

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

REG. NO 144  
REG. SHEET NO 15

AKA106/A12-1  
Serial: (050)

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

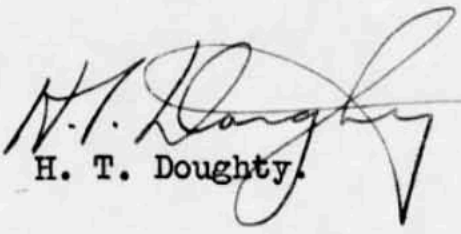
31 May 1945.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for 25 - 30 April 1945 and May 1945.  
Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, dated 29 October 1943,  
FF1/A12-1/A16-3. Navy Department Bulletin 43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary for April and May 1945 is herewith submitted.

  
H. T. Doughty.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

25 - 30 April, 1945

1. Commandant, Third Naval District, Amphibious Training Command, Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.
2. Commandant, Third Naval District letter dated 21 April 1945, Serial 05895.
3. Moored at Pier 14, Bethlehem Steel Company, Pier, Hoboken, New Jersey at time of commissioning and then moored to 33rd Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York until 28 April when vessel anchored in Gravesend Bay and on 30 April anchored in Oyster Bay, Long Island Sound, New York.
4. This vessel was commissioned on 25 April 1945 and then moored to the Naval Supply Pier at 33rd Street, Brooklyn, New York for provisioning and completion of additional work on the vessel. On Saturday, 28 April, the vessel was depermed and degaussed at the Naval Deperming Station, Bayonne, New Jersey. That evening ship was anchored in Gravesend Bay. Ammunition was loaded from lighter on 29 April. On 30 April ship proceeded to Long Island Sound for compass adjustment and calibration, and obtaining tactical data, running measured mile and various other tests.
5. The operations referred to in paragraph 4 above were carried out pursuant to the directives contained in Commandant, Third Naval District letter dated 21 April 1945, Serial 05895.
6. No ammunition expended.
7. Nothing to report.

1 - 5 May, 1945

1. Commandant, Third Naval District, Amphibious Training Command, Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.
2. Commandant, Third Naval District letter of 21 April 1945, Serial 05895.
3. Operated in Long Island Sound and anchored in Oyster Bay at night on May 1, and from May 2 thru May 5, moored starboard side to Naval Supply Depot Pier at 33rd Street, Brooklyn, New York.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

1 - 5 May, 1945 (Cont'd)

4. On May 1 and May 2, the ship continued testing various gear and obtaining operational information and preliminary tactical data. On May 2 she returned to 33rd Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York for supplies and additional work by contractors until 6 May 1945. On 5 May, the ship reported to the Commandant, Third Naval District as being ready for her shakedown and training cruise.
5. ComPhibsTraLant's Speedletter dated 24 April 1945, Serial 02193.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

6 - 7 May, 1945

1. No change.
2. ComPhibsTraLant's Speedletter of 24 April 1945, Serial 02193.
3. Moored at 33rd Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York, until 1600, 6 May anchored in Berth 4, Hampton Roads, Norfolk, Virginia, at 1400, 7 May 1945.
4. At 1600, 6 May, ship left New York for Norfolk to report for shakedown and training cruise to the Amphibious Training Command, Atlantic Fleet. The trip was without incident and the ship arrived at Norfolk as scheduled when we received the Shakedown Schedule.
5. ComPhibTraLant's Shakedown Schedule T.S.G.-386, a copy of which is set forth below.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

SHAKEDOWN SCHEDULE

Wed. 25 Apr. Commissioned.

Sat. 5 May Reported for Shakedown.

Mon. 7 May Arrive Hampton Roads.  
Arrange Shakedown Schedule.  
Call on ComPhibTraLant and Chief of Staff.

Tue. 8 May 0900 Receive boats and boat equipment from NLFED, Berkeley.  
12 LCV(P)s and 1 LCP(L).  
1300 Inspection by PhibTraLant Inspection Board.

Wed. 9 May Amphibious Training Hampton Roads - Little Creek Area.

Thur. 10 May Amphibious Training Hampton Roads - Little Creek Area.  
Anchor Hampton Roads in evening.

Fri. 11 May 0800 Underway for Chesapeake Bay.  
Compensate compasses off Cape Charles City. Upon completion disembark compensator at Cape Charles City (or degaussing range if he prefers) via ship's boat. Calibrate RDF (if installed). Run degaussing range. Anchor off Cape Charles City.

Sat. 12 May Conduct gunnery exercises as per SOPA, Hampton Roads Weekly Gunnery Schedule.  
Upon completion disembark gunnery rider at NAS, Patuxent, Md., via ship's boat.  
Proceed to Kent Island Area.  
Anchor off Annapolis Channel.

Sun. 13 May Run measured mile. Obtain tactical data.  
Conduct full power trial.  
Proceed and anchor off Cape Charles City.

Mon. 14 May 1100 (Approximately) - conduct fueling-at-sea exercises off Cape Charles City. Stream paravanes.  
Conduct tests as per ComPhibTraLant Conf. Memorandum LCM-45. Return and anchor Hampton Roads.

