

CONFIDENTIAL

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt
U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA 103)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

157
150
Reg. No.
R. S. No.

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA 103)

24 February 1945 - 28 February 1945

24 February

Position: U.S. Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.


Ship placed in commission by Captain Guy E. BAKER, representing the Commandant of the Sixth Naval District, and delivered to the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Thomas D. PRICE, USNR.

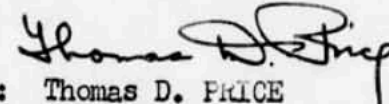
25 February, 26 February

Position: U.S. Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.

27 February, 28 February

Position: Clyde-Mallory Docks, Charleston, South Carolina.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: Thomas D. PRICE
Commanding

125085

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WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA 103)

Month of March, 1945

1 March

Position: Clyde-Mallory Docks, Charleston, South Carolina.

2 March

Position: Charleston, South Carolina.

Made sea trial runs off Charleston Harbor entrance and exercised at various drills to familiarize officers and men with ship and equipment.

3 March - 6 March

Position: U.S. Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.

7 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	33° 42'N	34° 17.2'N	34° 52.5'N
Longitude:	76° 01'W	76° 13.5'W	74° 56'W

Steaming independently enroute from Charleston, South Carolina, to Hampton Roads, Virginia, in accordance with orders of the Commander, Amphibious Training Command, Atlantic Fleet.

8 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	36° 58'N	36° 42'N	Hampton Roads
Longitude:	76° 08'W	75° 30'W	Virginia

Enroute from Charleston, South Carolina, to Hampton Roads, Virginia.

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9 March, 10 March

Position: Hampton Roads, Virginia.

11 March

Position: Hampton Roads, Virginia.

During the day shifted anchorage to position off Little Creek, Virginia, and engaged in amphibious training exercises returning to Hampton Roads anchorage in late afternoon.

12 March - 16 March

Position: Chesapeake Bay, Virginia.

Ship engaged in shakedown operations during this period. Various exercises and drills being conducted under direction of Commanding Officer. 8000 rounds 20 millimeter, 1600 rounds 40 millimeter, and 85 rounds 5 inch 38 ammunition expended for training purposes firing at towed sleeve, drone and stationary surface target.

17 March

Position: Hampton Roads, Virginia.

18 March - 21 March

Position: U.S. Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia.

22 March - 24 March

Position: U.S. Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia.

25 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	U.S. Naval Operating Base		36° 54'N
Longitude:	Norfolk, Virginia.		75° 17.5'W

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Underway this day for Canal Zone in accordance with ComServLant Confidential Dispatch 241445 of March, 1945. Steaming in company and screened by the USS TOLLBERG (APD 103). This ship senior.

26 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	34° 24'N	34° 11.5'N	32° 26'N
Longitude:	72° 55'W	73° 05'W	73° 22'W

Steaming as before.

27 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	29° 46'N	28° 54'N	27° 07'N
Longitude:	73° 57'W	74° 06'W	74° 22'W

Steaming as before.

28 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	24° 25'N	23° 33.5'N	21° 50'N
Longitude:	74° 18'W	74° 19'W	74° 44'W

Steaming as before.

29 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	19° 22'N	18° 32.5'N	16° 57'N
Longitude:	74° 32'W	75° 07'W	76° 10'W

Steaming as before.

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30 March

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	14° 18'N	13° 26'N	11° 40'N
Longitude:	77° 46'W	78° 24'W	79° 21'W

Steaming as before.

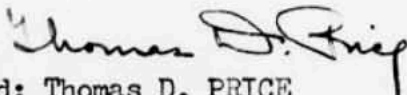
31 March

Position: Canal Zone.

Ship in transit of Panama Canal, Canal Zone.



A. J. BRENT
Navigator



Approved: Thomas D. PRICE
Commanding

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WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA 103)

Month of April, 1945

1 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	U.S. Naval Operating Base		08° 49'N
Longitude:	Balboa, Canal Zone.		79° 30'W

Underway and steaming independently from Balboa, Canal Zone to San Francisco, California, in accordance with Port Director, Balboa, Canal Zone, confidential dispatch O11452 of April, 1945.

2 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	07° 06'N	07° 29'N	08° 17'N
Longitude:	82° 06'W	83° 08'W	84° 51.5'W

Steaming as before.

3 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	09° 21.1'N	10° 18'N	11° 15.5'N
Longitude:	87° 41'W	88° 43'W	90° 51'W

Steaming as before.

4 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 27'N	13° 07'N	13° 58'N
Longitude:	93° 50'W	95° 05'W	97° 02'W

Steaming as before.

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5 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	15° 06'N	15° 38'N	16° 38'N
Longitude:	99° 47'W	101° 00'W	102° 52'W

Steaming as before.

6 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	18° 12'N	18° 48'N	20° 09'N
Longitude:	105° 41'W	106° 32'W	108° 23'W

Steaming as before. Expended 2 rounds 5 inch 38, 24 rounds 40 millimeter, and 160 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in firing practice firing at 5 inch 38 bursts.

7 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	22° 04'N	22° 56.5'N	24° 21.5'N
Longitude:	110° 52'W	112° 02.5'W	113° 49.5'W

Steaming as before.

8 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	26° 45'N	27° 38'N	29° 31.5'N
Longitude:	116° 04'W	116° 38'W	117° 20'W

Steaming as before.

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9 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	32° 10'N	32° 40'N	33° 18'N
Longitude:	118° 34'W	118° 51'W	119° 59'W

Steaming as before.

