Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

U. S. S. OGLETHORPE (AKA 100)

ET NO 33

AKA100/A12-1/A16-3

Serial: 03

% Fleet Post Office, New York, N. Y.

30 July 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From:

The Commanding Officer.

To:

The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject:

War Diary, Forwarding of.

Reference:

(a) CominCh ltr. FF1/Al2-1/Al6-3, Serial 7152, 29 October 1943.

Enclosure:

(A) War Diary for month of June 1945.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance with the provisions of reference (a).

J. C. CAMPBELL

WAR DIARY

6 June 1945 to 15 June 1945:

U.S.S. OGLETHORPE (AKA 100) commissioned 6 June 1945. Captain James C. Campbell, DM, USNR, took command and reported to Commandant, Third Naval District verbally.

Ship alongside dock, Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York undergoing fitting out and loading commissioning allowance of stores and supplies.

15 June:

Reported to Commander, Operational Training Command, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, via Commandant Third Naval District. 1515 - Underway to Deperming Station, Bayonne, New Jersey. 1640 - Moored to dock and depermed ship in accordance with COTCLANT Shakedown Schedule.

16 June:

0637 - Underway from Bayonne, New Jersey and anchored in Gravesend Bay, New York, at 0730 in accordance with COTCLANT Shakedown Schedule. Loaded ammunition.

17 June:

0701 - Underway from Gravesend Bay, New York to Norfolk, Va., in accordance with COTCLANT Shakedown Schedule. Compensated compasses before taking departure. Conducted structural firing tests and expended ammunition as follows: 4 rounds 5"/38 cal.; 64 rounds 40 mm; 360 rounds 20 mm. Conducted General Drills and Emergency Drills. Streamed and recovered paravanes.

Positions:	0800 - Lat	. 40° 291	N.	Long. 73° 54' W.	
	1200 - Lat	. 40° 11'	N.	Long. 73° 45' W.	
	2000 - Lat	. 38º 351	N.	Long. 74° 21' W.	

18 June:

Underway. 0800 - Lat. 37° 52' N., Long. 75° 52' W. 0954 - Anchored in Hampton Roads. Reported to Commander Auxiliary Vessels Shakedown Group in accordance with Shakedown Schedule. Receiving preliminary shakedown inspection. Received remainder of landing craft.

19 June:

1213 - Underway to Lynnhaven Roads, Va., and anchored at 1314. Conducted daylight and dark amphibious landings. Conducted darkened ship inspection.

WAR DIARY

20 June:

Anchored in Lynhaven Roads as before.

21 June:

1406 - Underway to Hampton Roads, Va., and anchored at 1506.

22 June:

1805 - Underway in accordance with shakedown schedule. Compensated Magnetic Compasses. Conducted test of anchor windlass. Checked Degaussing Calibration. 1831 - Anchored off Mouth of Rappannock River.

23 June:

0827 - Underway in accordance with shakedown schedule. Conducted target practice. Ammunition expended: 174 rounds 5"/38 Caliber; 2740 rounds 40 caliber; 14658 rounds 20 caliber. No casualties to personnel or material. 2306 - Anchored off mouth of Rappahannock River, Virginia.

24 June:

0414 - Underway to measured mile, Kent Island, Maryland. Conducted tests for tactical and ships characteristics data. 1640 - Anchored in Annapolis Roads overnight.

25 June:

0610 - Underway. Completed data runs and conducted full power run en route to York Spit Channel. 1800 - Anchored off Cape Charles overnight.

26 June:

10/41 - Underway in accordance with shakedown schedule. Conducted test of towing and being towed at sea; and fueling at sea, U. S. S. BEATTY assisting. Returned to Hampton Roads, and anchored at 1906.

27 June:

Anchored in Hampton Roads. Received post-shakedown inspection. 1405 - Underway to Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. for post-shakedown repairs in accordance with shakedown schedule. 1539 - Moored to dock in Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia.

28 June - 30 June:

Moored to dock, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va., receiving post-shakedown repairs.

AKA100/A12-1/A16-3

Serial: 07

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California.

22 August 1945.

CONFIDERTIAL

From:

To :

The Commanding Officer. The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: War Diary, Forwarding of.

Reference: (a) CominCh Ltr. FF1/Al2-1/Al6-3, Serial 7152 of 29 October, 1943.

Enclosure: (A) War Diary for the Month of July, 1945.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance with the provisions of reference (a).

J. C. Carpbell

WAR DILEY

Loored to dock, Mayy Yard, Portsmouth, Va., receiving post-shakedown repairs.

2 July: 0802 - Underway from Mavy Yard, Fortsmouth, Va. to Naval Operating Dase, Morfolk, Va. Loaded stors and ammunition at Naval Operating Base.