Tue. 15 May Conduct damage control practice and battle problem.  
Enter Navy Yard as per dispatch orders.

Wed. 16 May Navy Yard availability.

Thur. 17 May Navy Yard availability.

Fri. 18 May Navy Yard availability.

Sat. 19 May Navy Yard availability.

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

SHAKEDOWN SCHEDULE (Cont'd)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Sun. 20 May	Leave Navy Yard. Top off fuel, stores, etc.
Mon. 21 May	Report for loading and/or onward routing as directed.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

8 May 1945

1. No change.
2. ComPhibTraLant Shakedown Schedule T.S.G.-386.
3. Anchored in Berth 4, Hampton Roads, Virginia.
4. Received aboard from NLFED at Berkeley, Virginia, 12 LCV(P)s and 1 LCP(L). Two old LCV(P)s which were aboard were exchanged by NLFED and new boats were given us.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

9 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Anchored in Berth L-B22, Lynhaven Roads, Virginia.
4. Boat crews were exercised at Berth 4, Hampton Roads, Virginia in accordance with shakedown schedule and ship proceeded to anchorage in Lynhaven Roads at 1550 and anchored there at 1755.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

10 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Anchored Berth L-B22, Lynhaven Roads, Virginia. Anchored Berth 3, Hampton Roads, Virginia.
4. Exercised at Condition 1-A. All boats lowered and amphibious practice held. At about 1500 ship returned and anchored in Berth 3, Hampton Roads, Virginia.
5. Nothing to report.



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

10 May 1945 (Cont'd)

6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

11 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Anchored in Berth 3, Hampton Roads, Virginia. Anchored off Cape Charles City, Virginia.
4. At 0830 ship proceeded into Chesapeake Bay off Cape Charles City, and compass compensation and calibration was conducted. After this we ran the degaussing range near Wolf Trap Light and then returned to Cape Charles City where we anchored over night.

12 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
37 - 33 N 76 - 11 W	37 - 40 N 76 - 10 W	Anchored off Cove Point, Maryland.
4. Gunnery exercises in designated area were conducted from 0930 until 1545 according to schedule. The ship fired at a sleeve towed by plane on various types of runs, at a moored surface target at short range and also at a drone maneuvered by U.S.S. LSM-297 with which we made rendezvous as per schedule.
5. Nothing to report.
6. 30 rounds 5"/38, 964 rounds 40 MM, 2350 rounds 20 MM.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

13 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
38° 51' N 75° 26' W	38° 50' N 75° 25' W	Anchored off Cape Charles City.
4. Proceeded to Kent Island area off Annapolis, Maryland Channel and obtained such tactical data as was feasible and ran the measured mile. At 1430, we started a full power run to Cape Charles City where we anchored at 1900.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

14 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Off Cape Charles City, Virginia.	37° 26' N 76° 08' W	Berth 25, Hampton Roads, Virginia.
4. Completed obtaining tactical data, turning circles, crash stops and various similiar maneuvers. At about 1100, we made rendezvous with U.S.S. SOLEY (DD-707) and conducted fueling at sea exercises.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

15 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

15 May 1945 (Cont'd)

3. Anchored in Berth 25, Hampton Roads, Virginia. 2000 Moored to Berth 27, Pier 4, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia.
4. A battle problem was conducted during forenoon and about 1330 ship shifted berth to Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia for post shakedown availability.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

16 - 19 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Moored Berth 27, Pier 4, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia.
4. Post shakedown availability repairs and authorized alterations.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

20 - 26 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Moored at Pier 4, Berth 46, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia.
4. At about 0830 on 20 May 1945, we shifted Berth to Pier 4, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia to load stores for onward routing. On 26 May, ship completed loading.
5. ComServLant dispatch 251531 routing dispatch for passage to Panama Canal Zone.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

27 May 1945

1. Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.
2. Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet dispatch 251531 of May.
3. Moore's Pier 4, Berth 46, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, until 1600 when underway for Panama Canal Zone in company with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41). O.T.C. in U.S.S. UNION (AKA-106).
4. Nothing to report.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

28 - 31 May 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Various positions enroute from Norfolk, Virginia to Cristobal, Canal Zone.
4. Steaming in company with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41), enroute to Cristobal, Canal Zone in accordance with ComServLant 251531 of May 1945.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

REG. NO 151

F. O. D.

F. O. D. T NO 82

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

AKA106/A12-1

Serial: (020)

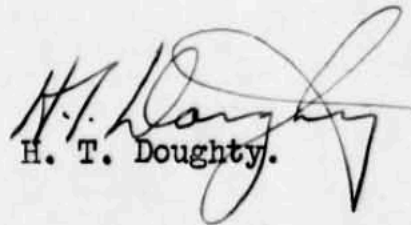
30 June 1945.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for 1 - 30 June 1945.  
Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, dated 29 October 1943.  
FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Navy Department Bulletin 43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary for June 1945 is herewith submitted.