10 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	34° 24.5'N	35° 01'N	36° 08'N
Longitude:	121° 09.5'W	121° 32'W	122° 16'W

Steaming as before.

11 April - 16 April

Position: Pier 90, Berth Able, San Francisco, California.

Ship being loaded during this period with combat material for transport to Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii.

17 April

Position: Pier 90, Berth Able, San Francisco, California.

Underway and proceeding independently from San Francisco, California, to Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii, in accordance with Commandant Twelfth Naval District Confidential Voyage Order 653-45 of 16 April, 1945.

18 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	35° 47'N	35° 20.5'N	34° 22'N
Longitude:	125° 38'W	126° 30'W	128° 48'W

Steaming as before.

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19 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	32° 58'N	32° 33'N	32° 22'N
Longitude:	131° 51'W	132° 57'W	133° 47'W

Steaming as before. Conducted two surprise firing practice drills expending 18 rounds of 20 millimeter and 4 rounds of 40 millimeter ammunition.

20 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	29° 52'N	29° 20'N	28° 22'N
Longitude:	137° 47'W	138° 41'W	140° 22.5'W

Steaming as before. Expended 2 rounds 5 inch 38, 32 rounds of 40 millimeter, and 320 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in firing practice using 5 inch 38 burst as target.

21 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	26° 41'N	26° 07'N	24° 59'N
Longitude:	143° 16'W	144° 25'W	146° 09'W

Steaming as before.

22 April

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	23° 00'N	22° 36'N	21° 33'N
Longitude:	148° 55.5'W	149° 19'W	151° 08'W

Steaming as before.

23 April - 25 April

Position: Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii.

Ship discharging cargo during this period.

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26 April

Position: Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii.

Underway in accordance with AdComPhibsPac Confidential Dispatch 251306 of April, 1945, for rendezvous point to join other units of the fleet for training exercises. Steaming in company with the USS QUEENS (APA-103). USS QUEENS in tactical Command.

27 April

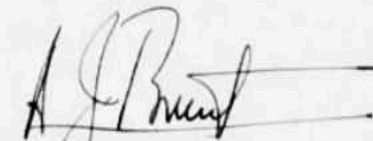
Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	20° 39.5'N	20° 27.3'N	20° 08.5'N
Longitude:	157° 19.8'W	157° 20.1'W	157° 21.2'W

Joined Task Training Group 13.10.5 and commenced training exercises in accordance with Commander Task Training Group 13.10.5 Secret Training Order No. A5-45. Engaged in practice firing using towed sleeve as target. Ammunition expended: 11 rounds 5 inch 38, 533 rounds 40 millimeter and 728 rounds 20 millimeter. Upon completion of firing exercises underway for Maalaea Bay, Maui, Territory of Hawaii.


28 April - 30 April

Position: Maalaea Bay, Maui, Territory of Hawaii, and approaches.

Engaged in amphibious training exercises during the day in Maalaea Bay, Maui, Territory of Hawaii, and formation steaming at night off Maalaea Bay. Also exercised at towing and being towed and streaming paravanes.



A. J. BRENT
Navigator



Approved: Thomas D. PRICE
Commanding

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NO. NO 249
R. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 230

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)

Month of May, 1945

1 May - 5 May

Position: Maalaea Bay, Maui, Territory of Hawaii, and approaches.

Continuing amphibious training exercised^d commenced on 27 April, 1945, as part of Task Training Group 13.10.5 in accordance with Commander, Task Training Group 13.10.5 Secret Training Order A5-45. Expended 30 rounds 5 inch 38, 1600 rounds 40 millimeter and 2900 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in anti-aircraft firing practice firing at towed sleeves and drone.

6 May - 17 May

Position: Berth Xray-15, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

18 May

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	Berth Xray 15, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.	Pier 40-Able, Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.	

Underway in morning in accordance with Port Director, Pearl Harbor, Restricted dispatch 180445 of May, 1945, for Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, to load cargo ammunition.

19 May - 24 May

Position: Pier 40-Able, Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

Loading cargo ammunition during this period for transportation to the Commanding General, Tenth Army, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

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25 May

Position: Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

Having completed loading of cargo ammunition, underway in accordance with Commander Hawaiian Sea Frontier confidential letter Serial 0646 of 25 May, 1945, for Ulithi, Caroline Islands, for further routing to Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

26 May

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	20° 14'N	20° 01'N	19° 50'N
Longitude:	159° 52'W	160° 43'W	162° 52'W

Steaming as before.

27 May

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	19° 33.5'N	19° 25'N	19° 07'N
Longitude:	165° 33'W	166° 30'W	168° 43'W

Steaming as before. Held surprise firing practice, expended 3 rounds 5 inch 38, 76 rounds 40 millimeter and 600 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition.

28 May

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	18° 34'N	18° 19'N	17° 57'N
Longitude:	171° 38'W	172° 36'W	174° 33'W

Steaming as before. Exercised at surprise firing drill, expending 18 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition.

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29 May

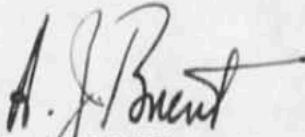
Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	17° 23'N	17° 10'N	16° 31'N
Longitude:	177° 32'W	178° 32'W	179° 26'E

Steaming as before. Expended 2 rounds 5 inch 38, 120 rounds 40 millimeter and 670 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in practice firing. Advanced clock twenty four hours to conform to Zone Minus 12 time.