3 July:
0804 - Underway singly for Newport, Rhode Island in accordance with
Commander, Fleet Operational Training Command dispatch 252124 of June,
1945. Positions: 1200 - 36 - 54 M. 74 17.5 W., 2000 - 37 - 58 M.
73 29 W.

4 July: Underway as before. Positions: 0800 - 40 38.5 M., 71 31 W. Reported to C.T.G. 23.13 for duty by dispatch 041611 of July, 1945. 1231 - anchored in Berth 50, Newport, Rhode Island.

5 - 8 July: Anchored in Berth 50, Newport, R. I., engaged in training precommissioning crews. Designated Task Unit 23.13.4 by Commander, Task Group 23.13 speedletter 44-3 of 5 July, 1945.

9 July: Anchored as previously. 1311 - got underway in accordance with Commander Task Group 23.13 spdltr. A4-3 of 5 July, 1945, for training purposes; proceeded 30 miles to sea and returned to base. 1704 anchored in Berth 45, Newport, R. I.

10 July:
Anchored in Berth 45, Mewport, R. I. 1635 - Underway in accordance with Commander Task Group 23.13 spdltr. A4-3 of 5 July, 1945, and proceeded to sea in company with U.S.3. GUILFORD on a training cruise. Position: 2000 - 40 30 N. 70 46 W.

11 July:
Underway as before. Positions: 0800 - 40 49 N. 71 08 W., 1200 - 40 53 N. 71 11 W. Conducted anti-aircraft practice firing during afternoon. Ammunition expended: 30-rounds 5"/38; 4200-rounds 20num; 328-rounds 40mm. 1734 - anchored in Berty 45, Newport, N. I.

12 22 July: Anchored in Berth 45, Newport, R. I.

23 July:
Anchored as before. Duty with C.T.G. 23.13 terminated. 1413 - Underway for Norfolk, Va., in accordance with Commander Fleet Operational Training Command Dispatch 231537 of July, 1945. Position: 2000 - 40 12 H. 71 56 W.

24 July: Underway as before. Positions: 0800 - 37°37' N. 74 12 W. 1600 - moored to dock, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Va. Reported to Commander, Service Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet for duty by despatch 241940 of July, 1945.

25 - 31 July: Moored to dock as before. Loading cargo and stores.

REG. NO R. S. NO

U. S. S. OGLETHORPE (AKA 100)

AKA100/A12-1/A16-3 Serial: 012.

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California.

September 3, 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From:

The Commanding Officer.

To :

The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Subject:

War Diary, Forwarding of.

Reference:

(a) CominCh Ltr. FF1-A12-1/A16-8, Serial 7152,

29 Oct., 1943.

Enclosure:

(A) War Diary for month of August, 1945.

Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance with the provisions of reference (a).

WAR DIARY

1-31 August 1945

1 August - Moored alongside dock in Berth 45, Pier 4, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia. Prepared for departure to Hawaiian area.

0854 Got underway for Colon, C. Z. in accordance with ComServLant despatch 311519 of July 1945.

1105 U.S.S. MARQUETTE (AKA-95) joined formation and took station 600 yards astern this ship. OGLETHORPE OTC and guide. Both vessels proceeding in company, engaged in exercises for training officers for deck watch standing while en route.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 36° 57' N Long. 76° 20' W 1200 Lat. 36° 52' N Long. 75° 44' W 2000 Lat. 35° 54' N Long. 74° 36' W

2 August - Underway as before, en route Colon, C. Z..

Positions: 0800 Lat. 33° 17' N Long. 79° 33' W 1200 Lat. 32° 18' N Long. 74° 33' W 1800 Lat. 30° 49' N Long. 74° 34' W

3 August - Underway as before, en route Colon, C. Z..

Positions: 0800 Lat. 27° 30' N Long. 74° 22' W 1200 Lat. 26° 30' N Long. 74° 15' W 1800 Lat. 25° 02' N Long. 74° 13' W

4 August - Underway as before, en route Colon, C. Z.. Weather reports received indicating hurricane developing along ship's scheduled route. Proceeded in accordance with ComServLant despatch 031833 of August 1945.

0900 Reversed course.

1936 Reversed course and resumed scheduled track, storm having dispersed.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 22° 29' N Long. 74° 27' W 1200 Lat. 22° 31' N Long. 74° 29' W 1800 Lat. 23° 47' N Long. 74° 25' W

5 August - Underway as before, en route Colon, C. Z ...

Positions: 0800 Lat. 21° 14' N Long. 74° 17' W 1200 Lat. 20° 16' N Long. 74° 04' W 1800 Lat. 18° 59' N Long. 74° 57' W

6 August - Underway as before, en route Colon, C. Z ...

Positions: 0800 Lat. 16° 05' N Long. 76° 27' W 1200 Lat. 15° 10' N Long. 76° 17' W 1800 Lat. 13° 51' N Long. 77° 40' W

7 August - Underway as before, en route Panama C. Z..

Positions: 0800 Lat. 10° 58' N Long. 79° 45' W 1200 Lat. 9° 59' N Long. 79° 57' W

1624 Arrived Colon, C. Z. and reported to CinCPac and Com 15 by despatch for duty in accordance with ComServLant despatch 311519 of July 1945.