  
H. T. Doughty.

128631

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

1 June 1945

1. Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet.
2. Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet dispatch 251531 of May 1945.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
14° 51.6 N 78° 24' W	13° 50' N 78° 50' W	11° 57' N 79° 30' W
4. Steaming in company with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41), enroute to Cristobal, Canal Zone.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

2 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Anchored in Limon Bay, Cristobal, Canal Zone.	08° 07.1 N 29° 45.7 W	Moored Pier 1, N.O.B. Balboa, C. Z.
4. Arrived Cristobal, C. Z., on schedule reported for duty to the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet and directed by Commander Pacific Sea Frontier to proceed through Canal to Balboa, C. Z., which we did and moored Pier 1, Balboa, C. Z.
5. Commander Pacific Sea Frontier ltr. 0220157 of June 1945 to U.S.S. UNION (AKA-106), U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41) and U.S.S. MACABI (SS-375); directed ships to proceed on 3 June 1945 to Pearl Harbor, T.H. to arrive 182300 Z June via prescribed route points.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

3 - 8 June 1945

1. Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet.
2. Commander Pacific Sea Frontier ltr. of 022015, June 1945.
3. Various positions along designated route.
4. Underway from Balboa, Canal Zone with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41) and U.S.S. MACABI (SS-375) in company. O.T.C. in U.S.S. UNION (AKA-106). Each day the U.S.S. MACABI left formation and exercised at various maneuvers with ships in company, simulating attacks, radar tracking, night and day lookout training, underwater approaches, and various training exercises for all ships in company. We zig-zagged and changed speeds to aid in submarine's tracking exercises.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

9 - 10 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.

3.	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
9 June	12° 00' N 107° 10' W	12° 10' N 107° 56.5 W	13° N 109° 22' W
10 June	13° 43' N 111° 06' W	13° 53' N 111° 54' W	14° 17' N 113° 50.5 W

4. Steaming in company as before conducting drills and various exercises with U.S.S. MACABI (SS-375). At 2145 when at approximate position 13° 04' N and 109° 48' W, a green flare was sighted off our starboard quarter. The U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41) later verified this sighting but the U.S.S. MACABI could not. Both ships stated no flares had been accidentally set off on board. All ships were in column at 1,000 yards interval. It was decided to search area, so ships reversed course and illuminated area thoroughly inasmuch as dispatches had advised of a passenger plane being last heard of on route to northward and ahead on our track. The search was ceased at 0107 after a complete search of area, and ships continued on course.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

9 - 10 June 1945 (Cont'd)

4. (Cont'd)

Results were negative and included one possible surface radar contact in that area at 0030. A report of this was sent to Radio Honolulu to all ships via our dispatch 100945 of June 1945, in view of previous intelligence concerning lost plane.

5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

11 - 12 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Various positions on prescribed route.
4. Steaming as before with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41) and U.S.S. MACABI (SS-375), enroute to Pearl Harbor, T.H. Conducting day and night drills, tracking exercises with radar, with submarine attacks simulated both on surface and while the submarine was submerged. The U.S.S. UNION and U.S.S. SELINUR zig-zagged using various plans and speeds during these maneuvers.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

13 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.

3.	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	17° 07' N 126° 45' W	17° 18' N 127° 45' W	17° 47' N 129° 45' W



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

13 June 1945 (Cont'd)

4. Steaming as before and conducting maneuvers with U.S.S. MACABI. At 2140, at point OBOE in our route, the U.S.S. MACABI (SS-375) left the formation to proceed independently pursuant to Commander Pacific Sea Frontier's 0220157 of June 1945 and at 2257 we lost contact with her at a range of 22,600 yards.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

14 - 17 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Various positions along route to Pearl Harbor, T. H.
4. Steaming as before in company with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41). O.T.C. in U.S.S. UNION. On 14 June U.S.S. UNION conducted gunnery practice firing at 5"/38 bursts and targets set adrift by U.S.S. SELINUR. On 15 June the U.S.S. SELINUR held similar gunnery practice. On 17 June at 1130 (~~19~~<sup>19</sup> $\frac{1}{2}$  zone time) we crossed the 152° W meridian and commenced zig-zagging to existing instructions for independently routed ships in Pacific areas.
5. Nothing to report.
6. 6 rounds 5"/38 AA, 212 rounds 40 MM, 2,165 rounds of 20 MM.
7. Nothing to report.

18 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
21° 27' N 156° 52.5 W	21° 14' N 157° 36.4 W	Moored Berth K-8, Pearl Harbor, T.H.
4. Steaming in company with U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA-41) enroute to Pearl Harbor, T. H. At 1000, in accordance with CinCPac dispatch of

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

18 June 1945 (Cont'd)

4. (Cont'd)

June 18, 1945 both ships exercised at gunnery practice with planes towing sleeves on various types of runs. At about 1400 the U.S.S. SELINUR proceeded independently into Honolulu, T. H. per instructions received and the U.S.S. UNION at 1514 moored to Berth K-8, Pearl Harbor, T. H. and commenced discharging cargo.