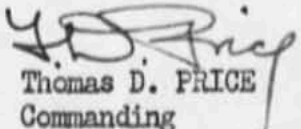
31 May

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	15° 42'N	15° 29'N	15° 01'N
Longitude:	176° 27'E	175° 26'E	173° 28'E

Steaming as before. Expended 2 rounds 5 inch 38, 139 rounds 40 millimeter and 475 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in practice firing.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator

Approved:


Thomas D. PRICE
Commanding

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FIG. NO 269
U. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 250

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)

Month of June, 1945

1 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	14° 22'N	14° 03'N	13° 15'N
Longitude:	170° 26'E	169° 29'E	167° 26'E

Steaming as before independently enroute from Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, to Ulithi, Caroline Islands, for further routing to Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, in accordance with Commander Hawaiian Sea Frontier confidential letter Serial 0646 of 25 May, 1945. Departed Honolulu on the 25 of May, 1945, with a load of ammunition for the Commanding General, Tenth Army.

2 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 17'N	12° 02'N	11° 44'N
Longitude:	164° 33'E	163° 34.5'E	161° 37'E

Steaming as before.

3 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 00'N	12° 06'N	12° 19'N
Longitude:	158° 34'E	157° 36'E	155° 16'E

Steaming as before.

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4 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	13° 05'N	12° 46'N	12° 04.5'N
Longitude:	152° 15'E	151° 15'E	149° 18'E

Steaming as before.

5 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	11° 03'N	10° 40'N	10° 15'N
Longitude:	146° 18'E	145° 26'E	143° 33'E

Steaming as before. Sighted object in the morning believed to be a mine. Expended 375 rounds of 40 millimeter and 914 rounds of 20 millimeter ammunition in attempt to sink or explode it. However, after several direct hits failed to explode the object, concluded it was not a mine and proceeded on course.

6 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 01'N	Ulithi, Caroline Islands.	
Longitude:	140° 24'E		

7 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	Ulithi, Caroline Islands.		10° 13'N
Longitude:			140° 00'E

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Underway for Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, in accordance with Port Director, Ulithi, Caroline Islands, Secret Letter A4-3/9 of 7 June, 1945. Steaming in company with the USS TOLOVANA (AO-64) and escorted by the USS ENRIEHT (APD-66). TOLOVANA in tactical command. The TOLOVANA was carrying high test aviation gasoline and as both her cargo and ours was apparently urgently required at Okinawa, we were dispatched together with a special escort without waiting for a larger convoy to form.

8 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 36'N	13° 21'N	14° 52'N
Longitude:	138° 15'E	137° 40'E	136° 32'E

Steaming as before. Engaged in practice firing with 5 inch burst serving as targets. Expended 4 rounds 5 inch 38, 169 rounds 40 millimeter and 572 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition.

9 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	17° 13'N	17° 55'N	19° 31'N
Longitude:	134° 52'E	134° 21'E	133° 09'E

Steaming as before.

10 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	21° 40'N	22° 24'N	24° 01'N
Longitude:	131° 32'E	130° 58'E	129° 43'E

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Steaming as before. Exercised at firing practice using 5 inch burst as target. Expended 5 rounds 5 inch 38, 137 rounds 40 millimeter and 742 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition. Also test fired 50 caliber machine guns mounted on landing craft expending 263 rounds of 50 caliber ammunition.

11 June

<u>Position:</u>	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	26° 03'N	Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima,	
Longitude:	127° 27'E	Nansei Shoto.	

Arrived at Okinawa Shima this date and anchored. We were directed to equip two LCV-P's with smoke generators and have them in the water prepared to make smoke at all times. We also manned smoke generators on the forecastle and fantail. In the event of air attack and when directed we were to make smoke and at no time when in a smoke screen were we to fire unless directly attacked. From this date until we left Okinawa Shima this plan of defense was used. At 1900 we had our first Flash Red, the all clear, Flash White, being set at 1947. During this Flash Red, and as a precedent for all to come, the Captain set condition I, material condition Able, and darkened ship.

12 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

1859 Flash Red. 1920 Flash White. 1950 We commenced unloading all landing craft in preparation for unloading cargo. 2200 Began unloading cargo into dukws with assistance of U.S. Army stevedores. All our cargo was unloaded in this manner except for one load taken by an LCr.

13 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading cargo as before.

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14 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. Transferred one LCV-P and crew to the USS RESCUE (AH-18) for temporary duty.

15 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 2014 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2032 Ceased making smoke. 2038 Flash White. 2134 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2147 Ceased making smoke. 2154 Commenced making smoke. 2206 Ceased making smoke. 2218 Flash White.

16 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0338 Flash Red. 0341 Commenced making smoke. 0429 Ceased making smoke. 0434 Commenced making smoke. 0506 Ceased making smoke. 0511 Flash White.

17 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0300 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 0318 Ceased making smoke. 0330 Commenced making smoke. 0400 Ceased making smoke. 0406 Flash White. During the afternoon transferred one LCV-P complete to the USS AUBURN (AGC-10) to replace a smoke boat lost the night before as the result of a near bomb miss. 2057 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2118 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 2126 Flash White.

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18 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0138 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 0253 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 0313 Flash White. 0407 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 0412 Flash White, ceased making smoke. 1957 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2011 Ceased making smoke. 2021 Flash White.

19 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0114 Flash Blue, commenced making smoke. 0126 Flash White, ceased making smoke. 1210 LCV-P and crew which had been temporarily attached to the USS RESCUE (AH-18) returned, temporary duty completed. 2209 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2216 Ceased making smoke. 2219 Flash White.

