quarters and made smoke during evening alert. Issued water and provisions to various small craft during the day.

14 January 1945 - Anchored as before. Crew was at General Quarters and made smoke during the morning alert. Secured from General Quarters at 0745 and resumed discharging cargo. LIBRA completely discharged at 1317 and at 1400 all troops and equipment left the ship. Hoisted all boats soon thereafter, and reported our readiness for sea to C. T. F. 78. Crew at General Quarters and made smoke during evening alert.

15 January 1945 - Anchored as before. Crew was at General Quarters and made smoke during the morning alert. At 1621 hove up anchor and got underway in accordance with orders from C. T. F. 78. Formed column in company with Task Unit 78.11.6. O.T.C., C.T.U., and Guide in BLUE RIDGE, LIBRA and RIXEY in that order. Destroyer Division 108 assigned as screen.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	16°35'N
Longitude	--	--	120°07'E



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16 - 17 January 1945 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Unit 78.11.6.

16th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	15°16'N	14°26'N	13°00'N
Longitude	119°12'E	119°24'E	120°05'E

17th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°51'N	10°09'N	08°56'N
Longitude	121°32'E	121°49'E	122°49'E

18 January 1945 - Proceeding as before in company with Task Unit 78.11.6. At 1407 entered Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands. LIBRA was detached from Task Unit 78.11.6 at 1446 and ordered to proceed to anchorage with DAY as escort, anchoring in Berth #43 off Tangbo Point, Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands at 1612. Immediately upon anchoring LIBRA reported to ComTransRon 11, and ComTransDiv 32 for duty.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°43'N	10°19'N	--
Longitude	125°02'E	125°23'E	--

19 January 1945 - Anchored in Berth #43 off Tangbo Point, Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands, in company with various other unit of the United States Pacific Fleet. At 1400 LIBRA got underway in company with Task Group 78.9, pursuant to Commander Task Force 78 Movement Order #1-45. Proceeded on various courses in sorties from Leyte Gulf. Destroyer Division 108 and Task Unit 78.9.8 provided anti-submarine patrol for this Transport Group's sortie.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	10°22'N
Longitude	--	--	126°08'E

20 January 1945 - Proceeding as before. Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). During the afternoon watch instruction classes in First Aid and Recognition were held for the crew.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°06'N	09°03'N	09°03'N
Longitude	128°22'E	129°07'E	130°36'E

21 January 1945 - Proceeding as before, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). Classes in Recognition, Censorship Regulations and Customs and Traditions of the United States Navy were held for the Crew. Signal instruction was given all boat crews. At 1500 advanced Ship's clocks one half hour to conform with -9½ Time Zone.

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1 February 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of January 1945.

21 January 1945 - (Cont.)

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°05'N	09°07'N	08°56'N
Longitude	132°58'E	133°40'E	135°11'E

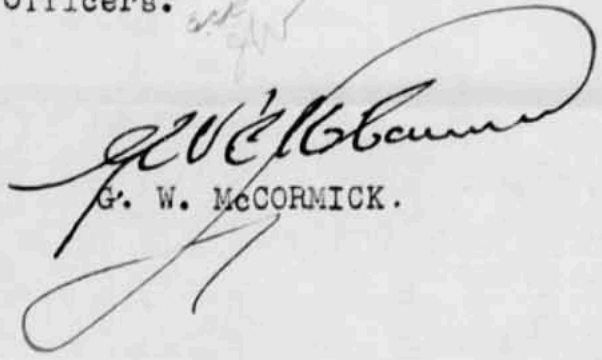
22 January 1945 - (Time - 0930 Zone) Proceeding as before, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). At 0000 advanced Ship's clocks one half hour to conform with -10 time zone. Classes in Recognition, Censorship Regulations and Customs and Traditions of the United States Navy were held for the Crew. Signal instruction was given all boat crews.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°51'N	08°55'N	08°51'N
Longitude	136°59'E	137°39'E	138°44'E

23 January 1945 - (Time -1000 Zone). Proceeding as before, zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). At 1024 Task Group formed in three columns and commenced entry into Ulithi Atoll in order designated by Task Group Commander. LIBRA entered Ulithi Atoll at 1346, anchoring in Berth #232 at 1428.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°19'N	--	--
Longitude	139°45'E	--	--

24 - 31 January 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. Instruction classes were held each morning in Recognition, Damage Control and Rules of the Road, for all Ship's Officers.

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

cc-cincpac

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Re No. 1480  
R. S. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)**  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 07

1 March 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of February 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of  
29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of February is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) attached to Transport Division 32, Transport Division Commander, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA18) flagship. Under Transport Squadron 11, Squadron Commander, Commodore D. W. LOOMIS, USN., USS FREMONT (APA43), flagship. LIBRA at Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands, having arrived there 23 January 1945 with availability for upkeep and repairs.

1 February 1945 - (Time -1000 Zone). Anchored in berth #232, Northern anchorage, Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands, in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. In the afternoon watch, eight (8) Firemen 1/c reported aboard for duty. Instruction classes in various subjects were held during the day for all officers and crew.

2 February 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. In accordance with ComTransRon 11 Mailgram 260946, January, LIBRA underway at 1200 to fuel alongside USS TOMAHAWK (AO88), after which LIBRA returned to previous berth. Instruction classes in various subjects were held during the day for all officers and crew.

3 - 5 February 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. Each day instruction classes in various subjects were held for all officers and crew.

6 February 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. At 1203 set Condition of Readiness III, normal cruising, and made all preparations for getting underway. At 1552 hove up anchor, underway in accordance with C.T.G. 51.1 movement order 2-45

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USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 March 1945

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6 February 1945 - (Cont.)

of 1 February 1945. Formed cruising disposition 3AL1, as designated in current movement order, proceeded enroute Ulithi Atoll to Guam Island, Marianas Islands. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). Instruction classes in various subjects were held for all officers.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	10°20'N
Longitude	--	--	140°12'E

7 February 1945 - Enroute to Guam Island, Marianas Islands, in company with Task Unit 51.1.1 and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). At 1000 exercised at tactical maneuvers.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	11°28'N	11°44'N	12°24'N
Longitude	141°54'E	142°19'E	143°23'E

8 February 1945 - Enroute to Guam Island, Marianas Islands, in company with Task Unit 51.1.1. and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. At 0503 arrived off Guam Island, and formed in preparation for entering Apra Harbor, Guam Island. During the forenoon watch LIBRA maneuvered off entrance to Apra Harbor awaiting orders. At 1313 LIBRA detached by C.T.D. 32 and ordered to proceed independently to mooring buoys, berth 15, Apra Harbor, mooring in berth 15 at 1412. At 1530 Lieut. W. A. SLOAN returned aboard, having completed duty in accordance with (a) ComPhibsPac Top Secret Dispatch of December 1944, (b) ComTransRon 11, Serial 0001 of 25 January 1945. At 1615 USS BOYD (DD544) moored port side to starboard side.

9 - 10 February 1945 - Moored as before in company with various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet. In accordance with ComTransRon 11, visual dispatch 082225, February 1945 received one LCVP from AdComPhibsPac SuborCom Headquarters (9263).

11 February 1945 - Moored as before in company with various other units of United States Pacific Fleet. At 0830 made all preparations for getting underway and underway at 0926 in accordance with Port Director, Guam Island, visual dispatch 101014, February, to carry out ComTransRon 11 berthing schedule Serial 0003 of 8 February 1945. Pilot at Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on bridge. At 0956 moored starboard side to "King" Dock, Apra Harbor, Guam. At 1115 embarked 173 troops of the Third Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, in the field, for transportation, and at 1130 commenced loading cargo.



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12 February 1945 - Moored as before, starboard side to "King" Dock, loading cargo. Completed loading cargo at 1254 and made all preparations for getting underway. Underway at 1429 in accordance with Port Director, Guam, Visual Dispatch 112258, shifting berths. Pilot at Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. At 1518 moored to buoys in berth #16, Apra Harbor, Guam Island, Marianas Islands.

13 - 15 February 1945 - Moored as before in company with various other units of United States Pacific Fleet. Instruction classes in various subjects were held during this period for all officers and crew.

16 February 1945 - Moored as before in company with various other units of United States Pacific Fleet. At 1200 made all preparations for getting underway. Underway at 1620 in accordance with ComTransDiv 32 Movement Order A-1-45 of 16 February 1945. Pilot at Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. Steaming on various courses and at various speeds to sortie from Apra Harbor, Guam Island, Marianas Islands. At 1627 formed cruising disposition 3ALS in company with TransDiv 32, O.T.C. Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA18), flagship. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	13°59'N
Longitude	--	--	144°42'E

17 - 18 February 1945 - Enroute Guam Island, Marianas Islands to Iwo Jima Island, Volcano Island, in company with Task Unit 51.1.3 and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). Each morning exercised at gunnery practice and general drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	15°33'N	16°14'N	17°43'N
Longitude	144°30'E	144°17'E	143°45'E

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	19°57'N	20°41'N	22°12'N
Longitude	142°57'E	142°40'E	142°05'E

19 February 1945 - Enroute to Iwo Jima Island, Volcano Islands, in company with Task Unit 51.1.3 and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). At 0821 sighted Iwo Jima Island, Volcano Islands, bearing 007 T., distance twenty-six (26) miles. At 1005 commenced steaming on various courses and speeds to form 18 on the Task

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Unit Guide in preparation for entering Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island. At 1123 hoisted boats to the rail. Boats were not used this first day, nor was LIBRA ordered to discharge cargo or disembark troops. At 1821 formed cruising disposition 3ALL, in accordance with orders of Transport Division Commander, for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker". (Plan used - ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44). Zigzagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10A).

20 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan of ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44, using route "Granite". At 0645 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned position in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island, by the O.T.C. in the USS LOGAN. While enroute preparations were made to discharge cargo, boats were hoisted to the rail. Upon arrival in Transport Area LIBRA kept station on USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, flagship, Transport Division 32. At 0811 Boat Group Commander and Boat Wave Commanders left ship to report to USS BOLIVAR (APA34) for duty. At 0845, eight (8) LCVP's and five (5) LCM's left ship to report to the USS BOLIVAR for duty, as ordered by ComTransDiv 32. At 0916 set condition of readiness IIA, Combat Discharge of Cargo. This second day in transport area no cargo unloaded nor troops disembarked. At 1610 Commanding Officer ordered one (1) LCM to USS BELLE GROVE (LSD2) for repairs. At 1730 hoisted all boats at the ship and made all preparations for getting underway in accordance with night retirement plan of ComTransDiv 32. Formed cruising disposition 3ALL for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker" (ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44). O.T.C. in USS LOGAN, flagship. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

21 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. O.T.C. in USS LOGAN. Carrying out night retirement plan (ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44, using route "Granite". At 0436 USS LOGAN reported steering casualty over TBS, and at 0445 USS LOGAN and USS NAPA collided. At 0530 USS LOGAN reported steaming at two thirds speed and was following astern of formation. At 0715 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned position in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island, by O.T.C. in the USS LOGAN. While enroute preparations were made to discharge cargo, boats were hoisted to the rail. At 0915 LIBRA dispatched eight (8) LCVP's to report to USS BOLIVAR for duty, and two (2) LCVP's and two (2) LCM's to



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1 March 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of February 1945.

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21 February 1945 - (Cont.)

to report to the USS PRESIDENT ADAMS for duty. LIBRA was not ordered to discharge cargo this third day in the Transport Area, and during the day maneuvered keeping in position on the guide in the USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. At 1730 hoisted all boats at the ship and made all preparations for getting underway in accordance with night retirement plan of ComTrans Div 32. Formed cruising disposition 3ALL at 1901 for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker" (ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44). O.T.C. in USS HINSDALE (APA120). Zigzagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10A).

22 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. O.T.C. in USS LOGAN. Carrying out night retirement plan using route "Granite". At 0702 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned position in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island, by O.T.C. While enroute preparations were made to discharge cargo, boats were hoisted to rail. At 1018 LIBRA commenced unloading cargo of the first five priorities, by order of ComTransDiv 32, unloading into LIBRA LCM's. At 1101 disembarked forty-one (41) marine troops and at 1103 first boat left ship for the beach. At 1308 LIBRA sent urgently needed medical supplies to USS NEVADA in one LCVP. At 1502 went to General Quarters, enemy aircraft were in vicinity. LIBRA withheld fire awaiting orders from O.T.C. and at 1550 secured from General Quarters. At 1630 one (1) LCVP reported sunk by enemy fire, no casualties. At 1645 hoisted boats and secured from unloading cargo. LIBRA ordered by ComTransDiv 32 to remain in Transport Area. During the night maneuvering on various courses and at various speeds, keeping position on the guide, USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, O.T.C. and C.T.D.

23 February 1945 - Maneuvering as before in Transport Area off Iwo Jima, in company with Transport Division 32, O.T.C. and C.T.D 32 in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. At 0628 lowered boats into water and made all preparations for unloading cargo. At 0736 received LSM 206 alongside and immediately commenced discharging cargo. At 0800 LIBRA dispatched one (1) LCM and at 1017 another was ordered to report to the USS BOLIVAR for duty. At 1048 LSM 206 cast off, and LIBRA continued unloading, using remainder of LCM's. At 1600 hoisted all boats and made preparations for getting underway in accordance with night retirement plan of ComTransDiv 32. At 1730 received three (3) United States

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23 February 1945 - (Cont.)

Marine casualties aboard for emergency treatment. At 1800 formed cruising disposition 3AL1 for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker" (ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44). O.T.C. in USS SIBLEY (APA206). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

24 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan, using route "Granite". At 0800 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned station in Transport Area. Made all preparations to discharge cargo. Upon orders of ComTransDiv 32, LIBRA anchored in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island. At 0950 a United States Navy TBM, disabled by enemy fire, caught fire and crashed into sea 500 yards off starboard bow. One occupant jumped, but parachute failed to open. An LCVF of the LIBRA recovered the body. At 1015 commenced unloading cargo into LCM's. At 1402 the body of William M WRIGHT (rate or rank and serial number unknown), death caused when his plane was shot down by enemy fire over Iwo Jima was buried at sea (latitude 24°44'45"North and longitude 141°21'30"East) by Chaplain Vincent NEAL, USNR. At 1550 LIBRA received six (6) United States Marine casualties aboard for emergency treatment. At 1532 LIBRA received LSM 60 alongside and immediately commenced discharging cargo. At 1732 cast off LSM 60 and commenced heaving in anchor in preparation for night retirement, in accordance with orders of ComTransDiv 32. Underway at 1742 forming cruising disposition 3AL1 for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker" (Com PhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44), O.T.C. and C.T.G. in USS LOGAN (APA196). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

25 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan using route "Granite". At 0648 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned station in Transport Area. While en-route made all preparations for discharging cargo. At 0742 LIBRA anchored in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island, in accordance with orders from ComTransDiv 32. At 1120 underway shift berths, anchoring in new berth at 1131, unloading cargo into LIBRA LCM's. At 1730 made all preparations for getting underway in accordance with night retirement plan of ComTrans Div 32. At 1754 formed cruising disposition 3AL1 for night retirement with Transport Group "Baker" (ComPhibsPac OP Plan A-25-44). O.T.C. and C.T.G. in the USS SIBLEY (APA120). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A).

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USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 March 1945

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26 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group "Baker" and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan, using route "Granite". At 0620 LIBRA ordered to proceed independently to previously assigned station in Transport Area. While enroute, made all preparations for discharging cargo. At 0756 anchored in Transport Area off Iwo Jima Island, in accordance with orders from ComTransDiv 32. At 1002 LIBRA shifted berths to facilitate LST 884 coming alongside, and preparations were made to discharge cargo and at 1128 commenced discharging cargo to LST 884. It was reported that LCM #7 was lost 1130 K, 25 February 1945, having been broached and swamped on Black Beach. At 1920 received one United States Marine casualty aboard for emergency treatment. At 2210, Captain of LST 884 stated that the present condition of swells would cause damage to his ship if he were not granted permission to cast off, stating further that unless such permission were granted he would give orders immediately to cut the mooring lines. Ceased unloading cargo, and at 2215 cast off LST 884. At anchor during night in Transport Area off Iwo Jima, in accordance with orders received from ComTransDiv 32.