5. Nothing to report.
6. 6 rounds 5"/38, 660 rounds 40 MM, 5,100 rounds 20 MM.
7. Nothing to report.

19 - 20 June 1945

1. Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
2. No change.
3. Moored alongside K-8, Pearl Harbor, T. H.
4. Discharging cargo at N.S.D. alongside Berth K-8.
5. ComHawSeaFron ltr. dated 20 June 1945, containing Route Instructions AA-148 to Kahului, Maui, T. H.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

21 - 22 June 1945

1. No change.
2. ComHawSeaFron Routing Instructions AA-148 of 20 June 1945.
3.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Berth K-8	21° 02.5 N	Moored Pier 2, Kahului,
Pearl Harbor, T.H.	157° 28' W	Maui, T. H.
4. On 21 June, underway about 0800 for Kahului, Maui, T. H., to discharge cargo and arrived there as scheduled at 1900, when we moored alongside Pier 2. Discharged cargo on 22 June 1945.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

21 - 22 June 1945 (Cont'd)

5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

23 June 1945

1. No change.
2. ComHawSeaFron Routing Instructions #K-255, dated 23 June 1945.
3. 

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Moored Pier 2, Kahului, Maui.		21° 01' N 156° 16' W
4. Completed discharging cargo about 1530 and at 1700 we were underway for Hilo, Hawaii.
5. Orders described in paragraph 2 for passage to Hilo, Hawaii for further cargo discharge.

24 - 25 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3. Moored Pier 3, Hilo, Hawaii.
4. Arrived Hilo, Hawaii as scheduled at 0700 and moored to Pier 3 for discharge of cargo which continued through 25 June 1945.
5. ComHawSeaFron Route Instructions #M-115 for return passage to Pearl Harbor, T.H.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

26 June 1945

1. No change.
2. ComHawSeaFron Route Instructions M-155 as amended by his dispatch 251853 and 260020 of 7 June 1945.
3. 0800 - 1200 Moored Pier 3, Hilo, Hawaii. 2000 20° 08' N, 155° 06' W.
4. Unloaded cargo until 1600 and at 1700 underway for Honolulu, T. H. pursuant to orders and amendments thereof set forth in paragraph 2 above.
5. ComHawSeaFrons Route Instructions M-155 as amended by his dispatches 251853 and 260020 of 7 June 1945.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

27 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No change.
3.

	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	21° 13.4 N 157° 54.6 W	Moored at Berth X-2, Pearl Harbor, T.H.	Moored at Berth X-2, Pearl Harbor, T.H.
4. Underway for Honolulu, T. H. and upon arrival off entrance were advised our destination was changed to Pearl Harbor, T.H. At 1000 we were moored in Berth X-2, Pearl Harbor, T.H.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

28 - 30 June 1945

1. No change.
2. No present orders.
3. Moored at Berth K-1, Pearl Harbor, T. H.
4. At 0800 shifted Berth to K-1 for unloading cargo and on 29 June shifted berth to X-7, alongside S.S. BEECHER ISLAND.
5. Nothing to report.
6. Nothing to report.
7. Nothing to report.

REG NO 240  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 128

AKA106/A12-1

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

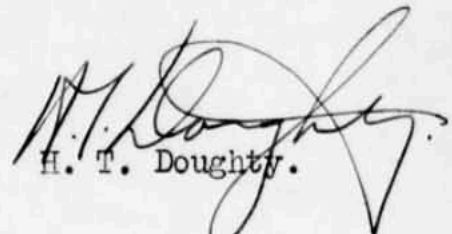
Serial: (028)

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

4 August 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for Month of July 1945.  
Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, FF1/A12-1/A16-3, dated  
29 October 1943. Navy Department Bulletin 43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary for the month of July is herewith submitted.

  
I H. T. Doughty.

Copy to:  
CinCPac

137039



**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

JULY WAR DIARY

1 July - 10 July

- (a) Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
- (b) None in effect.
- (c) Pearl Harbor, T. H.  $\neq$  9 $\frac{1}{2}$  Zone Time.
- (d) Moored at X-7, awaiting Yard Availability for repairs. On 5 July we shifted berth to Baker-2 in the Repair Basin. Various repairs were made and on 7 July we again shifted to X-13 and moored starboard side to U.S.S. HERSEY (AP-168) until 10 July. On 10 July ship moved to Honolulu, T. H. and moored alongside Pier 39, Berth "D" for loading.
- (e) Port Directors at Pearl Harbor and Honolulu sent various visuals dispatches concerning shifting of berth and loading.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.

11 July - 15 July

- (a) Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
- (b) None in effect.
- (c) Honolulu, T. H.
- (d) Moored alongside Pier 39, Berth "D", Honolulu, T. H. loading cargo.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

16 July 1945

- (a) Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
- (b) ComHawSeaFron Routing Instructions, Serial 01030, dated 14 July 1945 and CinCPOA dispatch 080320, dated 7 July 1945.
- (c)           0800                           1200                           2000  
Pier 39, Honolulu, T. H.                           20° 40' N 158° W  
1900 - Set clocks to ~~7~~ 10 zone time.
- (d) Moored alongside pier until 1700 when ship got underway for Eniwetok, Marshall Islands, with maintenance cargo for Guam, Mariana's Islands. Upon arrival at Eniwetok we will await orders for onward routing to Guam. Upon leaving Honolulu, T. H., we made a rendezvous with planes for Able Able Firing Practice. We are also carrying as passengers to Guam 12 Army officers and 30 enlisted men, pursuant to Army Post and Service Command letter AG-370.5 dated 14 July 1945.
- (e) CinCPOA Dispatch 080320 of July 1945 made us available for carrying maintenance cargo to Guam and ComHawSeaFron Serial 01030 gave us Routing Instructions for our first lap of the trip.
- (f) 39 rounds 5"/38 AAC; 800 rounds 40 MM HEIT-SD; 2320 rounds 20 MM.
- (g) Nothing to report.