20 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 2039 flash red, commenced making smoke. 2111 flash white, ceased making smoke.

21 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 1842 flash red. 1913 Flash Blue. 2005 flash red, commenced making smoke. 2012 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 2017 flash white. 2255 Flash red, commenced making smoke.

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22 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0026 Ceased making smoke. 0032 Commenced making smoke. 0135 Flash Blue. 0228 Ceased making smoke. 0240 Commenced making smoke. 0300 Ceased making smoke. 0306 Flash White. 0803 Flash Red. 1000 Flash White. 1038 Flash Red. 1106 Flash Blue. 1118 Flash White. During this morning the largest air raid experienced by us at Okinawa occurred. However, due to the excellent work of the Combat Air Patrol few planes succeeded in getting through. 1934 Flash Blue. 2005 Flash White. 2210 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2235 Flash Blue. 2246 Flash Red. 2308 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 2320 Commenced making smoke. 2325 Flash White, ceased making smoke.

23 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. No air raids.

24 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

Unloading as before. 0240 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 0253 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 0257 Flash White. 0300 Completed unloading all cargo. 2150 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2221 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 2232 Flash White.

25 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

2240 Flash Red, commenced making smoke. 2328 Flash Blue. 2344 Ceased making smoke. 2352 Flash Red, commenced making smoke.

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San Francisco, California

26 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

0045 Flash Blue. 0047 Ceased making smoke. 0056
Commenced making smoke. 0101 Flash Blue. 0120 Flash Red.
0152 Ceased making smoke. 0154 Commenced making smoke.
0204 Ceased making smoke. 0208 Commenced making smoke.
0238 Flash White, ceased making smoke.

27 June

Position: Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto.

2342 Flash Red, commenced making smoke.

28 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima,		25° 11'N
Longitude:	Nansei Shoto.		128° 16'E

0012 Flash Blue, ceased making smoke. 0017 Flash White.
1245 Underway for Saipan, Marianas Islands, in accordance
with Commander task Force 31 confidential sailing order,
Convoy OKS number 10, dated 28 June, 1945. Proceeding in
convoy of four columns as ship number 42. Convoy Commodore
in the USS CROCKETT (APA-148). Escorted by four ships, Escort
Commander in the USS TOLMAN (DM-28).

29 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	23° 55'N	23° 35'N	22° 52'N
Longitude:	130° 43'E	131° 30'E	132° 56'E

Steaming as before .

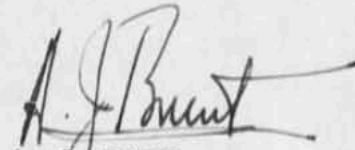
CONFIDENTIAL

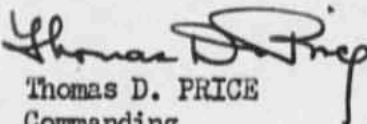
U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

30 June

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	21° 44'N	21° 15'N	20° 19'N
Longitude:	135° 08'E	135° 56'E	137° 34.5'E

Steaming as before.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: Thomas D. PRICE
Commanding

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE: AL2-1
AKA/103 TDP/AJB/wba

REG. NO 366
S. NO
REL. SHEET NO 180

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)

CONFIDENTIAL

Month of July, 1945

1 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	18° 57'N	18° 29'N	17° 23'N
Longitude:	139° 44'E	140° 27'E	142° 03'E

Enroute from Okinawa Shima, Nansei Shoto, to Saipan, Marianas Islands, in accordance with Commander Task Force 31 confidential sailing order, Convoy OKS number 10, dated 28 June, 1945. Proceeding in convoy of four columns as ship number 42. Convoy Commodore in the U.S.S. CROCKETT (APA-148). Escorted by four ships, Escort Commander in the U.S.S. TOLMAN (DM-28).

2 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	15° 49'N	Saipan, Marianas Islands.	
Longitude:	144° 25'E		

Steaming as before. Conducted firing practice and expended 3 rounds 5 inch 38 ammunition firing at target balloons. Arrived Saipan and anchored.

3 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	Saipan, Marianas Islands.		15° 24.5'N
Longitude:			146° 18'E

Underway and proceeding independently for San Francisco, California, in accordance with Port Director, Saipan, Marianas Islands, Confidential letter dated 3 July, 1945.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

c/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of July, 1945

4 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	14° 50'N	14° 45'N	14° 22'N
Longitude:	148° 50'E	149° 40'E	151° 26'E

Steaming as before.

5 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	13° 41'N	13° 28'N	13° 03'N
Longitude:	154° 01'E	154° 48'E	156° 27'E

Steaming as before.

6 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 25'N	12° 11'N	11° 45'N
Longitude:	158° 41'E	159° 31'E	161° 08'E

Steaming as before.

7 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	12° 24'N	13° 01'N	14° 09'N
Longitude:	163° 40'E	164° 16'E	165° 34'E

Steaming as before.

8 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	15° 54'N	16° 26'N	17° 25'N
Longitude:	167° 25'E	168° 09'E	169° 24'E

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of July, 1945.

Steaming as before.

9 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	18° 50'N	19° 25'N	20° 19'N
Longitude:	171° 41'E	172° 23'E	173° 51'E

Steaming as before.

10 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	21° 46'N	22° 18'N	23° 17'N
Longitude:	176° 00'E	176° 42'E	178° 07'E

Steaming as before. Exercised at firing practice, firing at 5 inch 38 burst and expending 4 rounds 5 inch 38, 250 rounds 40 millimeter, and 1250 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition.