27 February 1945 - Anchored as before in company with Transport Division 32, O.T.C. and ComTransDiv, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. Anchored in Transport Area off Iwo Jima. At 0517 commenced unloading ship. Pursuant to orders of ComTransDiv 32, five (5) enlisted men from H and S Company, 3rd Pioneer Battalion, USMC., were disembarked. At 1535 body of GEARHART, J. L. (rank unknown), 987 672, USMC., 2nd Battalion, 25th Marines, wounded in action, and died aboard this vessel, was buried at sea (latitude 24°43'55" North, longitude 140°22'25" East) by Chaplain E. R. PAPKE, USNR. At 1559 USS CALHOUN (DD801) drifted down on this vessel colliding with this vessel's stem. No damage sustained by this vessel, damage to USS CALHOUN unknown. At 1743 heaved in anchor and underway in accordance with ComTransDiv 32 TBS message, and commenced forming normal cruising disposition for night retirement from Transport Area. O.T.C. and ComTransDiv 32, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. Zigzagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10A).

28 February 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Division 32 and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan of C.T.D. 32, using route "Shale". At 0844 anchored in berth #21 in Transport Area off Iwo Jima, in accordance with orders from C.T.C. 32. At 0930



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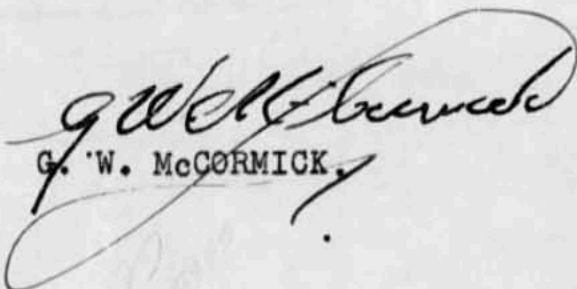
USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 March 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of February 1945.

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28 February 1945 - (Cont.)

lowered boats into water. At 1045 one marine casualty was transferred to USS SAMARITAN for treatment. At 1430 disembarked two (2) enlisted men from 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division, USMC., in accordance with orders of C.T.D. 32 semaphore message. Forming normal cruising disposition for night retirement. At 1917 formation formed and at 2030 commenced zigzagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10A).

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

cc-cinopac

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL.  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 012.

1 April 1945.

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

Reference: (a) ComInCh Ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152  
of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of March is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) attached to Transport Division 32, Transport Division Commander, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA18) flagship. Under Transport Squadron 11, Squadron Commander, Commodore D. W. LOOMIS, USN., USS FREMONT (APA44), flagship, under Task Force 51, Commander Task Force Vice Admiral R. K. TURNER, USN, USS ELDORADO, flagship. LIBRA at Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, continuing unloading operation in the occupation and capture of Iwo Jima, having arrived 19 February 1945.

1 March 1945 - (Time -1000 Zone). At sea in company with Transport Division 31, 32, and 33, with O.T.C. and guide in USS LEEDSTOWN, and Destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan as directed by O.T.C. At 0753 anchored in Transport area off Iwo Jima, in accordance with orders C.T.D. 32. At 0756 observed the USS TERRY (DD513) smoking very badly, having been hit by enemy shore battery, bearing 080° True, from this ship, distance five (5) miles. At 0933 observed one (1) TBF bomber crash in enemy territory, bearing 334° True, from this ship, having been hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire. At 1020 observed the USS CALHOON (DD801) getting underway after being hit by enemy shore battery while anchored 800 yards off our port bow. Received a report that she had seven casualties and one dead. At 2012 received LCT 1404 alongside port side #4 hatch and commenced unloading 83 tons of rations from #4 hold.

2 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various units of Task Force 51. At 0325 discontinued unloading #4 hold and at 0330 received LCT 1393 alongside starboard side #2 hatch.

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1 April 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of March 1945.

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At 0420 commenced unloading diesel fuel, gasoline, and general cargo from #2 hold. At 0617 ship's boat LCM #6, while assigned to unloading the S.S. COLUMBIA VICTORY, broached and sank in the surf while discharging cargo on Green Beach. At 0715 shifted LCT 1393 to the port side of #5 hold and commenced discharging fuel there from. At 1520 pursuant to orders from C.T.D. 32, ship's boat LCM #3 was transferred to USS ASHLAND (LSD1) for permanent duty. Underway at 1729 for night retirement in accordance with orders from C.T.G. 51.1, with O.T.C., and guide in USS JACKSON.

3 March 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Division 32, and the Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan of C.T.D. 32. At 0907 anchored in the transport area as directed by C.T.D. 32. At 0915 sent two (2) ship's LCM's to ammunition boat pool for duty. At 1135 disembarked two officers and sixty-seven enlisted men of the 28th and 34th replacement draft, 3rd Marine Division, (ship's platoon) to the beach to act as shore parties. One Marine Officer and one enlisted man of the Ship's Platoon remained on board. At 1330 dispatched one ship's boat (LCVP) to the USS ZUNI, for duty during the remainder of this operation. At 1716 no cargo was discharged this date. At 1716 underway for night retirement in accordance with orders from C.T.G. 51.1, with O.T.C., and guide in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA18).

4 March 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Division 32, and the Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan of C.T.D. 32. At 0724 entering Transport area "Zebra", in accordance with orders of C.T.U. 51.3, and maneuvered throughout the day in this area keeping station on the USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. At 1803 commenced forming cruising disposition for night retirement in accordance with orders from C.T.G. 51.1, with O.T.C., and guide in USS CALLOWAY.

5 March 1945 - At sea in company with Transport Group, with USS CALLOWAY as O.T.C. and guide, and the Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations, carrying out night retirement plan of O.T.C. At 0705 proceeding independently to anchorage in Transport area in accordance with orders of O.T.C. At 0855 Commenced discharging cargo. At 1030 provisioned the USS TAWAKONI (ATF114) with 2350 pounds of dry provisions, and one coil of eight inch manila line. At 1920 received alongside the starboard side #2 hold LSM 145, continued unloading cargo throughout the day.



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6 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of Task Force 51. At 0105 cast off LSM #145. At 1145 provisioned the USS HOWORTH (DD592) with six tons of dry provisions. At 1215 provisioned the USS DORTCH (DD670) with four tons of frozen fresh provisions and eight point eight tons of dry provisions, also a substantial quantity of ships store and small stores supplies. At 1430 delivered ship's store supplies to the USS STANLEY (DE375). At 1443 received LCI #80 alongside port side. Provisioned with 1065 pounds of dry provisions and 613 pounds of frozen fresh provisions. At 1800 received one (1) LCVP, #10 from the USS WHITESIDE (AKA90), on board for transportation. At 1815 underway for Guam, Marianas Islands, Pursuant to ComTaskForce 51 dispatch #060200, of 6 March 1945, forming cruising disposition 3-AL-13, with O.T.C., ComTransRon 11, and guide in USS FREMONT (APA44); C.T.D. 32 in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON.

2000  
Latitude 24-29 N  
Longitude 141-13 E

7 - 8 March 1945 - Enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands in company with Transport Squadron 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 diagrams), Tactical manuevers in accordance with Wartime Instructions for Merchant Ships (WIMS).

7th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	21-53 N	21-06 N	19-27 N
Longitude	141-38 E	142-03 E	142-33 E
8th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	17-21 N	17-03 N	15-59 N
Longitude	143-21 E	143-30 E	143-50 E

9 March 1945 - Enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands in company with Transport Squadron 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #12 (1940 diagrams), Tactical manuevers in accordance with Wartime Instructions for Merchant Ships (WIMS). At 0604 sighted Saipan Island, bearing 100° true, distance 30 miles. At 0909 in accordance with orders of O.T.C. commenced proceeding on various courses and speeds to assigned anchorage in Saipan Harbor. At 1133 anchored in berth L-67, Saipan Harbor, Saipan Island, Marianas Islands. At 1215 NARKIEWICZ, H. M., Private, 829325, Company "K", Third Battalion, 24th Marines was transferred to U. S. Navy Hospital at Saipan for further treatment and disposition.

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Serial - 012.

USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 April 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of March 1945.

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10 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with Transport Squadron 11. At 1500 made all preparations for getting underway, and at 1745 underway for Guam, Marianas Islands, in accordance with orders of TransRon 11, in company with TransRon 11, with O.T.C. and guide in USS FREMONT. C.T.D. 32 in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, formed cruising disposition 3-AL-13.

11 March 1945.- Enroute to Guam, Marianas Island, in company with Transport Squadron 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. At 0320 sighted lights, identified as being on Guam Island, bearing 159° True, distance 37 miles. At 0800 lying to off entrance to Apra Harbor, Guam. At 1510 received pilot aboard, and proceeded on various courses and speeds to assigned anchorage in Apra Harbor. Anchoring at 1808 in berth #561. Completed unloading #4 hold of Marine cargo during the night.

12 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with various other units of TransRon 11, The U. S. Pacific Fleet and Merchant Ships. At 0730 made all preparations for getting underway, and at 0840 underway in accordance with orders from TransRon 11, for Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, forming cruising disposition 3-AL-13 with O.T.C., C.T.F., and fleet guide in USS FREMONT, and C.T.D. 32 in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. At 1656 commenced zigzagging in accordance with plan #6 (USF 10 A).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude		13-02 N	11-38 N
Longitude		144-16 E	143-30 E

13 - 17 March 1945 - Enroute to Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands, in company with TransRon 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging at times in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10 A). At 0100 on the 16th, advanced all ships clocks one (1) hour to conform to -11 time zone.

13th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08-51 N	08-08 N	06-24 N
Longitude	143-34 E	143-28 E	143-26 E
14th			
Latitude	03-59 N	03-57 N	02-48 N
Longitude	143-53 E	144-33 E	146-00 E
15th			
Latitude	00-59 N	00-27 N	00-37 S
Longitude	148-01 E	148-46 E	150-07 E
16th			
Latitude	02-07 S	02-13 S	03-26 S
Longitude	152-21 E	152-45 E	154-01 E
17th			
Latitude	04-35 S	05-10 S	06-21 S

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1 April 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of March 1945.

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Longitude 157-17 E                      157-19 E                      158-37 E

18 March 1945 - Enroute to Tulagi Harbor, Florida Island, Solomon Islands in company with TransRon 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. At 0915 sighted Florida Island, bearing 200° True, distance 37 miles. At 1355 proceeding at various courses and speeds entering Tulagi Harbor to assigned anchorage. Anchoring at 1655 in berth #5.

0800  
Latitude 08-13 S  
Longitude 160-28 E

19 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with TransRon 11, and various other ships of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 1150 received from Amphibious Training Center Tulagi, the following: four (4) LCM's, one (1) LCP(R). At 1430 received orders from ComTransRon 11, that LCVP #10 be retained on board for ship's use.

20 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with TransRon 11, and various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, and Merchant Ships. At 0625 made all preparations for getting underway, and at 0701 underway for Noumea, New Caledonia in accordance with orders of ComTaskUnit 11.5.1, in company with TransRon 11, with O.T.C., C.T.F., and guide in USS FREMONT, and C.T.D. 32 in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON. Formed cruising disposition of two columns for passage through Lengo Channel. At 1047 commenced forming cruising disposition 3-AL-13.

Latitude                      1200                      2000  
                                 09-26 S                      11-21 S  
                                 160-37 E                      161-08 E

21 - 22 March 1945 - Enroute to Noumea, New Caledonia, in company with TransRon 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Flag Hoist and Fire Drill were held on the morning of the 21st. Flag Hoist Drill was also held on the afternoon of the 22nd.

21st                      0800                      1200                      2000  
Latitude                      14-07 S                      15-00 S                      17-00 S  
Longitude 161-41 E                      161-47 E                      162-01 E  
22nd  
Latitude                      19-40 S                      20-18 S                      21-26 S  
Longitude 162-23 E                      162-42 E                      164-12 E



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USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 April 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of March 1945.

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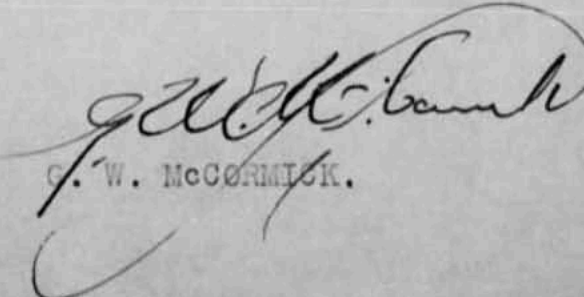
23 March 1945 - Enroute to Noumea, New Caledonia, in company with TransRon 11, and Destroyer Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. At 0721 sighted Amedee Light, bearing 045° True, distance eight miles. At 0800 proceeding on various courses and at various speeds to assigned anchorage in Noumea Harbor, New Caledonia through Norther Bulari Passage. At 1010 anchored in berth #30, Dumbea Bay, Noumea Harbor.

24 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with TransRon 11, and various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 1120 received from the water barge YW-1L, thirty thousands gallons of fresh water. At 1140, First Lieutenant Ben W. WHITE, USMC, (012131), reported on board for duty as Transport Quartermaster.

25 - 28 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with TransRon 11, and Various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 1646 on the 25th, received the USS KANGAROO alongside the starboard side to fuel ship, received 257,000 gallons of fuel oil. At 1840 received 9,122 gallons of diesel oil from #3 Diesel Barge along port side aft. At 0900 on the 26th completed unloading ammunition cases from #5 hold onto ammunition barge (ATS113). On the 26th and 27th held landing boat operation exercises.

29 March 1945 - Anchored as before in company with TransRon 11, and various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0735 made all preparations for getting underway, and at 0759 underway to shift berths in accordance with orders of ComTransRon 11, with Civilian Harbor Pilot at the Conn. At 0908 moored port side to Finger Dock #9, Nickel Works, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 1311 commenced loading ship, as directed by ComTransRon 11.

30 - 31 March 1945 - Moored as before in company with TransRon 11, and various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and Merchant ships. Continued loadin ship as directed by ComTransRon 11.

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

cc-cincpac

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL  
AKA12/A12/A16.  
Serial - 015.

1 May 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of April 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh. Ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152,  
of 29 October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of April is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) attached to Transport Division 32, Transport Division Commander, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA18) flagship. Under Transport Squadron 11, Squadron Commander, Commodore D. W. LOOMIS, USN., USS FREMONT (APA44), flagship.

1 April 1945 - (Time -1100 Zone) Moored port side to Finger Dock #9, Nickel Works, Noumea, New Caledonia, loading ship as directed by ComTransRon 11.

2 April 1945 - Moored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0540 secured from loading ship, as directed by ComTransRon 11. At 0800 made all preparations for getting underway, and at 0859 underway in accordance with visual dispatch O11417, of April 1945, from Port Director, Noumea, New Caledonia, to assigned berth. At 0951 anchored in berth #45, Dumbea Bay, New Caledonia.

3 - 5 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. Navigation Instructions for officers, and Aircraft recognition classes for officers and crew were held on April fourth and fifth.

6 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0800 made preparations for getting underway, and at 0848 underway in accordance with visual message 050205, of April 1945, shifting to assigned berth at the Finger Dock, with civilian harbor pilot at the conn. At 0956 moored starboard side to Dock #10, Nickel Works, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 1011 commenced loading ship pursuant to orders of ComTransRon 11. At 1849 Com-

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USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 May 1945.

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pleted loading ship.