17 July - 23 July

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c) <u>Date</u>	<u>Time Zone</u>	<u>Position at 0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
17 July	<del>7</del> 10; <del>7</del> 11 at 1700	20° 40 N 158° W	19° 04 N 161° 30 W	19° 25 N 163° 45.5W
18 July	<del>7</del> 11	19° 07.5 N 166° 45 W	18° 57 N 167° 51 W	18° 35.5N 167° 55 W
19 July	<del>7</del> 11; <del>7</del> 12 at 1700	172° 57.5 W 16° 38 N	174° 01 W 16° 23 N	176° 21.5W 15° 55 N
20 July	<del>7</del> 12	179° 13 W	179° 47 E	177° 42 E

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

17 July - 23 July (Cont'd)

	<u>Time Zone</u>	<u>Position at 0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
21 July	- At 0001, 21 July 1945, ship advanced date to 22 July 1945, after crossing 180th Meridian to conform to -12 zone time.			
22 July	-12	15° 06 N 174° 55 E	14° 53 N 174° 01 E	14° 28 N 172° 15 E
23 July	-12; -11 at 1700	13° 41 N 169° 31 E	13° 23 N 168° 31 E	12° 42 N 166° 27 E

- (d) From 17 July thru 23 July, the ship was steaming independently at a speed of advance of 14.5 knots on various courses and zig-zagging according to current directives. The trip was without any noteworthy incident and various drills such as Steering Casualty, Abandon Ship, Fire, Fire and Rescue, Gunnery Spotting, Small Arms Firing and General Quarters Drills were held practically daily. On 20 July at 1050, we crossed the 180° Meridian at Latitude 16° 26' North, altho we did not change dates until 0001 the next day, thus advancing our date from 20 to 22 July 1945.
- (e) A dispatch from Radio Honolulu, 230434 of July 1945, directed us to rendezvous with a plane some miles off Eniwetok on 24 July 1945 for Able Able firing.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.

24 July 1945

- (a) No change.  
(b) No change.

(c)

	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
- 11 Zone Time	11° 49' N 163° 40' E	11° 30' N 162° 40' E	Anchored in Area "B", Berth 76.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

24 July 1945 (Cont'd)

- (d) Steaming enroute to Eniwetok, Marshall Islands. At 0920, we made rendezvous with plane from Eniwetok. For two hours we conducted "Able" "Able" firing exercises, which were very satisfactory. The ship hit and brought down three sleeves and also hit a 4th sleeve on two other separate runs so that only a small bit of it remained. At 1315, we entered Eniwetok Atoll and anchored in Anchorage "B", Berth 76.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) 18 rounds 5"/38 AAC; 1477 rounds 40MM HEIT-SD; 5916 rounds 20MM.
- (g) Nothing to report.

25 July - 29 July

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) - 11; - 12 at 0100 to conform to time of Eniwetok Atoll. Anchored Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands.
- (d) Anchored in Berth 76, Eniwetok Atoll awaiting onward routing to Guam. On 25 July we fueled and returned to Anchorage "B", Berth 75.
- (e) On 29 July, Port Director Eniwetok's Confidential letter A4-3/RFM gave us sailing orders and route to Guam.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

30 July 1945

- (a) No change.
- (b) Port Director's (Eniwetok) Confidential letter A4-3/RPM of 29 July 1945.

(c)	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	11° 25' N 162° 23' E	11° 18' N 161° 31' E	11° 39' N 159° 17' E

At 1700 all ship's clocks set to - 11 zone time.

- (d) Anchored as before until 0710 when we weighed anchor and proceeded underway for Guam, Marianas Islands, pursuant to reference in paragraph 2 above. From 0830 to 1030 we had an "Able" "Able" practice while leaving this area which was very satisfactory. The gun crews knocked down three sleeves from the plane towing the target. Our speed of advance is 14.5 knots.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) 5"/38 - 12 rounds, - 40MM. - 944 rounds, - 20MM - 4389 rounds.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

31 July 1945

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c)	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	12° 09' N 156° 14' E	12° 18.5' N 155° 15.5' E	12° 36' N 153° 04.5' E

At 1700 set all ship's clocks to - 10 zone time.

- (d) Enroute to Guam. Made several surface Radar contacts with ships which we met or passed giving combat good tracking practice.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

AKA106/A12-1

Serial: (030)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

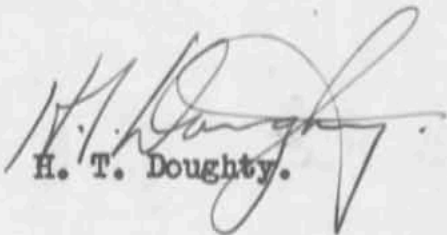
U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

REG. NO 437  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 35

13 September 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for Month of August 1945.  
Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, FF1/A12-1/A16-3, dated  
29 October 1943. Navy Department Bulletin  
43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary  
for the Month of August is herewith submitted.