10 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	24° 10'N	25° 24'N	26° 19'N
Longitude:	179° 36'W	178° 48'W	177° 02'W

Steaming as before. Retarded ship's calendar one day to conform to Zone Plus 12 time.

11 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	27° 25'N	27° 48'N	28° 40'N
Longitude:	174° 29'W	173° 40'W	171° 52'W

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of July, 1945.

12 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	29° 39'N	30° 02'N	30° 44'N
Longitude:	169° 17'W	168° 39'W	166° 45'W

Steaming as before. Expended 10 rounds 5 inch 38, 688 rounds 40 millimeter, and 1830 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition in firing practice with surface float constructed by ship's force as target.

13 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	31° 42'N	32° 03'N	32° 37'N
Longitude:	164° 03'W	163° 00'W	161° 04'W

Steaming as before.

14 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	33° 30'N	33° 47'N	34° 24'N
Longitude:	158° 21'W	157° 32'W	155° 43'W

Steaming as before.

15 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	35° 03'N	35° 17'N	35° 43'N
Longitude:	152° 54'W	151° 47'W	149° 47'W

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of July, 1945.

16 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	36° 21'N	36° 33'N	36° 53'N
Longitude:	146° 55'W	145° 55'W	143° 52'W

Steaming as before.

17 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	37° 15'N	37° 23'N	37° 37'N
Longitude:	140° 57'W	139° 52'W	137° 50'W

Steaming as before.

18 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	37° 58'N	38° 00'N	38° 04'N
Longitude:	134° 42'W	133° 38'W	131° 19'W

Steaming as before.

19 July

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	38° 09'N	38° 09'N	38° 10'N
Longitude:	128° 19'W	127° 17'W	125° 05'W

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

**C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

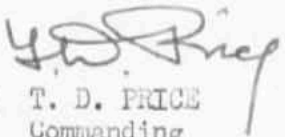
WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of July, 1945.

28 July-31 July

Position: Lake Union, Seattle, Washington.

Ship undergoing routine repairs.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: T. D. PRICE
Commanding

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

CONFIDENTIAL

FILE: A12-1
AKA/103 TDP/AJB/wba

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

REG. NO 368

R. S. NO

REG. SHEET NO/80

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)

Month of August, 1945.

1 August - 7 August

Position: Lake Union, Seattle, Washington.

Ship undergoing routine repairs during this period.

8 August

Position: 0800 1200 2000

Pier 90, Seattle, Straits of Juan DeFuca.
Washington.

Underway this day for Beaver, Oregon, to load cargo ammunition in accordance with ComWestSeakron confidential movement order number 90-45. While in Straits of Juan DeFuca exercised at firing practice firing at towed sleeve and expending 8 rounds 5 inch 38, 789 rounds 40 millimeter, and 2558 rounds 20 millimeter ammunition.

9 August

Position: 0800 1200 2000

Columbia River. Beaver, Oregon.

Steaming as before.

10 August

Position: Beaver, Oregon.

Commenced loading cargo ammunition for transportation to Pearl Harbor.

ARB

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of August, 1945.

11 August

Position: Beaver, Oregon.

The Japanese capitulation offer having been announced, all cargo loading operations were suspended this date pending the final outcome of negotiations.

12 August - 16 August

Position: Beaver, Oregon.

17 August - 18 August

Position: Beaver, Oregon.

All cargo ammunition unloaded and ship prepared for sea.

19 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	Beaver, Oregon.		Entrance Columbia River.

Underway in accordance with ComWestSeafRon dispatch 182046 of August, 1945, for Manila, Philippine Islands, with no cargo or passengers.

20 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	46° 15'N	46° 23'N	46° 03.5'N
Longitude:	128° 19'W	129° 33'W	132° 26'W

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
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WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of August, 1945.

21 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	45° 08'N	44° 55'N	44° 05'N
Longitude:	136° 24'W	137° 55'W	140° 36'W

Steaming as before.

22 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	43° 00'N	42° 34'N	41° 35'N
Longitude:	144° 31'W	145° 15'W	148° 18'W

Steaming as before.

23 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	40° 11'N	39° 41'N	38° 36'N
Longitude:	151° 48'W	153° 17'W	155° 53'W

Steaming as before.

24 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	36° 49'N	36° 16'N	35° 00'N
Longitude:	159° 01'W	160° 07'W	162° 18'W

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
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WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of August, 1945.

25 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	33° 19'N	32° 39'N	31° 13'N
Longitude:	165° 20'W	166° 19'W	168° 22'W

Steaming as before.

26 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	29° 20'N	28° 43'N	27° 25'N
Longitude:	171° 13'W	172° 09'W	174° 08'W

Steaming as before.

27 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	25° 32'N	24° 57'N	23° 48'N
Longitude:	176° 49'W	177° 45'W	179° 44'W

Steaming as before.

29 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	22° 09'N	21° 36'N	20° 20'N
Longitude:	177° 34'E	176° 24'E	174° 46'E

Steaming as before. Advanced ship's calender one (1) day to conform with Zone Minus 12 time.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of August, 1945.

30 August


Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	18° 34'N	18° 02'N	16° 46'N
Longitude:	172° 12'E	171° 20'E	169° 31'E

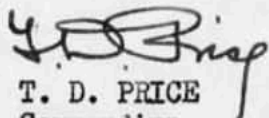
Steaming as before.