7 April 1945 - Moored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0830 made all preparations for getting underway, at 0952 underway shifting berths to assigned anchorage in accordance with visual dispatch 062008, of April 1945, from the Port Director, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 1110 anchored in berth #43, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.

8 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships.

9 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0610 made all preparations for getting underway, at 0651 underway in accordance with ComTransDiv 32, training order #A1-45, of 8 April 1945, with civilian harbor pilot at the conn, standing out of Noumea Harbor, in column through Bulari Passage, in company with ComTransDiv 32, with USS PRESIDENT JACKSON as O.T.C., and C.T.U. At 0854 formed cruising formation #2, as designated by training order of ComTransDiv 32. At 1017 commenced zigzagging in accordance with plan #6, USF10A. At 1501 exercised at general quarters. At 1505 set condition IA. At 1534 formation entered assigned transport area, off Isie Passage, New Caledonia, and commenced scheduled landing exercises, in accordance with ComTransDiv 32, training order. At 1704 secured from scheduled landing exercises, and standing out for night retirement as designated in training order.

10 April 1945 - At sea in company with TransDiv 32, with O.T.C., and C. T. U., in USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, carrying out night retirement plan as directed by O.T.C. At 0556 set condition IA. At 0618 formation entered transport area, and commenced scheduled landing exercises off Isie Passage, as directed by training order of O.T.C. At 0635, after all designated boats had been lowered into water, secured from condition IA, and set condition of readiness III. Ship is maneuvering in transport area, keeping station on USS PRESIDENT JACKSON, during the scheduled exercises. At 1658 received visual dispatch from ComTransDiv 32, ordering this ship to take in tow the USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, and arrive off Bulari Passage, Noumea, New Caledonia by 0800, 11 April 1945. At 1659 set the towing detail. At 1700 underway independently on various courses and speeds, maneuvering to come alongside the USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, port side to, for receiving two and one-fourth (2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ) inch

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1 May 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of April 1945.

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cable tow line. At 1747 commenced receiving three (3) inch messenger manila hawser came on board. At 1804 commenced receiving two and one-fourth inch tow line, and at 1807 shackled tow line to towing bridle. At 1834 commenced taking strain on tow line with six (6) hundred feet of tow line out between the two ships.

11 April 1945 - At sea with USS PRESIDENT ADAMS in tow, in compliance with ComTransDiv 32 dispatch 100545, of April 1945, with SOPA in USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, and being screened by PC620 and PC1590 (Com escort). At 0617 sighted Amedee Light, Bulari Passage, bearing 100° True, distance seventeen (17) miles. At 0948 cast off tow line to USS PRESIDENT ADAMS, and stood by off Bulari Passage until the USS PRESIDENT ADAMS entered the harbor, in company with Navy Tug Boat. At 1212 underway through Bulari Passage to assigned anchorage. At 1402 anchored in berth #43, Dumbéa Bay, New Caledonia. At 1510 pursuant to visual message 060455, of April 1945 from ComTransRon 11, received on board one (1) LCM ramp boat from USS ALMAACK for transportation to forward area boat pool. At 0806 the ship exercised at fire drills.

12 - 23 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, and various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. Navigation Instructions for officers and crew were held on the 12,13,14,16,17,18,20,21, and 23. Instructions in the ships steering gear and casualty steering drills were held on the 16th, and 18th. Instructions in the ships organization were held on the 18th, and 19th. Signal drills were held on 18,20, and 21. On the 16 April 1945 received 22,000 gallons of fresh water from YWO-12. On the 17 April 1945, Half-Masted colors in mourning the death of Franklin Delano ROOSEVELT, President of the United States, for a period of thirty (30) days; on the 15 April 1945 held memorial church services. On 19 April 1945, tested smoke generators, in compliance with ComTransDiv 32, visual message 180441, of April 1945. On 23 April 1945 the ship exercised at general quarters, simulated air-attacks, and casualties drills.

24 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0730 made all preparations for getting underway, at 0749 underway with civilian harbor pilot at the conn, shifting berths in accordance with visual dispatch 230301, of April 1945, from Port Director, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 0856 moored port side to berth #9, Finger Docks, Nickel Works, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 0939 commenced unloading ship, and shifting cargo in accordance with orders from Com TransRon 11.

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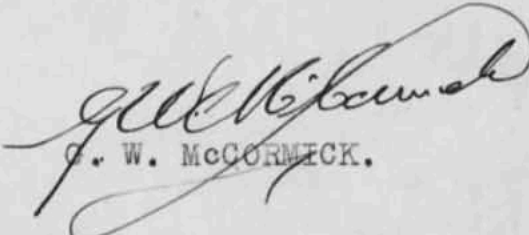
USS LIBRA (AKA12)  
1 May 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of April 1945.

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25 - 26 April 1945 - Moored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. Continued shifting cargo in accordance with orders of ComTransRon 11. On the 26 April 1945 held recognition instructions for officers and crew.

27 April 1945 - Moored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. At 0730 completed shifting cargo and reloading ship. At 0830 made all preparations for getting underway, at 0919 underway, shifting berths in accordance with visual dispatch 260450, of April 1945. At 1015 anchored in berth #43, Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia. At 1130 received from Radio Materiel Office, Noumea, New Caledonia, one (1) Das Loran Receiver #173, together with spare parts.

28 - 30 April 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon 11, various other units of United States Pacific Fleet, and Merchant ships. On 28 April 1945, received from yard fuel barge #2, 40,000 gallons of fuel oil, and 7,169 gallons of diesel oil.

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

cc: cincpac

Reg. No. 1706 141  
R. S. No.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 019

1 June 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of May 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh, ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152, of 29 October 1945.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of May is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA12) attached to Transport Division THIRTY-TWO, Transport Division Commander, Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA 18) flag ship. Under Transport Squadron ELEVEN, Squadron Commander, Commodore D. W. LOOMIS, USN., USS FREMONT (APA 44) flagship.

1 May 1945 - (Time -1100 Zone). Anchored in Berth No. 43, Dumbea Bay, New Caledonia. Colors at half mast in mourning the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, late President of the United States. LIBRA embarking troops and equipment of the 322nd Infantry, 81st Infantry Division, U. S. Army, for transportation to Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands.

2 May 1945 - Anchored as before in company with Transport Squadron ELEVEN, various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and merchant ships present. At 1340 exercised crew at general drills. At 1620 finished embarking troops; embarked eight (8) Officers and one hundred forty-six (146) enlisted men of the 322nd Infantry, 81st Infantry Division, U. S. Army.

3 May 1945 - Anchored as before in company with Transport Squadron ELEVEN, various other units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and merchant ships present. At 0615 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0618 Transport Squadron ELEVEN commenced standing out of the harbor in column led by the USS FREMONT (OTC and CTG) and at 0720 underway in accordance with CTG 11.11 movement order number 4-45 of 28 April 1945. Proceeding on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel. Captain at conn, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed



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3 May 1945 - (cont). 15 knots (84 RPM). At 0821 Task Group commenced forming cruising disposition 3-AL-1. At 0930 took departure from Bulari Passage on base course 283° True. Task Group formed in cruising disposition 3-AL-1, as designated by OTC. Enroute to Manus Island, Admiralty Island, thence to Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	22°27'S	21°30'S
Longitude	--	165°46'E	164°01'E

4 - 5 May 1945 - Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT. The crew was exercised at general drills and instruction classes were held for all Officers and Crew.

4th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	19°34'S	19°06'S	17°43'S
Longitude	162°07'E	161°16'E	159°48'E

5th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	15°33'S	14°39'S	12°56'S
Longitude	158°26'E	158°19'E	157°32'E

6 May 1945 - Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT. At 0909 commenced firing practice, and exercised crew at general drills. At 0945 secured from general drills and firing practice; ammunition expended: 5"/38 Cal. - 26 rounds; 40 mm - 402 rounds; 20 mm - 909 rounds. At 1900 retarded clocks one half hour to conform with minus ten and one half time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°27'S	9°37'S	8°22'S
Longitude	156°19'E	155°58'E	154°38'E

7 - 8 May 1945 - (Time -1030 Zone). Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT. During the forenoon watch the Transport Squadron held flag hoist drills and tactical maneuvers. At 1900, 7 May 1945, retarded clocks one half hour to conform with minus ten time zone.

7th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	07°44'S	07°31'S	07°06'S
Longitude	152°06'E	151°31'E	149°37'E

8th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	05°54'S	15°11'S	03°46'S
Longitude	147°42'E	147°28'E	147°19'E



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9 May 1945 - (Time -1000 Zone) Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT. At 0100 sighted Baluan Island bearing 006 true, distance 20 miles. At 0332 with Lou Island abeam to starboard, changed base course to 041 true. At 0445 Task Unit 11.11.12 proceeding independently to Manus Island, and at 0453 sighted Manus Island bearing 350 true, distance ten miles. At 0706 commenced steaming at various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel for entrance into Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands. At 0816 entered Seeadler Harbor, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. At 0908 anchored in berth number 116, Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands.

10 May 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon ELEVEN, various other units of the United States Pacific Fleet and merchant vessels present. At 1000 made all preparations for getting underway and at 1242 underway in accordance with CTG 11.11 secret movement order No. 4-45 of 28 April 1945. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeding on various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel. At 1316 took departure from Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Island with anti-submarine nets abeam to port and starboard. At 1317 formed cruising disposition 3-AL-1 with LSM Group No. 24 - 800 yards astern of formation and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Instruction classes were held for all Officers and crew.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	01°03'S
Longitude	--	--	146°43'E

11 - 15 May 1945 - Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT, in cruising disposition 3-AL-1 with LSM Group No. 24 - 800 yards astern of formation, and destroyer screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. Zigzagging during the day in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). Instruction classes were held during this period for all Officers and crew. At 1900, 14 May 1945 retarded clocks one half hour to conform with minus nine and one half time zone. At 1900, 15 May 1945 retarded clocks one half hour to conform with minus nine time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	00°26'S	01°01'N	01°50'N
Longitude	145°15'E	144°36'E	143°24'E

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11 - 15 May 1945 - (Cont.)

12th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	03°08'N	03°45'N	04°42'N
Longitude	141°30'E	140°55'E	139°54'E

13th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	05°56'N	06°27'N	07°15'N
Longitude	137°56'E	137°09'E	137°53'E

14th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°04'N	09°35'N	09°55'N
Longitude	134°42'E	133°53'E	132°12'E

15th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°14'N	10°24'N	10°24'N
Longitude	129°46'E	128°48'E	127°24'E

16 May 1945 - (Time -9 Zone). Steaming as before in company with TransRon ELEVEN, OTC and CTG and ComTransRon ELEVEN in USS FREMONT, in cruising disposition 3-AL-1 with LSM Group No. 24 - 800 yards astern of formation. In accordance with orders from OTC and CTG the Transport Group two-blocked colors. At 0808 entered Leyte Gulf and at 0845 commenced maneuvering on various courses and at various speed off the Daguitan River, Leyte Gulf, awaiting berth assignment by OTC. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1307 anchored in Berth No. 797, Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands and commenced making preparations for unloading.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°46'N	--	--
Longitude	129°29'E	--	--

17 May 1945 - Anchored as before, in company with TransRon ELEVEN, SOPA in USS FREMONT. At 0920 commenced unloading the ship. Pursuant to message from ComTransDiv THIRTY-TWO, sent five (5) LCM's to the USS PRESIDENT HAYES for duty. All LCM's returned to the ship after making one trip with priority cargo from the USS PRESIDENT HAYES.

18 May 1945 - Anchored as before, unloading ship during daylight hours. At 0652 received LCT #1159 alongside the starboard side of #3 hold. At 0918 received LSM #182 alongside the port side of #2 hold. At 1301 cast off LCT #1159, loaded, and dispatched to the beach. At 1508 received LCT #899 alongside the port side #4 hold. At 1730 furnished 1500 gallons of fresh water to LSM #182.

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19 May 1945 - Anchored as before, unloading ship during daylight hours. At 1004 cast off LCT #899, loaded, and dispatched to the beach. At 1040 received LSM #91 alongside the starboard side forward. At 1713 cast off LSM #182, loaded, and dispatched to the beach. At 1750 LSM #185 moored alongside the port side forward.

20 May 1945 - Anchored as before, unloading ship during daylight hours.

21 May 1945 - Anchored as before, unloading ship during daylight hours. At 0615 cast off LSM #182, loaded, and dispatched to the beach. At 0619 cast off LSM #91, loaded and dispatched to the beach. At 1200 received LCT #1080 alongside the port side of #2 hold. At 1530 tested the electric and telemotor steering gear, test satisfactory.

22 May 1945 - Anchored as before, unloading ship during daylight hours. At 0612 cast off LCT #1080, loaded, and dispatched for the beach. At 0700 completed unloading ship, having discharged all cargo and embarked army personnel, of the 322nd Infantry, 81st Division, United States Army. Made all preparations for getting underway. At 0900 in accordance with ComTransRon ELEVEN, voice message, 230000 of May 1945, underway for assigned berth in San Pedro Bay, Philippine Islands. Proceeding on various courses and various speeds conforming to the channel. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. Standard speed set at 15 knots (84 RPM). At 1140 moored along the starboard side of the U. S. Coast Guard Tanker, IX 131, USS ABARENDA, port side to, in Berth #92, San Pedro Bay, Philippine Islands to receive fuel. Draft of ship before fueling, forward 12'6", aft 22'3". At 1532 completed fueling ship, having received 127,000 gallons of fuel oil. Draft of ship forward, 14'6", aft 21'1". At 1600 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1612 underway in accordance with ComTransRon ELEVEN, voice circuit message 230000 of May 1945 to assigned berth. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Steaming on various courses and speeds to conform with the channel. Standard speed set at 15 knots (84 RPM). At 1648 anchored in berth #87 San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands.

23 - 25 May 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #87, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands with various ships of the United States and British fleet and merchant fleet being present and SOPA in the USS ARGONNE (AG 31). At 0924, 24 May 1945 received LCT #899 alongside the starboard side of #2 hold for



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29 May 1945 - (Time -9 $\frac{1}{2}$  Zone). Steaming as before in company with the USS PRESIDENT HAYES as OTC and Column Guide with CTD THIRTY-TWO in the USS PRESIDENT HAYES. Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). At 0110 advanced all clocks to conform with minus ten time zone. At 1215 sighted Cape Soeadja, New Guinea, bearing 136° true, distance 30 miles. At 1335 commenced steaming on various courses and various speeds conforming to the channel into Humboldt Bay, Hollandia, New Guinea. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1415 anchored in Berth "N66", Humboldt Bay, Hollandia, New Guinea. Sent ashore for routing instructions and communication plan to Milne Bay, New Guinea. At 1646 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1715 underway in accordance with CTG 76.6 secret dispatch, 250100 of May 1945. Standard speed set at 16 knots (90 RPM). Proceeding independently on various courses and speeds conforming with channel. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. During the morning watch a Recognition Class was held for the crew, and a Loran Navigation Class for all Deck Officers.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	01°24'S	02°32'S	02°31'S
Longitude	139°43'E	140°44'E	141°26'E

30 - 31 May 1945 - (Time -1000 Zone). Steaming independently as before enroute to Milne Bay, New Guinea. In the morning the ship held Damage Control problems and instruction class for all lookouts, and a Blinker and Semaphore Instruction Class for all Deck Officers. In the afternoon watch instruction class was held for the Damage Control parties and a Recognition Class for the crew. At 1715, 30 May 1945 entered Isumrud Straits. At 2240 sighted Long Island, bearing 045 true. At 0225, 31 May 1945 passed Rooke Island abeam to port, distance 19 miles. At 1116, 31 May 1945 passed Cape Ward Hunt (Mitre Rock) abeam to starboard, distance 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles. At 1322 passed Eve Shoal buoy abeam to starboard, distance 100 yards. At 1725 passed Hall Point Light abeam to starboard, distance 2.5 miles. At 1821 passed Hall Point Light abeam to starboard, distance 2.5 miles. At 1821 passed Ham Reef abeam to starboard, distance 800 yards. At 2350 passed Ipoteto Island light abeam to starboard, distance 1.5 miles. During the nights of 30 and 31 May 1945, dimmed running lights were used; and mast head lights were shown when ships were in close proximity, pursuant to instructions from the Port Director, Hollandia, New Guinea.