On arrival moored to dock in Berth 45, Pier 9, Panama R.R. Co. docks, Colon, C. Z.. Took on fuel and stores.

8 August - Moored as before. 0716 Underway to transit Panama Canal. 1205 Completed transit.

1405 Anchored off Toboguilla Island awaiting arrival of ships to travel in company. 2027 Underway in accordance with ComWesSeaFron despatch 080400 of August 1945; accompanied by U.S.S. MARQUETTE (AKA-95), U.S.S. MOBERLY (PF-63), U.S.S. KEY WEST (PF-17), U.S.S. CHADWYNNE (PF-62). OGLETHORPE OTC and guide. En route Pearl Harbor, T. H., engaging in maneuvers to qualify officers for deck watch standing while en route. 2200 Took departure with Isla Bona light abeam to starboard, distant 4.5 miles.

9 August - Underway as before. Commenced darken ship condition sunset to sunrise except for dimmed running lights.

Positions: 0800 Let. 6° 45' N Long. 80° 30' W 1200 Let. 6° 45' N Long. 81° 25' W 1800 Let. 6° 48' N Long. 82° 46' W

10 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 7° 15' N Long. 86° 08' W 1200 Lat. 7° 28' N Long. 86° 59' W 1800 Lat. 7° 55' N Long. 88° 20' W

11 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 9° 09' N Long. 91° 08' W 1200 Lat. 9° 22' N Long. 92° 00' W 1800 Lat. 9° 48' N Long. 93° 25' W

12 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 10° 49' N Long. 96° 33' W 1200 Lat. 11° 09' N Long. 97° 29' W 1800 Lat. 11° 30' N Long. 98° 35' W

13 August - Underway as before. 0823 Refueled U.S.S. MOBERLY. 1038 Refueled U.S.S. GLADWYNNE. 1239 Refueled U.S.S. KEY WEST.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 12° 36' N Long.101° 47' W 1200 Lat. 12° 47' N Long.102° 23' W 1800 Lat. 13° 08' N Long.103° 27' W

14 August - Underway as before. 1600 Wind and seas commenced increasing in strength and size. 1700 Official confirmation of Japanese request for peace received. Watches and vigilance continued unchanged.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 13° 55' N Long. 106° 47' W 1200 Lat. 14° 08' N Long. 107° 45' W 1800 Lat. 14° 29' N Long. 109° 30' W

15 August - Underway as before. Heavy weather with moderate seas continued.

Positions: 0600 Lat. 15° 31' N Long. 112° 34' W 1200 Lat. 15° 46' N Long. 113° 24' W 1800 Lat. 15° 03' N Long. 114° 42' W

16 August - Underway as before. 1700 Wind became strong, swells increased to heavy. Slowed and changed course to prevent damage to boats on deck.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 16° 17' N Long. 116° 49' W 1200 Lat. 16° 26' N Long. 117° 37' W 1800 Lat. 16° 46' N Long. 118° 53' W

17 August - Underway as before. Heavy weather continued until about 1100 when it commenced to clear.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 17° 30' N Long. 120° 55' W 1200 Lat. 17° 27' N Long. 121° 35' W 1800 Lat. 17° 22' N Long. 122° 50' W

18 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 17° 52' N Long. 126° 38' W 1200 Lat. 18° 13' N Long. 127° 36' W 1800 Lat. 18° 30' N Long. 129° 07' W

19 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 19° 12' N Long. 132° 41' W 1200 Lat. 19° 25' N Long. 133° 35' W 1800 Lat. 19° 42' N Long. 134° 56' W

20 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 20° 22' N Long. 138° 33' W 1200 Lat. 20° 27' N Long. 139° 34' W 1800 Lat. 20° 35' N Long. 141° 05' W

21 August - Underway as before. Commenced daym alert.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 20° 58' N Long. 145° 04' W 1200 Lat. 20° 58' N Long. 146° 05' W 1800 Lat. 20° 58' N Long. 147° 40' W

22 August - Underway as before.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 21° 16' N Long. 151° 15' W 1200 Lat. 21° 23' N Long. 152° 21' W 1800 Lat. 21° 27' N Long. 153° 52' W

23 August - Underway as before. 0423 Sighted Molokai Light. 1337 Moored in Berth C-6, Pearl Harbor, T. H., nested starboard side to U.S.S. SEVERE PA-233. Reported to AdComPhibsPac verbally in accordance with ComPacSeaFron despatch 080400 of August 1945.