31 August

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	14° 54'N	14° 12'N	12° 58'N
Longitude:	167° 04'E	166° 14'E	164° 36'E

Steaming as before.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: T. D. PRICE
Commanding

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

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C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

RECEIVED SC FILES

FILE:
AKA/103

A12-1
TDP/AJB/med

Room 2055

ROUTE TO: 03 (Rm. 3604)

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)

29 OCT 1945

Month of September, 1945.

File No. (SC) 012-103A 103

Doc. No. 189442

Copy No. 101

Reg. No. 437

1 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	11° 00'N	10° 55'N	10° 45'N
Longitude:	162° 35'E	161° 28'E	159° 08'E

Enroute from Beaver, Oregon, to Manila, Luzon, Philippine Islands, in accordance with ComWestSeafRon dispatch 182046 of August, 1945, with no cargo or passengers.

2 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 42'N	10° 36'N	10° 21'N
Longitude:	155° 56'E	154° 55'E	152° 37'E

Steaming as before.

3 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 15'N	10° 11'N	10° 14'N
Longitude:	149° 21'E	148° 20'E	146° 17'E

Steaming as before. Exercised at gunnery practice firing at 5"/38 burst and expending 4 rounds 5"/38, 144 rounds 40 millimeter, and 879 rounds of 20 millimeter ammunition.

AJB

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of September, 1945.

4 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 10' N	10° 10' N	10° 15' N
Longitude:	143° 16' E	142° 19' E	140° 27' E

Steaming as before.

5 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 32' N	10° 35' N	10° 32' N
Longitude:	137° 39' E	136° 56' E	135° 09' E

Steaming as before. expended 728 rounds 20 millimeter, 350 rounds 40 millimeter, and 5 rounds 5"/38 ammunition in sinking three objects believed to be mines.

6 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 37' N	10° 35.5' N	10° 33' N
Longitude:	131° 30' E	130° 29' E	128° 20' E

Steaming as before.

7 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 41' N	9° 57' N	9° 03.5' N
Longitude:	125° 40' E	125° 30' E	125° 50' E

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) month of September, 1945.

8 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	10° 04' N	10° 58' N	12° 39' N
Longitude:	121° 57' E	121° 33' E	120° 45' E

steaming as before.

9 September

Position: Berth 44, Manila Bay, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

Arrived Manila this date and reported to the Commander Temporary transport Squadron 20 for duty in that Squadron pursuant to CincPac's Secret dispatch 030644 of September, 1945.

10 September - 13 September

Position: Berth 44, Manila Bay, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

14 September

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	Manila Bay,	Entrance to Subic Bay.	
	Philippine Islands	Luzon, Philippine Islands.	

Underway steaming independently for Subic Bay and Lingayen Gulf pursuant to ComTranson 20 (Temp) secret dispatch 120137 of September, 1945. After leaving eight LCMs at Subic Bay Boat Pool in order to make room for **eight** army LCMs which we are scheduled to transport to Japan, proceeded on to Lingayen Gulf.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE: CONFIDENTIAL
AKA/103

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of September, 1945.

15 September

Position: Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

Arrived Lingayen Gulf and anchored in the San Fabian area and prepared to take aboard equipment of the Twenty-fifth Army Division and its supporting units in accordance with Comtranson 20 (Temp) secret dispatch 120137 of September, 1945.

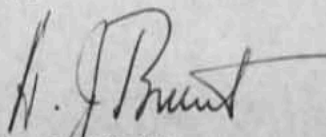
16 September - 21 September


Position: Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands.

During this period loaded ammunition, supplies, and vehicles from dudks, LCMs, LCTs, and LCVPs.

22 September - 30 September

Position: Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: T. D. PRICE
Commanding

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U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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FILE:
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A12-1
TDP/AJB/lgb

28 DEC 1945

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103)
Month of October, 1945

Doc. No.

Copy No. 1 of 1

Reg. No. 3715707
2000

1 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	Lingayen Gulf, Luzon,		16° 41' N
	Philippine Islands		120° 10' E

Underway this date for Yokkaichi, Honshu, Japan, in accordance with ComFifthPhibFor Operation Plan A1501-215, Annex (D), Movement Plan and ComPhibGrp 8 Op Order A803-45. This ship is attached to TransRon 20 (Temporary), TransDiv 58 (Temporary) which is engaged in transporting the Twenty-fifth Infantry Division with supporting units and equipment to Nagoya as part of the Eastern Occupation Forces.

2 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	19° 11' N	19° 47' N	20° 28' N
Longitude:	120° 37' E	121° 08' E	122° 57' E

Steaming as before.

3 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	22° 11' N	22° 48' N	23° 48' N
Longitude:	125° 00' E	125° 47' E	127° 26' E

Steaming as before.

4 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	25° 29' N	25° 53' N	25° 43' N
Longitude:	129° 32' E	129° 53' E	129° 23' E

Steaming as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of October, 1945.

5 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	26° 43' N	27° 21' N	28° 51' N
Longitude:	130° 29' E	131° 15' E	132° 20' E

Steaming as before.

6 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	31° 37' N	32° 08' N	32° 52' N
Longitude:	133° 31' E	133° 48' E	134° 11' E

Steaming as before.

7 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	33° 52' N	Wakayama Harbor,	
Longitude:	134° 51' E	Honshu, Japan.	