30th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	03°03'S	03° 37'S	15°14'S
Longitude	144°18'E	145°01'E	146°13'E

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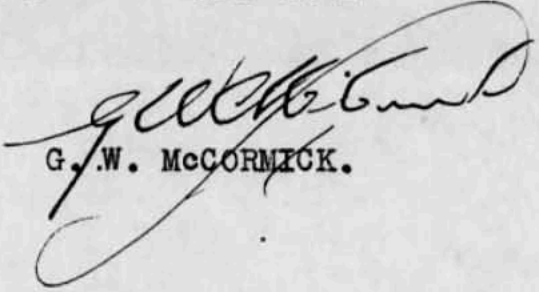
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30 - 31 May 1945 - (Cont).

31st	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	07°11'S	08°12'S	09°19'S
Longitude	148°09'E	148°13'E	149°38'E

  
G. W. McCORMICK.

cc-cincpac



Cinc Pac - 67859

REG. NO 10  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 164

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 025

2 July 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of June 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FFL/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1945.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of June is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to Transport Division THIRTY-TWO, Transport Division Commander Captain W. S. POPHAM, USN. USS PRESIDENT HAYES (APA 20) flagship.

1 June 1945 - (Time -10 Zone) Steaming independently enroute to Milne Bay, New Guinea in accordance with CTG 76.6 Secret Dispatch 250100 of May 1945. Standard speed is set at 16 knots (90 RPM). At 0807 passed through Raven Channel and entered Milne Bay. At 1103 moored port side to U. S. Army dock #7, Wanaduella Bay, Milne Bay, New Guinea, made all preparations to load designated cargo. At 1350 commenced loading ship. Instructions for damage control party and a recognition class for officers was held during the morning watch.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	09°14'S	--	--
Longitude	150°57.5'E	--	--

2 - 4 June 1945 - Moored as before, port side to Dock #7, Wanaduella Bay, Milne Bay, New Guinea, loading designated cargo. At 0810, 3 June 1945 commenced receiving fresh chlorinated water from the dock.

5 June 1945 - Moored as before, port side to Dock #7, Wanaduella Bay, Milne Bay, New Guinea, loading designated cargo. At 1325 secured from taking on fresh chlorinated water from the dock. At 1400 secured from loading ship, having received on board for further transportation and delivery to Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands, the following boats in addition to 1600 tons

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5 June 1945 - (Cont.) of general cargo: Two (2) picket boats, one (1) motor launch, four (4) LCM's(6), one (1) LCM(3), two (2) Army "D" boats. At 1415 pursuant to movement order #135, HDQ Base A, USASOS, APO 928, two hundred ninety-six (296) enlisted men and eight (8) officers of the 3075 QM Bakery Co., 4287 QM Salvage Repair Co., 370 QM Bakery Co., reported aboard for further transportation. At 1505 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1554 underway, shifting berths to anchorage on orders of the Commanding Officer, at various speeds and courses conforming to the channel, Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed set at 10 knots (55 RPM). At 1641 anchored in berth J-3, Gili Anchorage, Milne Bay, New Guinea. Instructions were held for officers during the afternoon watch in landing craft and first aid.

6 June 1945 - Anchored as before in Berth J-3, Gili Anchorage, Milne Bay, New Guinea. At 0530 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0554 underway independently for Hollandia (Humboldt Bay), New Guinea in compliance with CNB Milne Bay dispatch 050842 of June 1945 and CTG 76.6 Movement Order 250100 of May 1945. Proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed set at 16 knots (90 RPM). During the morning watch instructions were held for all officers in aircraft recognition, WIMS, and Rules of the Road.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°17'S	09°44'S	08°33'S
Longitude	150°51'E	150°14'E	148°28'E

7 June 1945 - Steaming independently as before, enroute to Hollandia, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. During the morning watch drills were held for 5"/38 gun crews and all 20 mm gun crews. Recognition instruction for the crew and signal drill for all officers. During the afternoon watch instructions were held for officers in the Ship's Organization and in Cargo Handling.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	05°42'S	05°05'S	03°18'S
Longitude	147°16'E	146°16'E	144°55'E

8 June 1945 - Steaming independently as before, enroute to Hollandia, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. At 0843 sighted entrance to Humboldt Bay, bearing 257 T., distance 36 miles. At 1139 anchored outside berth N-4, Humboldt Bay awaiting permission to go alongside tanker for fuel. At 1204 pursuant to visual message 080025

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2 July 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of June 1945.

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8 June 1945 - (Cont.) of June 1945 from the Port Director, Hollandia, underway shifting berths, and at 1232 moored port side to USS ARAYAT (IX-134), berth #4, Humboldt Bay. At 1306 commenced fueling ship, and at 1528 secured from fueling ship, having received one hundred twenty-seven thousand (127,000) gallons of fuel oil. At 1549 underway shifting berths to outer anchorage on orders of the Commanding Officer, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1627 anchored in berth N-57, Humboldt Bay. At 1700 retarded the ship's clocks to conform with -9 Zone Time. During the morning watch drills were held for the 5"/38 and 20 mm gun crews and recognition instruction for officers.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	02°32'S	--	--
Longitude	141°36'E	--	--

9 June 1945 - (Time -9 Zone) Anchored as before in berth N-57, Humboldt Bay, Hollandia, New Guinea. Various U. S. Naval vessels, merchant ships and small craft present. At 0640 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0658 underway for Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands in obedience to Convoy Cruising Order T-3 of 8 June 1945 from the Port Director, Hollandia, New Guinea. Proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, forming cruising disposition A-1. CTG and Convoy Guide in USS ST CROIX (APA 231). Column guide in USS TODD (AKA 71). Formation being screened by USS PARLE (DE-708) on the port bow and USS GILLETTE (DE-681), Commander of Escort, on the starboard bow. Convoy speed set at ten (10) knots (55 RPM). WIMS are in force.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	02°32'S	01°53'S	01°03'S
Longitude	140°48'E	140°44'E	139°31'E

10 - 16 June 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Hollandia-Manila convoy T-3 as third ship in column O3 astern of USS JAMES O'HARA, OTC and convoy guide in USS ST CROIX (APA 231). During this cruise the ship exercised at General Quarters, held fire drill and firing gunnery exercises. Daily instruction in WIMS were held for all officers and two classes were held in "Weather Conditions for the Philippine Area". Daily recognition instruction for both crew and officers was held.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	00°15'N	00°26'N	01°16'N
Longitude	137°56'E	137°04'E	135°54'E

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2 July 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of June 1945.

	0800	1200	2000
11th			
Latitude	02°26'N	02°49'N	03°35'N
Longitude	134°09'E	133°45'E	132°36'E
12th			
Latitude	04°36'N	05°00'N	05°37'N
Longitude	131°04'E	130°59'E	130°31'E
13th			
Latitude	07°04'N	07°24'N	08°17'N
Longitude	129°37'E	129°22'E	128°31'E
14th			
Latitude	09°31'N	10°02'N	10°36'N
Longitude	126°58'E	126°29'E	125°24'E
15th			
Latitude	09°13'N	08°59'N	09°18'N
Longitude	124°10'E	123°31'E	122°26'E
16th			
Latitude	11°07'N	11°44'N	12°55'N
Longitude	121°28'E	121°07'E	120°35'E

17 June 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Hollandia-Manila convoy T-3 as third ship in column 03 astern of USS JAMES O'HARA, OTC and convoy guide in USS ST CROIX (APA 231). At 0920 passed Corregidor Island abeam to port, entered channel, standing in to Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1304 anchored in berth #18, South Anchorage, Manila Bay. At 1615 the following boats and their personnel were delivered to UCIT-98, Luzon: Two (2) picket boats, one (1) motor launch, four (4) LCM's(6), one (1) LCM(3), one (1) PRB and two (2) Army "D" boats.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	14°17.5'N	--	--
Longitude	120°32'E	--	--

18 - 21 June 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #18, South Anchorage, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands with various United States Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present. SOPA in APC 10.

22 June 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #18, South Anchorage Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands with various United States Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present. SOPA in APC 10. At 0621 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0719 underway in accordance with orders of HDQ Base X, US Army Service of Supply, Manila of 21 June 1945, shifting berths



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2 July 1945.

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22 June 1945 - (Cont.) to berth #1, pier #9, Army Harbor pilot, Captain CASTILLO at conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 0840 moored starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #1, Manila Harbor. At 0925 commenced discharging general cargo, and continued unloading ship throughout the night.

24 - 26 June 1945 - Moored as before, starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #1, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, with various United States Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present. SOPA in APC 10. Unloading ship twenty-four hour per day. During this period a total of about 1500 bags of U. S. Mail was received aboard as cargo for delivery to Leyte, Philippine Islands; a continuous twenty-four hour guard watch was established.

27 June 1945 - Moored as before, starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #1, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, with various United States Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present. SOPA in APC 10. Continued unloading ship. At 0710 completed unloading ship. At 0715 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0736 underway in accordance with order of HDQ Base X, U. S. Army Service of Supply, Manila, of 26 June 1945, shifting from Berth #1, Pier #9, to outer anchorage. U. S. Army Harbor pilot, Captain GALLAGA at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. U. S. Army tug ST-3 aiding in maneuvering on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 0854 anchored in berth #67, Manila Bay, standing by to get underway at 1400. At 1356 underway for Leyte Gulf, via San Beradino Straits, Philippine Islands in accordance with Port Director, Manila, movement order 00419 of 24 June 1945. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed set at 12 knots (67 RPM). At 1600 increased standard speed to 15.5 knots (87 RPM).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	13°37'N
Longitude	--	--	120°48'E

28 June 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 0708 changed standard speed to 12 knots (67 RPM). At 1227 passed western entrance to San Beradino Straits. At 1230 changed standard speed to 14 knots (78 RPM). At 1545 commenced zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10A). During the morning watch instruction for officers were held in recognition, and oxygen breathing apparatus.



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	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	12°41'N	12°39'N	12°09'N
Longitude	123°43'E	124°15'E	125°38'E

29 June 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. 0715 Commenced steaming on various courses and speeds conforming to channel proceeding to assigned anchorage, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 0852 anchored in berth #50, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 1250 completed discharging cargo of U. S. Mail. At 1450 received on board LCM's AKA 12, numbers one through eight, inclusive and LCVP's, numbers one through eight, inclusive, together with their crews from Navy 3964, having completed their temporary duties.

30 June 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #50, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, with various U. S. Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present. At 0700 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0752 underway on various courses and speeds pursuant to CTU 72.7.1 Visual Message 290603 of June 1945, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1126 moored port side to merchant tanker SS CATAWBA FORD in berth #96 to receive fuel. At 1426 completed fueling ship, having received on board ninety thousand, eight hundred eight (90,808) gallons of fuel oil and four thousand, six hundred sixty-two (4,662) gallons of diesel oil. At 1453 underway on orders of the Commanding Officer, shifting berths to outer anchorage. At 1611 anchored in berth #66, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands with various U. S. Men of War, merchant ships and small craft present.

  
G. W. McCORRICK.

cc-cincpac

REG. NO 85  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO/37

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

2 August 1945

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 031

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of July 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of  
29 October 1945.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of July is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to Transport Division THIRTY-TWO, Transport Division Commander, Captain C. W. WEITZEL, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA 18) flagship.

1 July 1945 - (Time -9 Zone) Anchored in berth #66, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 0530 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0557 underway independently in accordance with orders from Port Director, Navy 3964, Secret serial 521 of 1 July 1945 for Oro Bay, New Guinea. Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on bridge. Standard speed is set at 16 knots (90 RPM).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°53'N	10°11'N	08°53'N
Longitude	125°28'E	126°14'E	127°59'E

2 - 5 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Oro Bay, New Guinea. During the morning watch, 2 July 1945 recognition instruction was held for officers and the crew; during the afternoon watch the ship exercised at General Quarters, fire drills, after steering, and recognition instruction was held for officers and the crew. During the morning watch, 3 July 1945 Deck Watch Officers exercised at after steering drill; during the afternoon watch the ship exercised at General Quarters, and held anti-aircraft firing practice. During the afternoon watch, 5 July 1945 the ship exercised at General Quarters, tracking drills, Condition I-A and Damage Control problems.

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AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 031

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 August 1945.

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2 - 5 July 1945 - (Cont)

	0800	1200	2000
2nd			
Latitude	07°08'N	06°31'N	05°09'N
Longitude	130°49'E	131°50'E	133°21'E
3rd			
Latitude	02°39'N	01°46'N	00°09'N
Longitude	135°50'E	136°33'E	138°01'E
4th			
Latitude	01°57'S	02°10'S	02°45'S
Longitude	140°30'E	141°27'E	143°00'E
5th			
Latitude	04°15'S	04°58'S	06°00'S
Longitude	145°24'E	146°04'E	147°39'E

6 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Oro Bay, New Guinea. At 0939 anchored in Oro Bay, New Guinea awaiting orders to proceed to dock. At 1230 advanced ship's clocks one hour to conform with -10 zone time.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°38'S	--	--
Longitude	148°33'E	--	--

7 July 1945 - (Time -10 Zone) Anchored as before in Oro Bay, New Guinea. At 0535 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0655 underway in accordance with Oro Bay Shore Station visual message PTO of 6 July 1945, shifting berth to dock. Civilian harbor pilot, R. CROOKSHANK at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed set at 12 knots (66 RPM). At 0748 moored port side to berth "I", Liberty Dock, Oro Bay, New Guinea. At 0932 commenced unloading mail, from #3 hold, at 1052 completed unloading United States mail. At 1353 commenced loading ship.

8 - 9 July 1945 - Moored as before to berth "I", Liberty Dock, Oro Bay, New Guinea, loading ship 24 hours per day. At 0800, 8 July 1945 half masted colors in mourning of the death of Prime Minister Curtin of Australia. During the morning watch, 9 July 1945 held loading and tracking drills for Condition I-A gun crews.

10 July 1945 - Moored as before to berth "I", Liberty Dock, Oro Bay, New Guinea, continued loading ship. At 0745 completed loading all cargo. At 0800 in accordance with Commander Army Base "B", Troop Movement Order #70 of 30 June 1945 received aboard, two officers and fifty-five enlisted men of the 170th Ord. Depot; five officers and seventy-three enlisted men of

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)

2 August 1945.

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10 July 1945 - (Cont.) HDQ Engineering School, U. S. Army; one officer and fifteen enlisted men of the 324th QM Truck Co; twenty enlisted men of the 325th QM Gasoline Supply Co; thirteen enlisted men of the 634th Ord. Ammunition Co; one officer and two enlisted men of HDQ Armed Forces Radio Section; ten officers and seventeen enlisted men of the 3481st Maintenance Co., for further transportation to Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 0915 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1055 underway independently in accordance with orders from Port Director, Oro Bay, New Guinea of 9 July 1945 for Hollandia, New Guinea, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed set at 14.3 knots (80 RPM). During the afternoon watch drills were held for Condition I-A gun crews.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	06°43'S
Longitude	--	--	148°08'E

11 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute for Hollandia, New Guinea. During the morning watch recognition instructions were held for the crew, signal instructions for boat coxswains and beach parties. During the afternoon watch ship exercised at General Quarters, Condition I-A, held anti-aircraft firing practice for Condition I-A gun crews, exercised at "Abandon Ship" stations and held look-out instructions for the crew. At 1800 retarded all Ship's clocks one hour to conform to -9 Time Zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	04°46'S	03°53'S	02°45'S
Longitude	145°51'E	145°17'E	143°29'E

12 July 1945 - (Time -9 Zone) Steaming independently as before enroute to Hollandia, New Guinea. At 0806 anchored in assigned berthing area, Humboldt Bay, Hollandia, New Guinea, awaiting further orders. At 1300 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1310 received aboard for transportation to Commanding Officer, Receiving Station, Navy 3142, one officer and five enlisted men. At 1325 underway independently in accordance with Port Director Hollandia, order of 12 July 1945 for Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed is set at 16 knots (90 RPM). Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10B). During the morning watch 20MM gun drills were held for the Condition I-A gun crews.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	01°10'S
Longitude	--	--	139°46'E

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 August 1945.