Positions: 0800 Lat. 21° 14' N Long. 157° 33' W 1200 Lat. 21° 17' N Long. 157° 57' W

1730 Disembarked passengers on board for transportation.

- 24 August Moored as before. 1625 U.S.S. TURANDOT (AKA-47), nested alongside to port.
- 25 August Moored as before. 1855 Shifted from Berth C-6 and went alongside dock in Berth K-11, to unload cargo. 2155 "CB" stevedores came aboard and commenced unloading cargo.
- 26-28 August Moored alongside dock in Berth K-ll as before. Unloading cargo with "CB" stevedores.
 - 29 August Moored as before. 1143 Stopped unloading cargo. 1251 Got underway and shifted to Berth C-6, port side to U.S.S. TURANDOT (AKA-47).
 - 30 August Moored as before. 1259 Got underway and shifted back to Berth K-ll to finish unloading stores. 1630 "CB" stevedores came aboard to unload cargo.
 - 31 August Moored as before, alongside dock in Berth K-11, Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, T. H., unloading cargo with "CB" stevedores.

AKA100/A12 Serial: 013 c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California.

CONFIDENTIAL

18 September 1945.

From: To: The Commanding Officer.
The Secretary of the Navy.

Subject:

U.S.S. OCHETHORPE (AKA-100) - History Since Commissioning.

Reference:

(a) AlPac-202 dated September 16, 1945.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the history of this vessel is submitted herewith:

The U.S.S. OCLETHORPE (AKA-100), was built by the Federal Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Kearny, New Jersey, for the U.S. Maritime Service, and converted to U.S. Naval Service under current emergency war acts. The keel of the vessel was laid December 26, 1944 and the ship was launched April 15, 1945. Mrs. Ells-worth Buck, wife of Representative Buck of New York, sponsored the ship at launching. The ship is named for Oglethorpe County, Georgia, which in turn, was named in honor of James Oglethorpe, founder of the State of Georgia. The vessel was completed on June 4, 1945, made its trial runs on 4 and 5 June 1945, was accepted by the U.S. Navy on June 5, 1945, and commissioned for duty on June 6, 1945, at Pier "J", Berth 15, U.S. Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York. The ship's company was on board at the time of commissioning.

Captain McKittrick, USN, Captain of the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York, read the commissioning directive and ordered the ship placed in full commission. Captain James C. Campbell, (DM) USNR, (68434), assumed command, with Lieutenant Commander, Mark L. Gilbert, (DM) USNR, (90630), as Executive Officer. Mrs. Ellsworth Buck, the sponsor, was present. Lieutenant Joseph Leicht, USN (Ret.) (59668), Navigating Officer, assumed the first watch as Officer-of-the-Deck. At the time of Commissioning the following number of men and officers were attached to this vessel: Ship's Company: 25 Officers; 215 Enlisted Men. Boat Group: 11 Officers; 115 Enlisted Men.

From June 6 to June 15, alongside the dock in Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York, under-going post-commissioning alterations. June 15, 1945, underway from Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York, for routine shakedown, which was to take place in Chesapeake Bay. June 18, 1945, arrived at Hampton Roads, Virginia, and received the following small craft aboard: 15 LCVP's; 8 LCM's and 1 LCPL. June 18 to June 26, 1945, conducting shakedown of vessel and small craft at Little Creek, Virginia and in the Chesapeake Bay. Completed shakedown on June 26, 1945, proceeded to Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia, for post-shakedown alterations and repairs. July 3, 1945, underway for Newport, Rhode Island, for duty as training vessel. July 4, 1945, reported for duty as training vessel at Newport, Rhode Island.

AKA100/A12 Serial: 013 c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California.

CONFIDENTIAL

18 September 1945.

Subject:

U.S.S. OGLETHORPE (AKA-100) - History Since Commissioning.

July 4, to July 23, 1945, serving as training vessel at Newport, Rhode Island. July 23, 1945, underway for Norfolk, Virginia, for loading and further westward routing. July 24, 1945, moored at Berth #45, Pier 4, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia. July 25, 1945, commenced loading general cargo. August 1, 1945, completed loading cargo, underway for Pearl Harbor, T. H., via the Panama Canal. August 8, 1945, passed through the Panama Canal. August 23, 1945, arrived at Pearl Harbor, T. H., and commenced unloading cargo. August 29, 1945, completed unloading cargo. Underway from alongside dock and moored to buoy in harbor. August 29 to September 12, 1945, moored, awaiting orders. August 12, 1945, commenced loading general cargo.

At the present time this vessel is alongside the dock at Pearl Harbor, T. H., taking on general cargo for the Marshall Islands.

J. C. CAMPBELL.

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