  
H. T. Doughty.

Copy to:  
CinCPac

145562



**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

AUGUST WAR DIARY

1 August

- (a) Administrative Command, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
- (b) Port Director (Eniwetok) Conf. Ltr. No. A4-3/RFM of 29 July 1945.
- (c)
- |               |                    |                     |                      |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|               | 0800               | 1200                | 2000                 |
| -10 Zone Time | $15^{\circ} 02' N$ | $13^{\circ} 11' N$  | $13^{\circ} 29.5' N$ |
|               | $150^{\circ} E$    | $149^{\circ} 05' E$ | $147^{\circ} 16' E$  |
- (d) Enroute to Guam, with maintenance cargo from Pearl Harbor via Eniwetok Atoll. Speed of advance 14.5 knots. Practiced at various general drills during the day.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

2 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c)
- |               |                     |        |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|
|               | 0800                | 1200   | 2000                |
| -10 Zone Time | $13^{\circ} 27' N$  | Moored | $13^{\circ} 41' N$  |
|               | $144^{\circ} 36' E$ |        | $144^{\circ} 40' E$ |
- (d) Arrived Guam, Apra Harbor, and moored until 1640 when on order of Port Director got underway for Saipan to await available docking facilities at Guam which was overcrowded.
- (e) Port Director (Guam) dispatch 1928 of 2 August routing us to Saipan.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

6 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) -10 Zone Time      0800                      1200                      2000  
                                 13<sup>0</sup> 26' N                      Anchored                      Moored  
                                 144<sup>0</sup> 38' E
- (d) Arrived at Guam and anchored at 0920 until 1640 when we proceeded to Dock Z to commence unloading.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

7 August - 10 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored alongside Dock Z, Guam.
- (d) Unloading cargo to dock.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

11 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored at dock, and in Berth 10, Guam.
- (d) Moored and unloading cargo until 0645, when we proceeded alongside the U.S.S. ABSD-6 for replacement of our SR radar antenna. At 1110 the repairs were completed and we moved alongside the SS ISAAC VAN ZANDT in Berth 10 to complete unloading our cargo, using LCT's as carriers.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

12 August - 19 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored in Berth 10, Apra Harbor, Guam.
- (d) Completed unloading on 13 August and on 16 August moved to Dock "P" to load cargo which was completed on 19 August and at 1620 we proceeded to anchorage S.W. of Pier "Essy", loaded with miscellaneous fleet maintenance cargo for the Philippine Islands.
- (e) About 15 August when the major hostilities ceased all eastward movement of AKA's was suspended by CinCPac dispatch to Port Director (Guam) and this vessel was then loaded with passengers and cargo for Leyte, P.I. About 19 August we also were made a part of ComTransRon 13 and directed to report to them in Leyte upon arrival.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

20 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) CinCPac Dispatch 150912 of August 1945 and Port Director (Guam) Routing 2054 of 18 August 1945.
- (c)
- |               |  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|
|               | 0800                                     | 1200                                     | 2000                                     |
| -10 Zone Time | $130^{\circ}14' N$<br>$144^{\circ}32' E$ | $120^{\circ}40' N$<br>$143^{\circ}41' E$ | $110^{\circ}35' N$<br>$142^{\circ}03' E$ |
- (d) Moored until 0635 when underway for Leyte, P.I. to report to ComTransRon 13, carrying general fleet maintenance cargo and some passengers, both Navy and civilian (W.S.A. Official). We zigzagged in accordance with current directives.
- (e) None, except as noted above in (b) routing us to Leyte and directing us to report to ComTransRon 13 on arrival for duty.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

21 August - 22 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c)
- |                               |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                               | 0800                                    | 1200                                    | 2000                                    |
| 21 August                     | $10^{\circ}07' N$<br>$139^{\circ}43' E$ | $10^{\circ}22' N$<br>$138^{\circ}40' E$ | $10^{\circ}26' N$<br>$136^{\circ}09' E$ |
| -10 Zone Time until 21 August | - 1700 Changed to -9(I) Zone Time.      |   |   |
| 22 August                     | $10^{\circ}33' N$<br>$133^{\circ}10' E$ | $10^{\circ}35' N$<br>$132^{\circ}08' E$ | $10^{\circ}35' N$<br>$130^{\circ}01' E$ |
- (d) Steaming enroute to Leyte. Held general drills. On 22 August at 0935 when in position  $10^{\circ}34' N$ ,  $132^{\circ}45' E$ , radar had what appeared to be a possible submarine contact. Changed course and speed and notified other nearby ships. Contact lost and did reappear. No other events of note occurred.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

21 August - 22 August (Cont.)

- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

23 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c) 

0800	1200	2000
10° 35' N	10° 42' N	Moored
126° 41' E	125° 40' E	

- (d) Made landfall and approach on Homonhan Island at 0845. Proceeded into San Pedro Bay and Leyte Harbor where we moored alongside U.S.S. VULCAN (AR5) in Berth 60 at 1745.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