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13 - 16 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands, zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10B). During the morning watch, 13 July 1945 recognition instruction was held for the crew and instructions in hand to hand combat was held for beach parties. During the afternoon watch 13 July 1945 ship exercised at fire drill and held lookout instruction for the crew. During the morning watch 14 July 1945 recognition instruction was held for the crew and medical instruction was held for the crew. During the afternoon watch 14 July 1945 recognition instruction was held for the crew and signal instruction for the beach parties. At 0927, 16 July 1945 the ship entered San Bernardino Straits and passed through the Philippine archipelago. During the morning watch 16 July 1945 the ship exercised at General Quarters, and held recognition instruction for the crew. During the afternoon watch instruction was held for the beach party and boat coxswains.

13th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	01°24'N	01°51'N	03°16'N
Longitude	137°33'E	137°01'E	135°44'E
14th			
Latitude	05°30'N	05°58'N	06°59'N
Longitude	133°46'E	132°59'E	131°21'E
15th			
Latitude	08°36'N	09°13'N	10°25'N
Longitude	128°39'E	127°48'E	127°26'E
16th			
Latitude	12°47'N	12°35'N	13°06'N
Longitude	124°52'E	124°14'E	122°02'E

17 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute for Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 0645 passed Corregidor Island and entered Manila Bay. At 0655 anchored in berth #31, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1705 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1719 underway shifting berths in accordance with voice circuit message 1707312 from the Port Director, Manila, of July 1945. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 1830 anchored in berth #21, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 0920 one officer and five Navy enlisted men disembarked, having completed transportation.

18 - 24 July 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #21, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands with various ships of the



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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 August 1945.

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18 - 24 July 1945 - (Cont) United States Navy and merchant fleet present and Com Seventh Fleet, Manila, SOPUS. At 0700, 18 July 1945 commenced unloading vehicles into Ship's boats for delivery to the beach. At 1552 secured from unloading vehicles. During the morning watch 23 July 1945 ship exercised at General Quarters, Collision Drill, Fire Drill, Condition I-A, Life Raft stations and Fire and Rescue drill. During the morning watch 24 July 1945 held flag hoist drill for signalmen.

25 July 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #21, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands in company with various ships of the United States Navy and merchant fleet with Com Seventh Fleet, Manila, SOPUS. At 0700 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0826 underway in accordance with voice circuit message 2413592 of July 1945 from the Port Director, Manila, shifting berth to dock. Pilot at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 0957 anchored 200 yards east of berth "E", Manila Bay, awaiting clearance of the dock. At 1325 underway with Harbor army pilot CLEMENTE at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 1440 moored starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #4, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1600 commenced unloading ship.

26 July 1945 - Moored as before, starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #4, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, unloading ship 24 hours per day.

27 July 1945 - Moored starboard side to Pier #9, Berth #4, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, unloading ship 24 hours per day. At 1430 in accordance with orders from Com Seventh Amphibious Force, serial P16-3/00 of 26 July 1945 the Ship's Transport Quartermaster, Lieut. Ben W. WHITE left the ship for temporary additional duty relative to making arrangements for the ship's next operation. At 1550 completed discharging all cargo and the disembarkment of all Army personnel. At 1600 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1623 underway in accordance with visual message 270248 of July 1945 from the Port Director, Manila, shifting berths to outer harbor, Manila Bay. Harbor Pilot R. RAZON at conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 1715 anchored in berth #65, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands.

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 August 1945.

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28 July 1945 - Anchored in berth #65, Manila Bay, Luzon Islands with various ships of the United States Navy and merchant fleet present and Com Seventh Fleet, SOPUS. At 1500 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1601 underway independently in accordance with Movement Order 00777 of 27 July 1945 from the Port Director, Manila, for San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, standard speed set at 15.5 knots (87 RPM). The ship is proceeding to Leyte Island via Verde Island Passage and San Bernardino Straits.

29 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 1713 having passed through San Bernardino Straits, commenced zigzagging in accordance with Plan #6 (USF 10B).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	12°41'N	12°30'N	12°25'N
Longitude	123°21'E	124°07'E	125°32'E

30 July 1945 - Steaming independently as before for Leyte Gulf, San Pedro Bay, Philippine Islands. At 0547 anchored two miles south of HECF Signal Tower, Homonhon Island, Philippine Islands, on orders from the Signal Station that they had new orders for the ship. At 0815 underway in accordance with visual directions from HECF., Homonhon Island, for San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. At 1252 anchored 400 yards south of berth #107, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, awaiting assignment to tanker for fueling. At 1504 underway, shifting berths to tanker. At 1615 moored port side to the port side of YO 162 in berth #107, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 2300 completed fueling ship, having received aboard, one hundred ninety-three thousand, five hundred forty-one (193,541) gallons of fuel oil.

31 July 1945 - Moored as before to the port side of YO 162 in berth #107, San Pedro Bay, Philippine Islands with various ships of the United States Navy and merchant fleet present. At 0635 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0630 underway in accordance with voice message #300155 of July 1945 from Port Director, Leyte, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeding on various courses and speeds to conform with the channel to assigned anchorage. At 0757 anchored in berth #36, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. At 0912 AOG 18, moored to port side, aft, to deliver diesel oil. At 1120 completed taking on diesel oil,

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 August 1945.

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having received on board, eight thousand and two (8002) gallons.  
At 1125 cast off AOG 18. At 1340 made all preparations for  
getting underway. At 1400 underway independently in accordance  
with Secret Movement Order 846 of July 1945 from the Port  
Director, Navy 3964 for Finschaven, New Guinea, proceeding on  
various courses conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn,  
Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, standard speed  
set at 15.5 knots (87 RPM)

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	10°12'N
Longitude	--	--	126°13'E

  
G. W. MCCORMICK.

cc-cincpac.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
 FLEET POST OFFICE  
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

3 September 1945.

AKA12/A12/A16  
 Serial - 034

From: The Commanding Officer.  
 To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
 Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.  
 Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1945.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of August is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to Transport Division THIRTY-TWO, Transport Division Commander, Captain C. W. WEITZEL, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA 18) flagship.

1 - 4 August 1945 - (Time -9 Zone) Steaming independently as before enroute to Finschafen, New Guinea. During the morning watch, 1 August 1945 held recognition instruction for the crew, lookout instruction and loading and tracking drill for Condition I-A - 40MM gun crews. During the afternoon watch held signal instruction for boat crews and beach party personnel. During the morning watch, 2 August 1945 exercised at General Quarters, steering casualty drill, debarkation stations and held anti-aircraft firing practice. During the afternoon watch held pistol practice for officers, recognition instruction for crew and machine gun instruction for beach party and boat crew personnel. At 1800 advanced all Ship's clocks one hour to conform with minus ten zone time. During the morning watch, 4 August 1945 held recognition instruction for crew, signal instruction for boat crew and beach party. During the afternoon watch held instructions for lookouts.

1st	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	08°20'N	08°44'N	06°37'N
Longitude	128°43'E	129°38'E	131°30'E
2nd	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	04°36'N	03°55'N	02°46'N
Longitude	133°53'E	134°33'E	135°50'E
3rd	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	00°43'N	00°07'S	01°31'S
Longitude	137°44'N	138°24'E	139°52'E

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Serial - 034

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
3 September 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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4th                    0800                    1200                    2000  
Latitude            02°29'S                02°49'S                03°37'S  
Longitude           142°25'E                143°18'E                145°01'E

5 August 1945 - (Time -10 Zone). At 1424 commenced steaming on various courses and speeds entering Langemark Bay, Finschafen, New Guinea, in preparation for mooring. At 1545 moored port side to pier #8, Langemark Bay, with Harbor Pilot Lieut. E. D. McDONALD, RAN., at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1925 commenced loading ship. 1930 Commenced receiving fresh water from the dock.

                          0800                    1200                    2000  
Latitude            05°33'S                06°58'S                --  
Longitude           146°55'E                147°42'E                --

6 August 1945 - Moored port side to Pier #8, Langemark Bay, Finschafen, New Guinea as before, loading ship continuously 24 hours per day. At 1815 received on board, pursuant with Troop Movement Order from Base "F", AFWESPAC, APO 322, of 6 August 1945, nine officers and sixty-eight enlisted men of nine service units, United States Army, for transportation. At 2155 completed loading ship. At 2245 secured from receiving fresh water from the dock.

7 August 1945 - Moored port side to Pier #8, Langemark Bay, Finschafen, New Guinea as before, loading ship continuously 24 hours per day. At 0535 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0606 underway from the dock in accordance with orders from the Naval Staff Office, Langemark Bay, New Guinea routing orders of 6 August 1945, for Hollandia, New Guinea. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Proceeding on various courses and speeds, independently, conforming to the channel. During the morning watch held recognition instructions for the crew and signal instruction for boat crews and beach party. During the afternoon watch held recognition instruction for the crew. At 1800 retarded Ship's clocks one hour to conform with minus nine time zone.

                          0800                    1200                    2000  
Latitude            06°12'S                05°30'S                03°44'S  
Longitude           147°47'E                146°53'E                145°12'E

8 August 1945 - (Time -9 Zone). Steaming independently as before enroute for Hollandia, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. At 1251 commenced steaming on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, entering Humboldt Bay. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 1315 Harbor Pilot Lieut. H. JEANS, RAN., came aboard. At 1415 moored port side



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Serial - 034

USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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8 August 1945 - (Cont.) to Dock #2, Challenger Cove, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. At 1914 secured #1 boiler and commenced operating emergency diesel generator for auxiliary purposes in order to allow emergency repairs in boiler room. 1930 Commenced receiving fresh water from dock.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	02°36'S	02°32'S	--
Longitude	142°12'E	141°02'E	--

9 August 1945 - Moored as before, port side to Dock #2, Challenger Cove, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. 0540 Cut in boiler #1 for auxiliary purposes and secured emergency diesel generators. At 1035 in accordance with Troop Movement Order No. 123 HDQ Base "G", AFWESPAC, APO 565 of 2 August 1945, two officers and twenty-six enlisted men of three United States Army Service Units came aboard for transportation.

10 August 1945 - Moored as before port side to Dock #2, Challenger Cove, Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. At 0120 secured from loading ship. At 1030 secured from taking fresh water from the dock, having received aboard 50,000 gallons. At 1035 secured from loading boats, having received as cargo from Naval Base Pool, Navy 3115, for delivery to Naval Base Boat Pool, Navy 3142, the following boats: 6 - LCM's, 2 - LCP(L)'s, 5 - LCVP's (unarmored) and 1 - LCVP (armored). At 1045 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1100 underway independently in accordance with orders from the Port Director, Hollandia, New Guinea, of 9 August 1945 for Biak, Sorido Lagoon, Schouten Group, with Harbor Pilot Lieut. H. JEANS, RAN., at the conn. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	01°20'S
Longitude	--	--	138°50'E

11 August 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute for Sorido Lagoon, Biak Island, Schouten Group. At 0652 commenced steaming at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, entering Sorido Lagoon, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 0837 Dutch Harbor Master came aboard with orders to proceed to Dock #1, Sorido Lagoon. At 0932 moored starboard side to Dock #1, Sorido Lagoon. At 1030 three officers and twenty army personnel of the 13th Base Post Office, disembarked, having completed their transportation. At 1301 commenced unloading United States registered mail. At

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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11 August 1945 - (Cont.) 1330 completed unloading United States registered mail. At 1426 commenced loading ship. At 1445 commenced receiving fresh water from the dock.

12 August 1945 - Moored as before, starboard side to Dock #1, Sorido Lagoon, Biak Island, Schouten Group, continuously loading ship. At 1013 secured from loading ship. At 1230 pursuant to Movement Order from Base "H" APO 920 of 12 August 1945, six officers and one hundred forty-seven enlisted men of various United States Army Service Units reported aboard for transportation. At 1315 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1347 underway with Harbor Pilot W. WHITTON, RANR., at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, in accordance with orders of Port Director, Biak, of 12 August 1945, for Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands, proceeding at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	00°08'S
Longitude	--	--	135°54'E

13 - 15 August 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute to Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. During the morning watch, 13 August 1945 held instruction for boat coxswains in "Rules of the Road". During the morning watch, 14 August 1945, the ship exercised at General Quarters and held anti-aircraft firing practice. During the afternoon watch held signal and "Rules of the Road" instruction for all boat coxswains. During the morning watch, 15 August 1945, held loading and tracking drills for 5"/38 gun crew. At 1243 passed San Bernardino light, entering San Bernardino Straits for passage through the Philippine Archipelago.

	0800	1200	2000
13th			
Latitude	02°52'N	03°51'N	05°44'N
Longitude	134°17'E	133°47'E	132°56'E
14th			
Latitude	07°50'N	08°32'N	10°02'N
Longitude	130°23'E	129°33'E	127°49'E
15th			
Latitude	12°19'N	12°44'N	12°56'N
Longitude	125°28.5'E	124°31'E	122°32'E

16 August 1945 - Steaming independently as before enroute for Manila, Luzon Islands, Philippine Islands. At 0640 passed Corregidor Island abeam to port and entered Manila Bay, and commenced steaming on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. At 0843 anchored in Berth #47, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1545 seven officers and

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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16 August 1945 - (Cont.) one hundred fifty-nine enlisted personnel of various United States Army Service Units left the ship, having completed their transportation.

17 - 20 August 1945 - Anchored as before in Berth #47, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 0800, 17 August 1945, completed delivery of 6 - LCM's, 2 - LCP(L)'s, 5 - LCVP's (unarmored) and 1 - LCVP (armored) to Navy Base Boat Pool, Navy 3142, from Navy Base Boat Pool, Navy 3115. At 0805 Lieutenant Commander P. M. SMITH Jr., (DM), USNR., took command of this vessel, having relieved Captain George W. McCORMICK, (DM), USNR., pursuant to orders from BuPers ltr. 090908 Pers-3116-HS-6E of 23 July 1945.

21 August 1945 - Anchored as before in Berth #47, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands with various other ships of the United States and merchant fleet present. SOPUS is Com Seventh Fleet., Manila. At 0721 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0734 underway pursuant to Port Director Manila voice message 201141 of 20 August 1945 with Harbor Pilot P. CONGE at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel into inner harbor. At 0937 moored starboard side to berth #2, Pier #1, Manila Harbor, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1000 commenced unloading ship.

22 - 23 August 1945 - Moored as before. At 0100, 22 August 1945 commenced loading ship as soon as holds were discharged and ready to receive cargo. Continuous twenty-four hours per day both discharging and loading cargo. At 2300, nine officers and sixty-eight enlisted men from four United States Signal Corps Groups and five officers and seventeen enlisted men of Naval Mobile Communications Units 470, reported aboard for transportation, pursuant with Signal Corps Project 8500 of 15 July 1945.

24 August 1945 - Moored as before, Berth #2, Dock #1, Manila Harbor, Luzon, Philippine Islands. At 0033 completed loading ship. At 0615 made all preparations for getting underway. At 0645 underway in accordance with Port Director Manila voice message 231305Z of 23 August 1945 with Harbor Pilot Captain R. RAZON at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding at various courses and speeds to berth in outer harbor. At 0820 moored starboard side to the port side of IX 132 in berth 180, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Island.