Arrived Wakayama Harbor this date having been diverted and anchored awaiting the clearing of mines in Iseno Uni and the preparation of Nagoya Harbor to receive ships. The original plan calling for unloading over beaches at Yokachi having been modified to permit unloading dockside at Nagoya.

8 October

Position: Wakayama Harbor, Honshu, Japan.

Anchored as before.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of October, 1945.

9 October

Position: Wakayama Harbor, Honshu, Japan.

Shifted berth to typhoon anchorage and made all preparations for approaching typhoon.

10 October

Position: Wakayama Harbor, Honshu, Japan.

Anchored as before. Heavy wind blowing.

11 October

Position: Wakayama Harbor, Honshu, Japan.

Returned to normal anchorage typhoon having passed clear.

12 October - 25 October

Position: Wakayama Harbor, Honshu, Japan.

26 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	Wakayama Harbor,		33° 24' N
Longitude:	Honshu, Japan.		135° 22' E

Underway for Nagoya, Honshu, Japan in accordance with ComPhibsGrp 8 Movement Order A008-45, all preparations at Nagoya having been completed.

27 October

Position:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Latitude:	34° 26.5' N	Nagoya Harbor,	
Longitude:	137° 04' E	Honshu, Japan.	

Arrived Nagoya and proceeded to dock in inner harbor and commenced unloading immediately.

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FILE:
AKA/103 CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY, USS RANKIN (AKA-103) Month of October, 1945.

28 October - 29 October

Position: Nagoya, Honshu, Japan.
Unloading as before.

30 October

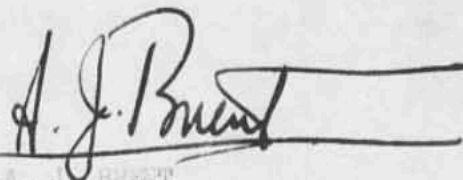
Position: Nagoya, Honshu, Japan.


Completed unloading and proceeded to outer harbor where
anchored awaiting orders.

31 October

Position: Nagoya, Honshu, Japan.

Anchored as before.


A. J. BRENT
Navigator


Approved: T. D. PRICE
Commanding

U. S. S. RANKIN (AKA 103)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

FILE: A4
AKA/103 TDP:twv
Serial: 347

11 December 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : ✓ Secretary of the Navy (Public Information)
Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet (Public Information)
Commander, Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces,
U.S. Pacific Fleet.
Fleet Home Town News Center,
844 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

Subject: Ship's History - Submission of.

Reference: (a) ALPAC 318 of November 1945.
(b) ALPOA 734.

1. In accordance with reference (a) three copies of the History of the U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103) are forwarded herewith to each addressee.


T.D. PRICE.

158144

HISTORY OF THE U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103)

The U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103) is an assault cargo vessel assigned to the Amphibious Forces of the Pacific Fleet. This vessel (a C-2 type) was built by the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company at Wilmington, North Carolina for the Maritime Commission. It was turned over to the Navy at Wilmington, ferried to Charleston, South Carolina, and there converted to an AKA at the Charleston Navy Yard.

The U.S.S. RANKIN was commissioned on 24 February 1945, with Lieutenant Commander Thomas D. PRICE (D) USNR of Plymouth, Massachusetts as Commanding Officer and Lieutenant Robert J. TEPPER (D) USNR of Far Rockaway, New York as Executive Officer.

After completion of fitting out, the vessel proceeded to the Chesapeake Bay area for its shakedown cruise and training under the direction of the Commander, Amphibious Training Command, Atlantic Fleet.

On 26 March this vessel, escorted by the USS TOLBERG (APD-103) departed for the Canal Zone. This vessel reported to the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet for duty on 1 April and was directed to San Francisco, California for loading.

A cargo of replacement equipment for the U.S. Marine Corps was loaded aboard at San Francisco and the vessel departed 17 April 1945, steaming independently for Hilo, Hawaii, Territory of Hawaii. After discharging at Hilo, the U.S.S. RANKIN in company with the U.S.S. QUELNS (APA-103) departed to rendezvous with Task Training Group 13.10.5 off Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, for training exercises in accordance with Commander Task Training Group 13.10.5 training order.

This training period was of great value to all personnel of the ship. During this period the ship was exercised in formation steaming, target practices, emergency measures and landing procedures and doctrine with the landing craft. It enabled all hands to become familiar with combat procedures for further operations with the Amphibious Forces.

On May 6th the vessel was granted an availability period for routine voyage repairs at Pearl Harbor. Upon the completion of which it was loaded at Honolulu with 5,000 tons of Army ground forces ammunition for transportation to the Commanding General, Tenth Army, Okinawa Shima, Hansai Shoto.

25 May the U.S.S. RANKIN departed from Honolulu independently for Ulithi, Caroline Islands. On 7 June in company with the U.S.S. TOLOVANA (AO-64) and escorted by the U.S.S. EMBRIGHT (APD-66) departed Ulithi for Okinawa. The TOLOVANA was loaded with high test gasoline, and as both cargoes were apparently urgently required at Okinawa, the ships were dispatched together with a special escort without waiting for a larger convoy to form.

During the period 11 June to 28 June this vessel was at anchor in Hagushi Bay, Okinawa Shima. All ammunition cargo was discharged between air raids without incident. The bulk of the cargo was discharged into Army Dukws and portions of it were delivered by the Dukws direct to the front lines for immediate use. Discharge was delayed and interrupted by the black outs required during actual air attacks, and although the ship was maintained in a state of readiness for any emergency, no damage was sustained from either bombing or Kamikaze attack. The entire crew functioned as veterans throughout this operation, and are well deserving of the star in their Pacific Area ribbons.