24 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Leyte, P.I.
- (d) Moored until 1130 when we left alongside the U.S.S. VULCAN and proceeded to anchor in Berth 59. Started to unload cargo into LST's alongside. Reported to ComTransRon 13 for duty in accordance with previous CinCPac dispatch.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

25 August

- (a) TransRon 13 - (Commodore M. O. Carlson, U.S. Navy, Commander Transport Group Baker and Transport Squadron 13, U.S.S. HARRIS (APA2) Flagship).
- (b) ComTransRon 13 Despatch 2400 16 August 1945.
- (c) Leyte, P.I.
- (d) Anchored and unloading cargo with all dispatch, so as to be available for scheduled operations with our transport squadron.
- (e) ComTransRon 13 Despatch 2400 16 August directed us to proceed to Cebu, P.I. when ready for sea.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

26 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Leyte, P.I. and at 
$$\begin{array}{l} 2000 \\ 10^{\circ} 00' \text{ N} \\ 125^{\circ} 20' \text{ E} \end{array}$$
- (d) Anchored, completing unloading and at 1500 underway for Cebu, P.I. in accordance with ComTransRon 13 orders previously mentioned. Tested and used gyro pilot very successfully while enroute.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

27 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) 0800 Moored at Dock, Berth 7, Cebu City Harbor,  
10° 03' N Cebu, P.I.  
123° 50' E
- (d) Underway thru Suragaio and Bobol Straits into Cebu Harbor which we entered and moored alongside the dock at Berth 7 at 0950. Commenced loading vehicles and other combat equipment of Army units.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

28 August - 29 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Cebu City, Cebu, P.I.
- (d) Loading cargo and receiving army officers and enlisted men as passengers for the coming operation, which is derived from Com3rdPhibFor Operation Plan No. Al601-45. We are carrying about 160 officers and men. These include 8 Army LCM(6)'s and their crews. These men are all from the Americal Division.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

30 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Cebu, P.I.
- (d) Moored until 0400 when with loading completed we proceeded to our anchorage in Cebu Harbor along with other APA's and AKA's of TransRon 13. Our boats participated in drills and practices for the scheduled operations at Sagami Wan and Yokohama, Japan with other units of TransRon 13.
- (e) Received copy of Commander Task Force 32 plan "Campus" No. A1601-45 and ComTransRon 13 Landing Attack Order No. A7-45 which is derived from A1601-45. ComTransRon 13 is in charge of Landing Group Baker and is designated Commander Task Group 33.3 for the Yokohama operation. Order No. A7-45 is a compilation of the cruising instructions and various dispositions, including sortie plan and training exercises underway. It also contains the Deployment Plan, approach schedules, beach party plan, assault control, medical, communications and boat plans for the operation.  
Plan "Campus" is the overall plan for the entire operation in-so-far as it has to do with the Third Amphibious Forces under the command of Vice Admiral T. S. Wilkinson, USN as Commander Task Force 32 and Com3rdPhibFor.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

31 August

- (a) No change.
- (b) Landing Attack Order A-7/45 of ComTransRon 13.
- (c) Cebu Harbor, Cebu City, Cebu, P.I.
- (d) Continued training with boats and getting ready for scheduled operations with TransRon 13 as a phase of the occupation of Japan.
- (e) Nothing to report.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

31 August (Cont.)

- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

AKA106/A12-1

Serial: (033)

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 100)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

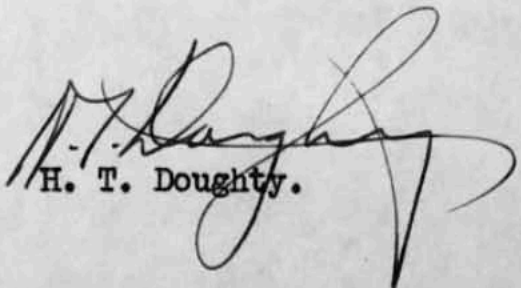
REG. NO 485  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 1

CONFIDENTIAL

2 October 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for Month of September 1945.  
Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, FF1/A12-1/A16-3, dated  
29 October 1943. Navy Department Bulletin  
43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary  
for the Month of September is herewith submitted.

  
H. T. Doughty.

Copy to:  
CinCPac

148819

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO. CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

SEPTEMBER WAR DIARY

1 September

- (a) TransRon Thirteen (Commodore M.O. Carlson, USN, Commanding. - Transport Group Baker. U.S.S. HARRIS (APA2) Flagship.)
- (b) ComTransRon 13's Landing Attack Order A7/45 and Com3rdPhibFor's Plan Campus No. Al601-45 together with derivative and associated directions.