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Serial - 034

USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945.

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24 August 1945 - (Cont.) for fuel. At 1245 cast off from tanker, having received one hundred fifty-eight thousand (158,000) gallons of fuel oil, and underway for anchorage in accordance with voice message 240052Z of 24 August 1945. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds to anchorage. At 1314 anchored in Berth #69, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands.

25 August 1945 - Anchored as before in Berth #69, Manila Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1300 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1331 underway in accordance with Movement Order ComPhibGrp. TWELVE, No. A1220-45, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, forming column standing out of Manila Bay as follows: USS SKAGIT (guide), USS BOTETOURT, USS TODD, USS GASCONADE, USS LIBRA and USS SERONA with Captain PARKER in the USS SKAGIT as OTC. At 1611 commenced proceeding independently to take previously assigned stations in cruising disposition "C-1", in accordance with ComPhibGrp TWELVE Movement Order A1220-45 in column #2 composed of temporary TransDiv FORTY-SEVEN as follows: USS RUTLAND, (Captain HUTTON), Column Guide, USS HIGHLANDS, USS ST. MARYS, USS SHERBORNE, USS YANCEY and USS LIBRA as part of Task Group 33.1 with Rear Admiral HALL in the USS HANSFORD as OTC and Fleet Guide and Third Amphibious Flag Ship, USS OLYMPUS astern of USS HANSFORD in column #3. Underway as part of the first echelon of the Toyko Force of the Third Amphibious Force as set forth in The Campus Operation Plan A1601-45.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	14°50'N
Longitude	--	--	119°49'E

26 August 1945 - Underway as before in company with Task Group 33.1 in steaming disposition "C-1" with USS HANSFORD as fleet guide, CTC and OTC. Having received information of typhoons in the target area the Task Force was turned around in contemplation of anchoring in Subic Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1407 anchored in Berth #122, Subic Bay, Luzon Islands, standing by to get underway on two hours notice.

27 August 1945 - Anchored as before in Berth #122, Subic Bay, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands. At 1015 made all preparations for getting underway. At 1040 underway in accordance with Movement Order ComPhibGrp. TWELVE, A1220-45. Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel to form cruising disposition "C-1" as set forth in Movement Order. At 1338 completed forming cruising formation "C-1".

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Serial - 034

USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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27 August 1945 - (Cont.)

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	15°30'N
Longitude	--	--	119°44'E

28 August 1945 - Steaming as before as sixth ship in Column #2 in company with Task Group 33.1, cruising disposition "C-1" with OTC, CTG and fleet guide in the USS HANSFORD, Column Guide in USS RUTLAND. During the morning watch held emergency drills, the ship exercising at General Quarters, life raft stations, fire drills and tracking and loading drills,

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	18°02'N	18°58'N	20°00'N
Longitude	120°12'E	120°33'E	121°53'E

29 August 1945 - Steaming as before as sixth ship in Column #2 in company with Task Group 33.1, cruising disposition "C-1" with OTC, CTG., and fleet guide in USS HANSFORD, Column Guide in USS RUTLAND. During the morning watch the ship exercised at emergency drills, holding General Quarters, tracking and loading drills, life raft stations and fire drills. The ships in formation maneuvered at tactical drills. During the afternoon watch held flag hoist drill.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	21°34'N	22°11'N	23°27'N
Longitude	124°19'E	125°02'E	126°31'E

30 August 1945 - Steaming as before as sixth ship in Column #2 in company with Task Group 33.1, cruising disposition "C-1" with OTC, CTG., and Fleet Guide in USS HANSFORD, column guide in USS RUTLAND. During the morning watch the ships maneuvered at tactical drills. At 1241 commenced maneuvering on orders from the OTC on various courses and speeds to take station astern of the USS GASCONADE as fifth ship in column 2 as part of temporary TransDiv SIXTEEN comprising column #2 as follows: USS SKAGIT, Column Guide, USS TODD, USS BOTETOURT, USS GASCONADE, USS LIBRA and USS SERONA.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	25°13'N	25°49'N	26°57'N
Longitude	128°33'E	129°27'E	130°52'E

31 August 1945 - Steaming as before as fifth ship in Column #2 in company with TransGrp 33.1, cruising disposition "C-1", with OTC, CTG., and Fleet Guide in USS HANSFORD, Column Guide



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USS LIBRA (AKA 12),  
3 September 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of August 1945.

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31 August 1945 -(Cont.) in USS SKAGIT. During the morning watch  
the ships maneuvered at tactical drills, and held signal and  
flag hoist drills.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	28°54'N	29°31'N	30°43'N
Longitude	133°13'E	134°00'E	135°36'E

*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH

cc-cincpac.

REG. NO 208  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 125

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

2 October 1945.

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 037

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of September 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of September is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to TransDiv THIRTY-TWO, TransDiv Commander, Captain C. W. WEITZEL, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA 18) flagship. At present temporarily assigned to Task Group 33.1, Task Group commander, Rear Admiral J. L. HALL JR., USN., USS HANSFORD, flagship. Underway as part of the first echelon of the Tokyo Force of the Third Amphibious Force, as set forth in the "Campus" operation plan, A1601-45.

1 September 1945 - (Time -9 Zone). Steaming in company with Task Group 33.1 as part of the first echelon of the Tokyo Force of the Third Amphibious Force. Material Condition "Afirm" set, below decks.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	32°17'N	32°55'N	33°47'N
Longitude	138°02'E	138°36'E	139°52'E

2 September 1945 - Steaming as before with cruising formation in single column. Steaming on various courses and speeds conforming to channel entering Tokyo Bay, Honshu Island, Japan. At 0945 entered Tokyo Bay. At 1012 exercised crew at General Quarters. At 1121 anchored in berth #9, Yokohama District, Tokyo Bay, Honshu Island, Japan. At 1125 secured from General Quarters, set Condition of Readiness III.

3 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #9, Yokohama District, Tokyo Bay, Honshu Island, Japan. At 1118 underway in accordance with ComTransRon SIXTEEN visual message 030157 of 3 September 1945, proceeding on various courses and various speeds conforming to the channel, shifting to Yokohama Northeast dock "Dog". At 1245 moored starboard side to dock "Dog", Yokohama. At 1750 in accordance with ComTransRon SIXTEEN voice message 1527 of 3 September 1945 transferred the following boats and equipment to the USS SKAGIT (AKA 105): Eight (8) LCM(3)'s, two (2) LCVP's, one (1) LCP(L), complete with guns, gun mounts and cradles

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 October 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of September 1945.

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3 September 1945 - (Cont) and the following ammunition, eight thousand (8000) rounds 50 Cal. ammunition; four thousand five hundred (4500) rounds 30 caliber ammunition. At 1310 commenced unloading ship.

4 September 1945 - Moored as before to starboard side of Yokohama Northeast Dock "Dog", Yokohama Harbor, Honshu Island, Japan. Unloading ship. At 0415 completed unloading ship and at 0500, in accordance with signal corps project 3500 of 15 July 1945, nine (9) army officers and sixty-eight (68) army enlisted personnel, five (5) navy officers and seventeen (17) navy enlisted personnel left the ship, transportation completed. At 0639 underway in accordance with TransRon SIXTEEN voice message of 3 September 1945, shifting to anchorage. At 0748 anchored in berth #9, Yokohama District, Tokyo Bay, Honshu Island, Japan. At 1223 made all preparations for getting underway. Set Material Condition "Afirm" and Condition of Readiness III. At 1236 underway in accordance with ComThirdPhibFor secret message 031412 of 3 September 1945. Steaming on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, forming column astern of the OTC in the USS SKAGIT (AKA 105), proceeding down Tokyo Bay to Tateyama Wan. At 1550 anchored at Tateyama Wan, Honshu Island, Japan. At 1630 made all preparations for getting underway and at 1648 underway in accordance with ComTranDiv SIXTY-FIVE movement order Al-45 of 4 September 1945, proceeding on various courses and speeds leaving Tateyama Wan, formed single column cruising disposition proceeding out of Tokyo Bay. At 2045 commenced forming cruising disposition "Charlie 2" and at 2130 completed forming cruising disposition "Charlie 2". At 2215 took departure from Tokyo Bay, enroute to Okinawa Island

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	34°54'N
Longitude	--	--	139°20'E

5 - 6 September 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Trans Div SIXTY-FIVE. OTC and CTD SIXTY-FIVE in the USS LAVACA (APA 180), enroute to Okinawa Island, Southwestern Islands, Japan.

	0800	1200	2000
5th			
Latitude	33° 11'N	32°38'N	31°26'N
Longitude	137° 03'E	136° 34'E	134° 58'E
6th			
Latitude	29° 57'N	29°21'N	28° 01'N
Longitude	132° 09'E	131°28'E	130° 05'E

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2 October 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of September 1945.

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7 September 1945 - Steaming as before in company with TransDiv SIXTY-FIVE. OTC and CTD SIXTY-FIVE in USS LAVACA (APA 180). At 0635 commenced forming single column cruising disposition steaming at various courses and speeds conforming to the channel entering Buckner Bay, Okinawa Island. At 0810 entered Buckner Bay and at 0858 anchored in berth B-47, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Island. At 1158 underway in accordance with ComThirdPhibFor secret dispatch 031412 of September 1945. Steaming on various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel standing out of Buckner Bay. At 1230 took departure from Buckner Bay, enroute to Leyte Gulf, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	--	24°25'N
Longitude	--	--	127°37'E

8 - 10 September 1945 - Steaming as before in company with USS HILIARY P. JONES (DD 427) and USS CHARLES F. HUGHES (DD 428). OTC in the USS HILIARY P. JONES. LIBRA acting as formation guide. Material Condition "Baker" set. At 1816 on 8 September 1945 changed route in order to pass clear of reported storm during which time encountered heavy seas. Set typhoon Condition II.

	0800	1200	2000
8th			
Latitude	21°24'N	20°21'N	18°48'N
Longitude	127°09'E	127°07'E	127°36'E
9th			
Latitude	17°33'N	17°03'N	16°07'N
Longitude	128°43'N	129°04'E	129°18'E
10th			
Latitude	14°14'N	13°30'N	11°59'N
Longitude	128°26'E	127°55'E	126°53'E

11 September 1945 - Steaming as before in company with USS HILIARY P. JONES (DD 427) and USS CHARLES F. HUGHES (DD 428). OTC in the USS HILIARY P. JONES. LIBRA acting as formation guide. At 0408 commenced steaming at various courses and speeds conforming to channel entering Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0842 entered San Pedro Bay and at 0912 anchored in berth #297 and immediately reported to ComTaskFor THIRTY-FOUR for duty.

12 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #297, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. SOPA in USS STRATFORD (APA 41). At 1013 underway in accordance with ComSer Div SEVENTY-TWO visual UR110420 of 12 September 1945, proceed-



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12 September 1945 - (Cont.) ing to assigned fueling berth. At 1204 moored starboard side to USS TRINITY (AO 13) and commenced taking on fuel. At 1510 completed fueling ship and made preparations for getting underway and at 1522 underway shifting berths, proceeding to Southern Anchorage. At 1603 took departure from San Pedro Bay and commenced steaming at various courses and speeds to assigned berth, Southern Anchorage. At 1804 anchored in berth #873, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands.

13 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #873, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands, awaiting orders to commence loading ship.

14 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #873, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0615 in accordance with CTF THIRTY-FOUR transfer order, serial 01216 of 9 September 1945, the following boats and equipment was transferred to the boat pool at Guiuan, Leyte, Philippine Islands: Two (2) LCVP's. At 1122 underway in accordance with CTF THIRTY-FOUR visual dispatch 140044 of 14 September 1945, shifting berths. At 1233 anchored in berth #676, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands and at 1845 commenced loading ship, loading as cargo, equipment of the IX Corps and 81st Infantry Division, U. S. Army.

15 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #676, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. SOPA in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1). Continued loading ship. At 1615 made all preparations for getting underway and at 1634 underway in accordance with ComPhibGr 3 visual message 150302 of September 1945, shifting berths. At 1753 anchored in berth #881, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands and continued loading ship.

16 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #881, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. Continued loading ship.

17 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #881, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. Continued loading ship. At 1200 completed loading ship and embarked for transportation, five (5) officers and one hundred ten (110) enlisted men of various units of the 81st Infantry and IX Corps, U. S. Army.

18 September 1945 - Anchored as before in berth #881, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0620 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0641 underway in accordance with CTF THIRTY-FOUR sortie plan 1-45 (confidential mailgram) of 15 September 1945, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel forming in divisions. At 0815 completed forming division, as



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2 October 1945.

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18 September 1945 - (Cont.) fourth ship astern of USS WARRICK (AKA 89) in division "X-ray" operating under TransDiv SIXTY-SIX. OTC and CTF THIRTY-FOUR, Rear Admiral R. L. CONOLLY, USN., in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1) with formation guide in USS KERSHAW (APA 176). At 0815 formed cruising disposition "2-T" and at 0917 with Taytay Point bearing 268° T., took departure from Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands at point X-ray. In Transport Group 34.3 (Aomori - Ominato - Hokkaido Force) as set forth in ComPhibGr THREE operation order numbers A-304-45 and A-305-45. This force will conduct approach into Mutsu Bay in order to land embarked troops.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	--	10°35'N	12°03'N
Longitude	--	125°57'E	126°57'E

19 - 24 September 1945 - Steaming in company with Task Force THIRTY-FOUR, cruising disposition "1-T" as fourth ship in Trans Div X-ray. OTC and CTF in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1), formation guide in USS KERSHAW (APA 176), column guide in USS OLMSTEAD (APA 188). Formation screened by USS JONES (DD 427) and USS HUGHES (DD 428) as a part of the Aomori - Ominato - Hokkaido Transport Group. At 0849, 19 September 1945 USS ROCKINGHAM (APA 229, USS CORVUS (AKA 26) and USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) took stations in the transport group. At 1615, 19 September 1945 USS HUGHES (DD 428) and USS WARRICK (AKA 89) left formation, USS WARRICK being unable to maintain fleet speed. At 1212 on 22 September 1945 fueled the USS JONES (DD 427). During this period the Transport Group exercised at signal drills, emergency drills and tactical maneuvers. At 2240, 24 September 1945 sighted Hokkaido Island bearing 300° T., and at 2325 entered Tsugaru Strait, proceeding on various courses and speeds conforming to swept channel following orders of OTC.

19th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	14°27'N	15°18'N	16°57'N
Longitude	128°07.5'E	128°37'E	129°32'E
20th			
Latitude	19°24'N	20°18'N	22°01'N
Longitude	130°50'E	131°20'E	132°22'E
21st			
Latitude	24°30'N	25°26'N	27°07'N
Longitude	133°41'E	134°12'E	135°13'E
22nd			
Latitude	29°43'N	30°28'N	32°01'N
Longitude	136°50'E	137°18'E	138°17'E
23rd			
Latitude	34°21'N	35°14'N	37°16'N
Longitude	140°34'E	141°10'E	141°59'E



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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
2 October 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of September 1945.

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or station, continental United States FFT to personnel separation  
centers for discharge.

*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH

cc-cincpac.

U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO. CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

1 November 1945

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

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

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of  
29 October 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of October is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to TransCiv THIRTY-TWO, TransDiv Commander, Captain C. W. WEITZEL, USN., USS PRESIDENT JACKSON (APA 18) flagship. Temporarily assigned to Task Force 34, Task Force Commander, Rear Admiral R. L. CONOLLY, USN., in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1), flagship. Anchored in berth 43, Anchorage Baker, Aomori Harbor, Honshu Island, Japan. Troops and equipment of the IX Corps., U.S. Army aboard awaiting impending operation, as set forth in ComPhib-Grp 3 Operation Plan No. A304-45, A305-45 and A306-45.