The RANKIN departed from the Okinawa area 28 June in convoy, the convoy commander being aboard the U.S.S. CROCKETT (APA-148) for Saipan, Marianas Islands. After leaving all landing craft, mechanized (LCM's) at Saipan, the vessel proceeded independently to San Francisco, arriving 20 July. After filling the allowance of landing craft, the vessel was ordered to Seattle for dry docking and routine voyage repairs.

8 August, repairs having been completed, the RANKIN departed for Beaver Ammunition Supply Depot on the Columbia River to load ammunition for the Forward Areas. The vessel was about half loaded when V-J day arrived and all cargo operations were temporarily suspended awaiting further instructions. Orders were then received to discharge all cargo ammunition and upon completion to sail the vessel direct to Manila. On 19 August the vessel cleared Columbia River, proceeded independently to Manila, arriving 9 September, and reported to Commander Transport Squadron 20 (temporary) for duty in that squadron.

After fueling and provisioning in Manila the RANKIN proceeded independently, stopping at Subic Bay to leave landing craft at the boat pool and arrived at Lingayen Gulf on the 15th of September. Equipment of the 25th Army Division and its supporting units was loaded aboard from the San Fabian beaches and the ship awaited the arrival and loading of the remainder of the squadron.

On 1 October the squadron departed Lingayen Gulf, having been delayed there by typhoons in the area, for Japan. The Army personnel embarked were occupation forces for the Nagoya area of Honshu. The squadron was diverted to Wakayama pending completion of minesweeping operations which had been delayed by typhoons in the area. After riding at anchor for nearly 3 weeks the approaches to Nagoya were declared safe for passage, and the squadron departed Wakayama, arriving at Nagoya on 27 October.

The cargo and troops were disembarked at the docks in Nagoya without incident, and upon completion the RANKIN reported to CinCPac for further orders. Navy personnel were loaded at Nagoya for return to the United States, and the ship departed 2 November for Samar, P.I. where inoperable landing craft and engines were loaded for return to the U.S.

On 9 November the ship stood out of Samar for San Francisco, arriving at its destination 25 November. After disembarking 371 passengers, the vessel was granted an availability for voyage repairs. During the availability period most of the senior officers were detached, in compliance with orders, for separation and Captain Wm. L. McDONALD (D) USNR of North Bergen, New Jersey, reported to relieve Commander Thomas D. PRICE (D) USNR, as commanding officer.

CHRONOLOGICAL RESUME¹ OF ACTIVITIES OF U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Oct. 31, 1944	Keel laid.
Dec. 22	Vessel launched.
Jan. 25, 1945	Delivered to the Navy.
Feb. 24	U.S.S. RANKIN (AKA-103) commissioned.
Feb. 24 - 6 Mar.	Fitting out - Charleston Navy Yard, S.C.
Mar. 7 - 8	Enroute to Chesapeake Bay area.
Mar. 9 - 25	Shakedown period - Chesapeake Bay area.
Mar. 25 - 31	Enroute Hampton Roads to Canal Zone.
Apr. 1 - 11	Enroute Canal Zone to San Francisco.
Apr. 11 - 17	Loading - San Francisco.
Apr. 17 - 23	Enroute San Francisco to Hilo, Hawaii.
Apr. 23 - 25	Discharging - Hilo, Hawaii.
Apr. 26 - May 5	Hawaiian area - Training cruise.
May 6 - 17	Pearl Harbor - voyage repairs.
May 18 - 25	Honolulu - Loading.
May 25 - June 6	Enroute Honolulu to Ulithi, Caroline Islands.
June 6 - 7	Ulithi - fueling and provisioning.
June 7 - 11	Enroute Ulithi to Hagushi Bay, Okinawa.
June 11 - 28	Discharging - Hagushi Bay, Okinawa.
June 28 - July 2	Enroute Okinawa to Saipan, Marianas Islands.
July 2 - 3	Saipan - provisioning.
July 3 - 20	Enroute Saipan to San Francisco.
July 20 - 21	San Francisco - Provisioning and fueling.
July 22 - 25	Enroute San Francisco to Seattle, Washington.
July 25 - 27	Seattle Washington - Dry docked.
July 28 - Aug 7	Seattle - Voyage repairs.
Aug 8 - 9	Enroute Seattle to Beaver Ammunition Supply Depot, Columbia River, Oregon.
Aug 9 - 19	Beaver Ammunition Supply Depot - Loading and Unloading.
Aug 19 - Sept 9	Enroute Columbia River to Manila, P.I.
Sept. 9 - 14	Manila - Fueling and Provisioning.
Sept. 14 - 15	Enroute Manila to Lingayon Gulf, P.I.
Sept. 15 - 30	Lingayon Gulf - Loading occupational forces.
Oct. 1 - 7	Enroute Lingayon Gulf to Wakayama, Honshu, Japan.
Oct. 7 - 26	Wakayama, Honshu, Japan awaiting completion of minesweeping of approaches to Nagoya.
Oct. 26 - 27	Enroute Wakayama to Nagoya, Japan.
Oct. 27 - Nov 2	Nagoya - discharging and loading.
Nov. 2 - 7	Enroute Nagoya to Samar, P.I.
Nov. 7 - 9	Samar - Loading and provisioning.
Nov. 9 - 25	Enroute Samar to San Francisco.
Nov. 25 - Dec	San Francisco - voyage repairs.