1 - 3 October 1945 - (Time -9 Zone). Anchored in berth 43, Anchorage Baker, Aomori Harbor, Honshu Island, Japan, in company with various units of Task Force 34. SOPA in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1). Shifted berths the 3rd of October during heavy weather. Encountered winds up to forty knots and port anchor dragged.

4 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 10, Aomori Harbor, Honshu Island, Japan, in company with various units of Task Force 34, SOPA in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1). At 0315 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0404 underway in accordance with movement order ComPhibGrp 3 No. A308-45 of 1 October 1945, enroute to Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan. Formed cruising disposition "C-1" astern of USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) in company with Task Unit 34.8.3, CTG 34.8 and OTC in USS HARRIS (APA 2). Formation screened by USS CHARLES F. HUGHES (DD 428) and USS MAYO (DD 422).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	41°25'N	41°31'N	42°46'N
Longitude	140°35'E	139°56'E	139°40'E

5 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Group 34.8. CTG, OTC and Guide in USS HARRIS (APA 2). Screen patrolling ahead on assigned stations. At 0439 entered Otaru Bay, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan,



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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

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5 October 1945 - (Cont) and at 0618 anchored in berth 55, Otaru Bay. At 1615 commenced unloading ship, using landing craft. SOPA in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1).

6 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 55, Otaru Bay, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan. Unloading ship using landing craft. At 1243 underway in accordance with CTG 34.8 visual message number 052352 of October 1945, proceeding at various speeds and on various courses to assigned dock. At 1444 moored port side to East End of Pier #2, and commenced unloading ship.

7 October 1945 - Moored as before to East End of Pier #2, Otaru Bay, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan, unloading ship. At 0339 completed unloading ship, disembarked 4 officers and 45 enlisted men of the IX Corps., U.S. Army, transportation having been completed. At 0547 underway, shifting berths. At 0629 anchored in berth 55 Otaru Bay, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan.

8 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 55, Otaru Bay, Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan. SOPA in USS APPALACHIAN (AGC 1). At 0600 made all preparations for getting underway for Leyte, Philippine Islands and at 0647 underway in accordance with CTF 34 dispatch 071402 of 8 October 1945 in company with Task Unit 34.8.10. OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands. Material condition "Affirm" set.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	43°27'N	43°27'N	41°50'N
Longitude	139°54'E	140°06'E	139°30'E

9 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10. OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65). At 1326 in accordance with orders from CTU 34.8.10 reversed course and commenced proceeding to Ominato Bay, Honshu, Japan, in an attempt to avoid typhoon reported south of Okinawa and recurving north-east. Experienced moderate winds. At 2122 in accordance with CTF 32 radio dispatch 091136 of October 1945 reversed course toward destination. Reduced standard speed from 15 knots to 12 knots and commenced steaming at two-thirds speed.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	40°48'N	39°49'N	41°01'N
Longitude	142°14'E	142°27'E	141°58'E

10 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10.



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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

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10 October 1945 - (Cont) OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), at reduced speed (two Thirds). Weather conditions unchanged, barometer steady throughout the day. At 0600 commenced steaming at 6 knots in accordance with orders from OTC, Task Unit remaining north of latitude 40° as ordered by CTF 32. Task Unit steamed at various speeds and on various courses remaining north of latitude 40°N.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	40°07'N	40°07'N	41°14'N
Longitude	142°20'E	142°15'E	142°09'E

11 October 1945 - Mameuvering at various courses and at various speeds remaining north of latitude 40°N., in an attempt to avoid previously reported typhoon. In company with Task Unit 34.8.10. OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA65). At 1158 in compliance with CTU 34.8.10 visual dispatch 110300 of 11 October 1945, Task Unit reversed course and proceeded to Hakodate, Hokkaido, Japan. At 1629 anchored in berth 121, Hokadate Wan, Hokkaido, Japan, in company with various units of Japanese Fleet and Task Unit 34.8.10. Made all preparations for heavy weather. Heavy weather encountered between the hours of 0600 and 1400, estimate winds 35 - 40 knots, force 7. At 1901 shifted berths, nearby ships closing due to bad weather and variable winds.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	40°55'N	41°23'N	----
Longitude	142°35'E	141°58'E	----

12 October 1945 - Anchored as before in Hokadate Wan, Hokkaido, Japan, in company with Task Unit 34.8.10 and various units of the Japanese Fleet. OTC, CTU and SOPA in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65). At 0800 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0828 underway in accordance with CTU 34.8.10 visual dispatch 112215 of 12 October 1945, enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands. Typhoon having passed over Northern Honshu and to the north-east.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	----	41°37'N	40°28'N
Longitude	----	141°24'E	142°10'E

13 - 14 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	38°00'N	37°12'N	35°11'N
Longitude	142°18'E	141°55'E	141°19'E

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	33°10'N	32°15'N	30°58'N
Longitude	139°14'E	138°18'E	137°03'E

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USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

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10 October 1945 - (Cont) OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), at reduced speed (two Thirds). Weather conditions unchanged, barometer steady throughout the day. At 0600 commenced steaming at 6 knots in accordance with orders from OTC, Task Unit remaining north of latitude 40° as ordered by CTF 32. Task Unit steamed at various speeds and on various courses remaining north of latitude 40°N.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	40°07'N	40°07'N	41°14'N
Longitude	142°20'E	142°15'E	142°09'E

11 October 1945 - Maneuvering at various courses and at various speeds remaining north of latitude 40°N., in an attempt to avoid previously reported typhoon. In company with Task Unit 34.8.10. OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA65). At 1158 in compliance with CTU 34.8.10 visual dispatch 110300 of 11 October 1945, Task Unit reversed course and proceeded to Hakodate, Hokkaido, Japan. At 1629 anchored in berth 121, Hokodate Wan, Hokkaido, Japan, in company with various units of Japanese Fleet and Task Unit 34.8.10. Made all preparations for heavy weather. Heavy weather encountered between the hours of 0600 and 1400, estimate winds 35 - 40 knots, force 7. At 1901 shifted berths, nearby ships closing due to bad weather and variable winds.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	40°55'N	41°23'N	----
Longitude	142°35'E	141°58'E	----

12 October 1945 - Anchored as before in Hokodate Wan, Hokkaido, Japan, in company with Task Unit 34.8.10 and various units of the Japanese Fleet. OTC, CTU and SOPA in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65). At 0800 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0828 underway in accordance with CTU 34.8.10 visual dispatch 112215 of 12 October 1945, enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands. Typhoon having passed over Northern Honshu and to the north-east.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	----	41°37'N	40°28'N
Longitude	----	141°24'E	142°10'E

13 - 14 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	38°00'N	37°12'N	35°11'N
Longitude	142°18'E	141°55'E	141°19'E

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	33°10'N	32°15'N	30°58'N
Longitude	139°14'E	138°18'E	137°03'E

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945

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15 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands. Received CTF 32 dispatch 150004 stating, "Task Force 34 dissolved as of 1500 01/Z. Task Units this force retain same numerical designation under operational control Task Force 32, until respective dissolution." At 1210 Task Unit changed course and commenced proceeding to Okinawa in compliance with CTF 32 dispatch 142358 of 14 October 1945, to deliver excess provisions to Naval Forces.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	28°21'N	27°36'N	27°18'N
Longitude	135°35'E	135°10'E	133°08'E

16 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Okinawa. At 1237 sighted Okinawa Shima off starboard bow, distance 18 miles, and at 1426 entered Buckner Bay and proceeded independently to assigned anchorage. Anchoring at 1645 in berth B99, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto. SOPA in USS LAERTES (AR 20).

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	26°38'N	26°29'N	----
Longitude	129°56'E	128°58'E	----

17 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth B99, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and U. S. Merchant Ships. SOPA in USS LAERTES (AR 20). At 0703 shifted berths and moored alongside USS CAMEL (IX 135) and at 0750 commenced taking on fuel. Completed fueling at 1245, having received 228,000 gallons, and at 1255 underway, shifting berths. At 1312 anchored in berth B70, Buckner Bay. At 1440 underway, shifting berths and at 1545 anchored in berth B80 and commenced making preparations for discharging provisions using LIBRA LCVP's. At 2300 completed discharging provisions to U. S. Navy Supply Depot, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, having discharged 38,653 pounds of dry provisions amounting to \$6,779.36 and 46,461 pounds of fresh and frozen provisions amounting to \$12,459.49.

18 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth B80, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and U. S. Merchant Ships. SOPA in USS LAERTES (AR 20). At 0530 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0559 underway in accordance with CTU 34.8.10 voice message 170920 of 17 October 1945. Standing out of Buckner Bay enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	25°57'N	25°01'N	23°04'N
Longitude	127°55'E	127°37'E	127°21'E



CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 039

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

-----  
19 - 20 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands.

19th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	19°57'N	19°02'N	17°06'N
Longitude	126°56'E	126°46'E	126°38'E

20th			
Latitude	14°15'N	13°33'N	12°15'N
Longitude	126°18'E	126°15'E	126°06'E

21 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.8.10, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0600 with Suluan Island abeam to starboard, distance 8 miles, entered Surigao Strait. At 0727 left Suriagao Strait and entered Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0939 entered San Pedro Bay, Leyte, Philippine Islands and at 1044 moored starboard side to USS ABRENDA (IX 131) and commenced fueling ship. At 1345 completed fueling ship having received 47,896 gallons of fuel oil, 10854 gallons of diesel oil and 45,000 gallons of fresh water. At 1401 underway from alongside USS ABRENDA (IX 131) and at 1446 anchored in berth 215, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, Philippine Islands.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	10°48.8'N	----	----
Longitude	125°27.5'E	----	----

22 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 215, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, Philippine Islands, in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and Merchant Ships. SOPA in USS STRATFORD.

23 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 215, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, Philippine Islands, in company with various units of the U. S. Pacific Fleet and Merchant Ships. SOPA in USS STRATFORD. At 0530 made allpreparations for getting underway and at 0603 underway in accordance with ComLSTFlot 25 voice message 34.8, 221242 of 23 October 1945, standing out of San Pedro Bay, shifting to Southern anchorage, Leyte Gulf. At 0927 anchored in berth 762, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands.

24 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 762, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 1605 commenced loading ship. Loading troops and equipment of the IX Corps., U. S. Army.

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial 039

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 November 1945.

Subject: War Diary, Month of October 1945.

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25 - 28 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 762, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands, continued loading troops and equipment of the IX Corps., U. S. Army. At 1605 on the 27th of October completed loading ship in accordance with I. E. Field Order #8, Headquarters, 81st Infantry Division, U. S. Army, 16 September 1945 and Field Order #1, Headquarters Base Echelon, 81st Infantry Division, 24 October 1945. Received aboard for transportation four (4) officers and 54 enlisted men and seven hundred twelve (712) ton of equipment, At 1820, the 28th of October 1945, in accordance with 81st Infantry Division voice message 1755 of 28 October 1945, received 12 U. S. Army enlisted men aboard for transportation to destination or until such time as they may be transferred to LST 1072.

29 October 1945 - Anchored as before in berth 762, Leyte Gulf, Leyte, Philippine Islands. At 0620 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0648 underway in accordance with ComPhibsGrp Nine Confidential Movement Order No. A923-45 of 24 October 1945, standing out of Leyte Gulf, enroute to Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan. This movement order is derived from Movement Plan Commander, Third Amphibious Forces Operation Plan No. A1601-45 and Commander Amphibious Group Three, Operation Plan No. A304-45. LIBRA second ship in column astern of USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) in Task Unit 34.9.13. OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65)

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	----	10°43.5'N	11°58'N
Longitude	----	126°07.5'E	127°06'E

30 - 31 October 1945 - Steaming as before in company with Task Unit 34.9.13, OTC, CTU and Guide in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), enroute to Otaru, Hokkaido, Japan. In the forenoon watch exercised ship's compliment at emergency drills.

30th	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	14°10'N	14°54'N	16°22'N
Longitude	128°36'E	129°05'E	130°08'E
31st			
Latitude	18°40'N	19°29'N	21°04'N
Longitude	131°24'E	131°49'E	132°43'E

*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH.

cc:  
cincpac



**U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)**

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Room 2055

1 December 1945

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63  
7 DEC 1945

File No. (SC) A12-1/AKA12

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Reg. No. 257, 260

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 042

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of November 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of November is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to TransDiv THIRTY-TWO, TransDiv Commander, Captain C. W. WEITZEL, USN, located at room 34, building 45, Roosevelt Base, Terminal Island, San Pedro, California. Temporarily assigned to Task Force 32, Task Unit 34.9.13, Task Unit Commander, Commander FLENNIKIN, USN, in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65), flagship. Steaming in company with USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) and USS WARRICK (AKA 89) as task unit 34.9.13, enroute to Aomori, Honshu Island, Japan. Troops and equipment of the 81st Infantry Division on board for transportation.

1 - 4 November 1945 - (Time -9 Zone). Steaming in company with USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) and USS WARRICK (AKA 89), attached to Task Unit 34.9.13, as second ship in column astern of USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65). O.T.C. and C.T.U. in USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65). 1 November 1945 exercised at emergency drills. At 0930 on 3 November 1945 commenced maneuvering on various courses and at various speeds to sink mine sighted on our starboard hand. 0958 USS SHOSHONE (AKA 65) sunk mine. On 4 November 1945 USS WARRICK (AKA 89) sheered out of formation to destroy mine. 0914 USS WARRICK (AKA 89) exploded mine. At 1210 on 4 November 1945 LIBRA left formation to sink mine. 1237 Mine sunk by gunfire.

	0800	1200	2000
1st			
Latitude	23°32'N	24°25'N	26°01'N
Longitude	133°54'E	134°15'E	135°02'E
2nd			
Latitude	28°33'N	29°23'N	31°03'N
Longitude	135°59'E	136°27'E	137°14'E
3rd			
Latitude	32°41'N	33°09'N	34°24'N
Longitude	138°14'E	138°50'E	140°50'E
4th			
Latitude	37°06'N	37°55'N	39°30'N
Longitude	141°45'E	141°58'E	142°41'E

150403

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 042

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 December 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of November 1945.

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5 November 1945 - Steaming as before. At 0516 entered Tsugaru Straits and at 1150 left Tsugaru Straits and entered Tairadate Straits. 1315 Proceeded independently to anchorage and at 1343 anchored in berth #16, anchorage "Baker", Aomori Wan, Mutsu Kaiwan, Honshu Island, Japan. At 1351 secured from material condition "Afirm". At 1351 made all preparations for getting underway and at 1418, underway, shifting berths. At 1436 anchored in berth #136, anchorage "Able", Aomori Wan. At 1510 in accordance with BuPers Cir. ltr. 158-42 (Expiration of enlistment) transferred two enlisted men for further transportation to the nearest Receiving Ship or Station in the continental United States and discharge from the naval service. In accordance with A1Nav 252-45, transferred one enlisted man for further transportation to the nearest Receiving Ship or Station, continental United States for discharge. In accordance with A1Nav 345-45 transferred twenty-nine (29) enlisted men for further transportation to nearest Receiving Ship or Station, continental United States for discharge.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	41°41'N	----	----
Longitude	141°25.5'E	----	----

6 - 13 November 1945 - Anchored as before. At 1400 on 6 November 1945, due to heavy weather made all preparations for getting underway, shifting to a safer anchorage. 1436 Underway and at 1459 anchored in berth #130, anchorage "Baker", Aomori Wan. Encountered winds up to 25 knots. At 0800 on 7 November 1945 debarked four (4) officers and fifty-four (54) enlisted men of the 81st Infantry Division, U. S. Army, having completed transportation and commenced unloading ship. At 1610 on 8 November 1945 completed unloading ship. During this period to heavy weather, used both starboard and port anchors.

14 November 1945 - Anchored as before. At 0500 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0600 underway in accordance with Port Director, Aomori visual message, proceeding to Gminato Ko, Mutsu Kaiwan, Honshu Island, Japan. 0900 Arrived at minato Ko and moored alongside USS TIPPECANOE (AO 21) in berth #20. At 0910 commenced fueling ship and at 1128 completed fueling ship having received 115,000 gallons. At 1200 Made all preparations for getting underway and at 1242 underway in accordance with Port Director, Aomori visual message, returning to Aomori Wan. At 1504 anchored in berth #5, anchorage "Baker", Aomori Wan, Honshu Island, Japan.

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 042

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 December 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of November 1945.

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15 - 18 November 1945 - Anchored as before. At 1200 on 15 November 1945, took all necessary precautions for heavy weather and at 1625 made all preparations for getting underway in compliance with Port Director, Aomori voice message to go into Heavy Weather Plan "Baker", Annex "Fox", SOPA instructions. At 1830 commenced making 5 RPM ahead to ease the strain on the anchor chain. At 0530 on 16 November 1945, secured from making 5 RPM and put the engine room on a two hour notice. Encountered heavy seas and winds up to 40 knots.

19 - 20 November 1945 - Anchored as before. At 1015, 19 November 1945, commenced receiving on board U.S. Army and U.S. Navy passengers for transportation to the continental United States for further transportation to separation centers for discharge. Embarked one (1) officer and twenty-nine (29) enlisted men U.S. Navy and sixteen (16) officers and two hundred sixty two (262) enlisted men U.S. Army as passengers.

21 November 1945 - Anchored as before. At 0500 commenced making all preparations for getting underway and at 0600 underway in accordance with Port Director, Aomori of 20 November 1945, in reference to Com WestSeaFron secret dispatch 151818, enroute to Seattle, Washington, United States. At 0700 entered Tairadate Straits and at 0800 left Tairadate Straits and entered Tsugaru Straits. At 1057, with Shuriya Saki light abeam to starboard, distance ten miles, left Tsugaru Straits, and took departure from Honshu Island, Japan, enroute to Seattle, Washington, United States. At 1800 advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with minus ten (-10) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	----	41°35'N	41°33'N
Longitude	----	141°53'E	144°12'E

22 November 1945 - (Time -10 Zone). Steaming as before.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	43°14.5'N	43°47'N	44°45'N
Longitude	147°39'E	148°54'E	151°26'E

23 November 1945 - Steaming as before. At 0830 exercised at emergency drills. At 1800 advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with minus eleven (-11) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Longitude	155°27'E	156°33'E	159°04'E
Latitude	45°54'N	46°27'N	46°55'N



CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 042

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 December 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of November, 1945

-----  
24 November 1945 - (Time -11 Zone). Steaming as before.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	47°41'N	48°11'N	48°37.5'N
Longitude	163°13'E	164°58'E	167°58'E

25 November 1945 - (Time - 11 Zone). Steaming as before. At 1700 advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with minus twelve (-12) time zone. At 1854 Crossed the International Date Line at latitude 49°34'N., longitude 176°36'E and entered plus twelve (+12) time zone., changing the date; new date 24 November 1945.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	49°12'N	49°19'N	49°33'N
Longitude	172°40'E	174°14'E	176°44'E

25 November 1945 - (Time +12 Zone). Steaming as before. At 1800 advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with plus eleven (+11) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	49°45'N	49°53'N	49°57'N
Longitude	178°32'W	175°53'W	174°00'W

26 November 1945 - Time +11 Zone). Steaming as before. 1800 Advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with plus ten (+10) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	50°02'N	50°00'N	50°00'N
Longitude	168°40'W	167°01'W	164°41'W

27 November 1945 - (Time +10 Zone). Steaming as before. At 0815 exercised at emergency drills. At 1300 exercised at general quarters and held firing practice. At 1500 noted barometer falling. Encountered strong winds from northwest and very rough seas. Maintained course and speed on North Pacific Great Circle Tract. Extent of damage due to weather; none.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	49°57'N	49°54'N	49°55'N
Longitude	159°48'W	157°38'W	154°29'W

28 November 1945 - Steaming as before. Barometer still falling, encountered very rough seas with poor visibility. At 1340 had gyro compass casualty and commenced steering by magnetic compass. At 1800 advanced all clocks one (1) hour to conform with plus nine (+9) time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	49°15'N	49°04'N	49°02'N
Longitude	149°27'W	157°38'W	154°29'W

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 042

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 December 1945

Subject: War Diary, Month of November 1945.

-----  
29 November 1945: (Time plus 9 Zone). Steaming as before. Barometer still falling, steadying at 29.35 during the evening watch. Condition of seas rough, winds force four (4) moving from the west. At 1800 advanced all clocks one hour to conform with plus eight time zone.

	0800	1200	2000
Latitude	48°56'N	48°57'N	48°50'N
Longitude	140°52'W	139°16'W	136°28'W

30 November 1945 - (Time plus 8 Zone). Steaming as before. Barometer steady at 29.35. Winds moving from the southwest at force four (4) with moderate seas. No damage occurred due to bad weather during this period. At 2330 sighted Pachena Point light, Vancouver Island, bearing 075° T., distance 22 miles. Estimated time of arrival, Seattle, Washington, 1900 G.C.T., 1 December 1945.

*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH.



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Room 2057

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1 January 1946 JAN 1946

File No. A12-1/AKA12

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CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serail - 001

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of December 1945.  
Reference: (a) ComInCh ltr. FF1/A12/A16-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October 1944.

1. In compliance with reference (a), the War Diary of this vessel for the month of December is submitted.

2. USS LIBRA (AKA 12) attached to TransDiv THIRTY-TWO, TransDiv Commander, Captain C. W. WEITWEL, USN, located at room 34, building 45, Roosevelt Base, Terminal Island, San Pedro, California. Attached to Chief of Naval Operations (Naval Transport Service).

1 December 1945 - (Time plus 8 <sup>4</sup>one). Steaming independently enroute to Seattle, Washington, United States. At 0040 sighted Juan DeFuca light ship bearing 099° T., distance 18 miles. At 0110 sighted Cape Flaherty abeam to port, distance 12 miles. At 0135 with Camanah Point light abeam to port, distance 7.5 miles entered Straits of Juan DeFuca. At 0639, lying to off Port Angeles, Pilot H. L. HALVERSON came aboard. At 1037 passed West Point light abeam to port, distance 7.5 miles and proceeded to Pier #91. At 1142 moored port side to Pier #91, Berth "Fox", Elliott Bay, Seattle, Washington. At 1230 in accordance with C. B. Headquarters, 4th Replacement Depot movement order, debarked 262 Army enlisted personnel and 16 Army officers of the 81st Infantry Division, having completed transportation. At 1355 in compliance with Commanding Officer's order, transferred 63 Navy enlisted personnel and one Navy officer to the nearest receiving ship or station for further transportation to Separation centers for discharge, having completed transportation.

2 December 1945 - Moored as before, port side to Pier #91, Berth "Fox", Elliott Bay, Seattle, Washington.

3 December 1945 - Moored as before, port side to Pier #91, Berth "Fox", Elliott Bay, Washington. At 0800 made all preparations for getting underway and at 0902 underway in accordance with Port Director, Seattle, Washington movement order of 1 December 1945. Pilot Lt. Comdr. C. B. CHRISTENSEN, USN, at the conn. Shifting berths to Everett Harbor, Port Gardner, Washington. At 1058 entered Everett Harbor and received two tugs from the ATB Company to assist in mooring. At 1117 moored port side to starboard side of USS TYRELL (AKA 80), Pier "E", Everett-Pacific Shipyards, Everett Harbor, Port Gardner, Washington.

153908

CONFIDENTIAL

AKA12/A12/A16  
Serial - 001

USS LIBRA (AKA 12)  
1 January 1946

Subject: War Diary, Month of December 1945.

-----  
4 - 31 December 1945 - Moored as before. During this period contracted repairs and alterations took place. Leave for officers and men was granted, keeping, however, a sufficient number of officers and men on board to aid in the completion of the ship's work.

*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH

cc:  
CinCPac.

OCT 16 1945



U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

AKA12/A16/A7-1  
Serial - 291.

25 September 1945

SO1016 147

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Secretary of the Navy.  
Subject: U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12) - Brief History of.  
Reference: (a) ALPAC 202 of 16 September 1945.  
Enclosure: (A) U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12), Brief History of.

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.



*P. M. Smith*  
P. M. SMITH.

157586

## U. S. S. LIBRA (AKA-12)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The U.S.S. LIBRA was built by the U.S. Maritime Commission at the Federal Ship Building and Dry Dock Company, Kearney, New Jersey, as the S.S. Jean Lykes (Hull No. 181). On 13 May 1942, at 1200, at Brewer's Dry Dock Company, Staten Island, New York, in compliance with Commandant Third Naval District orders, File AK53, of 12 May 1942, the U.S.S. LIBRA was placed in full commission as the AK53.

The U.S.S. LIBRA remained at Brewer's Dry Dock Company for completion of work of conversion to a Cargo Ship, Combat Loaded. The original crew consisted of 183 enlisted men and 13 officers. On 31 May 1942, the U.S.S. LIBRA received COMAMPHOR-LANT 301825 of May 1942 to report on 5 June to Naval Transportation Service for duty. On 10 June 1942, the U.S.S. LIBRA took departure from Norfolk, Virginia en route to Wellington, New Zealand.

On 1 February 1943, the classification of the U.S.S. LIBRA was changed from AK53 to AKA12.

The U.S.S. LIBRA made the initial assault at Guadalcanal on 7 August 1942, and served in the Pacific Theater, participating in the following major amphibious campaigns:

- 7 - 9 August 1942 - Guadalcanal - Tulagi Landings including First Savo.
- 10 August 1942 to 8 February 1943 - Capture and Defense of Guadalcanal.
- 12-15 November 1942 - Guadalcanal - Third Savo.
- 8 February 1943 to 15 March 1945 - Consolidation of Solomon Islands.
- 20 June to 31 August 1943 - New Georgia, Rendova, Vangunu Occupation.
- 1 November to 15 December 1943 - Occupation and Defense of Cape Torckina.
- 10 June to 27 August 1944 - Marianas Operation.
- 4-18 January 1945 - Lingayen Gulf Landing.
- 15 February to 16 March 1945 - Iwo Jima Operation

The U.S.S. LIBRA landed additional men and material in support of these and other advance bases.

While participating in the above mentioned major campaigns, the U.S.S. LIBRA was accredited with 10 enemy planes shot down, 9 probables, and 15 assists.

The U.S.S. LIBRA was the oldest veteran in the Transport group to enter Tokyo Bay, 2 September 1945. Since the initial landing at Guadalcanal, the U.S.S. LIBRA has traveled approximately 160,000 miles and carried approximately 52,559 tons of combat cargo.

Commander William B. Fletcher, Jr., USN, assumed command of the U.S.S. LIBRA on commissioning, 13 May 1942. Captain Fletcher was relieved on 2 July 1943 by Commander Floyd F. Ferris, USN. Captain Ferris was relieved on 31 July 1944 by Commander George W. McCormick, (DM), USNR. Captain McCormick was relieved on 20 August 1945 by Lt. Commander Philip M. Smith, Jr., (DM), USNR.



Reg. No. 746  
 U.S. No. 11 01692

CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS.

Location of Ship Off Cape Tebekina, Bougainville U.S.S. LIBRA (AKA12)  
 Date 8 Nov. 194

Lat. 6°25'S; Long 154°45'E

NOTES

- (a) Repeat Attack First - then collect data for this report!
- (b) Do not "gun deck" this report - if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.
- (c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.

1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) No
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye) Radar from  
 (If by Radar state type of set) other ships, then by binoculars.
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) Radar about 40 miles.
4. Number of planes. Estimated 20 - 25 attacked convoy.
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive-bomber) "Val" (Dive bomber),  
 Type of attack and "Betty" (Torpedo) simultaneously.
6. Speed & altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow, Low and Fast.)
7. Guns firing 17 Size 3" Number 4 and 3 - .50 cal  
 Method of control 3" - central Method of spotting Local  
only
8. Ammunition expended 3" - 89 rounds; 20 mm - 1,800 rounds; .50 cal - 900 rounds
9. Percent service allowance expended 3" - 10%; 20 mm - 3%.
10. Approximate time tracking to first shot 2 minutes
11. Approximate time of first hits 1 minute
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot 10 minutes
13. Approximate position angle open fire "Betty" 2°- 15° (Val)
14. Approximate position cease fire 2
15. Approximate bearing first shot 090° and 235° Rel.
16. Approximate bearing last shot Same  
 (over)

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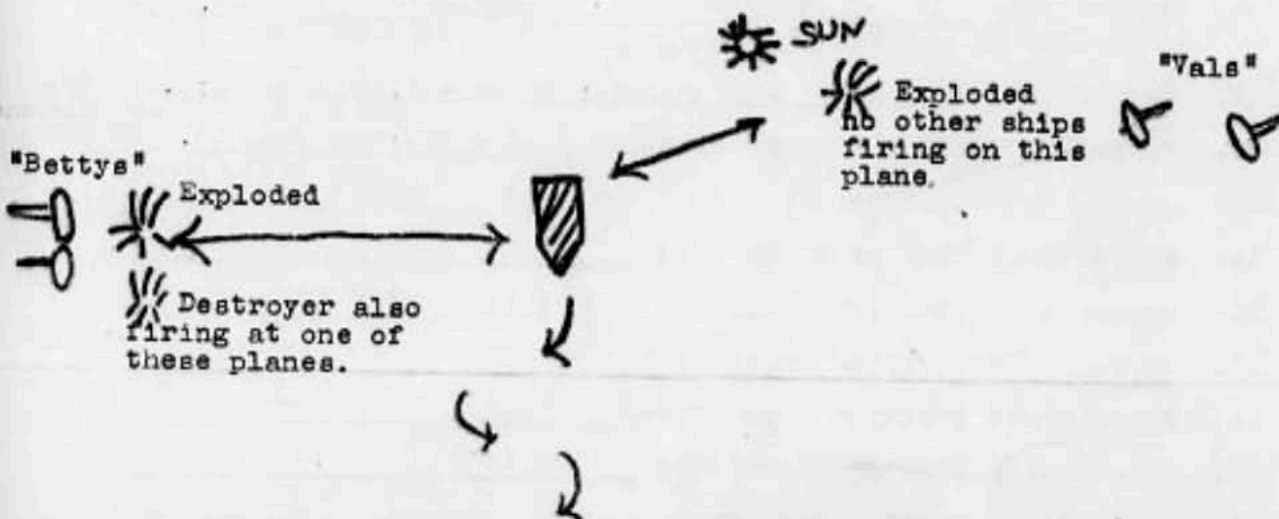


17. Approximate range first shot 2,500 - 3,000 yards
18. Approximate range last shot 1,500 yards
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release 500 ft. Type bomb very small
20. Approximate range torpedo release saw none released.  
Size of torpedo - -
21. Hits on ship None Was ship strafed Yes Size gun .50 cal.
22. Number near bomb misses none Casualties from ~~bomb~~ strafing one
23. Planes shot down 2 Sure 1 Possible 1 Damaged 1  
By what size gun 3" and 20 mm.
24. Details of Damage to target by gunfire if available \_\_\_\_\_  
Target exploded in mid air from 3" bursts - one unaided by other gunfire; one doubtful if we were aided.
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor)  
3" Excellent; 20 mm had 3 short blowbacks.
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small excessive) Small

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.  
(b) Show relative position of sun.  
(c) Indicate own maneuvers.

Sun astern, position angle 75°  
steered various courses on radical zig zag. Ships in two columns (Transports) dispersed, screen of destroyers.



(3)

F. F. FERRIS,  
Comdr., USN.,  
Commanding.