(c)

	1200	2000
-9(I) Zone Time	090° 43' N	090° 36' N
	123° 37½' E	124° 59' E

- (d) Anchored outside Cebu Harbor, Cebu, P.I. until 0930 when pursuant to orders contained in ComTransRon 13's directive No. A7/45 we got underway for Yokohama, Japan in company with Transport Squadron 13 (Transport Group Baker) which was composed as follows:

C.T.G. 33.3 Transport Group Baker - Commodore Carlson  
Flagship, U.S.S. HARRIS (APA2) - Captain Burns

33.3.1 TransDiv 53 (temp.) Captain Thornton  
ROCKBRIDGE (APA228)(F), KITTSOON (APA123),  
NAVARRO (APA215), WINDSOR (APA55), NIAGARA 5 APA  
(APA87), WOODFORD (AKA86), VENANGO (AKA82) 2 AKA

33.3.2 TransDiv 51 (temp.) Captain Allen  
GOODHUE (APA107)(F), HYDE (APA173),  
OCONTO (APA187), HEYWOOD (APA6), BRACKEN 5 APA  
(APA64), UNION (AKA106), POLANA (AKA35), 2 AKA  
TRYON (APH1) 1 APH

33.3.3 TransDiv 35 (temp.) Captain Bartman  
CLAY (APA39)(F), SAMUEL CHASE (APA26),  
GOSHEN (APA108), BLAND (APA134), 4 APA  
ROLETTE (AKA99), TOWNER (AKA77) 2 AKA

33.3.5 Screen Captain Miller  
J.E. CAMPBELL (APD49), ODUM (APD71) 2 APD  
BURROWS (DE105), GANDY (DE764) 2 DE

S.S. NORTHEAST VICTORY attached to TransDiv 51  
S.S. NEW WORLD VICTORY attached to TransDiv 53  
All TransRon 13 present except the TRYON, POLANA and VENANGO  
which are to join up at Leyte. Ships exercised at General  
Drills.

- (e) Nothing to report.





U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

3-4-5-6-7 September (Contd.)

(c)	0800	1200	2000
3rd	14° 28' N 128° 13' E	15° 15' N 128° 39' E	16° 39' N 129° 45' E
4th	19° 15' N 130° 49' E	20° 03' N 131° 15.5' E	21° 16.5' N 132° 13' E
5th	23° 47.5' N 133° 38.5' E	24° 28.5' N 133° 58' E	25° 52' N 134° 28' E
6th	27° 40' N 135° 33' E	28° 22' N 135° 53' E	29° 41.5' N 136° 31' E
7th	31° 44' N 137° 46.5' E	32° 29' N 138° 09' E	33° 36' N 139° 42' E

- (d) TransRon 13 zigzagged during daylight from before sunrise until after sunset. The convoy daily exercised at various drills and tactical maneuvers including our approach entry dispositions pursuant to a well thought out program of training exercises underway. Drills were held during morning, afternoon and night of each day. The radar surface tracking exercise before dawn on 4 September was very good training. This vessel substantially agreed with the actual course offered of the target escort vessel and judged the particular zigzag diagram employed as one which was almost identical in character with the actual one used. Wartime restrictions for merchant ships (WIMS) was used exclusively because of the merchant ships in convoy.
- (e) On 6 September dispatches were received by ComTransRon 13 cancelling the "over the beach landings" at Sagauin Wan and preparations were made to go alongside the docks in Yokohama Harbor.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

8 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c)	0800	1200	2000
	35° 12' N 139° 46' E	Anchored	Moored

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

8 September (Contd.)

- (d) Steaming enroute to Yokohama and at 0530, TransRon formed entrance disposition of a single file of ships. The U.S.S. HARRIS was met and boarded by a liaison officer to pilot the squadron in and at 1015, anchored in Berth "B-11" in Yokohama Harbor. At 1340, a Japanese civilian pilot, M. Yahara came aboard and took us into Berth B, starboard side to alongside the Yokohama Customs House Pier where unloading was commenced at once using Army hatch crews.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

9 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored.
- (d) Continued to discharge cargo. All Army personnel debarked.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

10 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) 0800  
Moored

1200  
Anchored

2000  
34° 53' N  
139° 18' E

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

10 September (Cont'd)

- (d) Moored until 0815 when underway for Berth B-11, where we anchored until 1450, when underway for the Philippines. The ships in company and in disposition are as follows:

TransDiv 53

ROCKBRIDGE (APA228)(F)  
WINDSOR (APA55)  
KITTSOON (APA123)  
NAVARRO (APA215)  
NIAGARA (APA187)

TransDiv 37 (Tactical)

HARRIS (APA2)(OTC)  
WOODFORD (KA86)(TD 53)  
UNION (AKA106)(TD 53)  
ROLLETTE (AKA99)(TD35)  
POLANA (AKA35)(TD35)

TransDiv 35

CLAY (APA39)(F)  
BLAND (APA134)  
CHASE (APA26)  
GOSHEN (APA108)

Our escort is the U.S.S. CAMPBELL (APD49) with ComTransDiv 107 aboard. TransDiv 51 except the AKA's thereof remained behind to transport allied POW's and internees to the Philippines for medical care.

- (e) Received C.T.G. 33.3's sortie and cruising instructions A9-45 for return trip. No zigzag will be used and the navigational lights are to be turned on to full brilliancy.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

11 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c) 
$$\begin{array}{l} 0800 \\ 32^{\circ} 40' \text{ N} \\ 137^{\circ} 34' \text{ E} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 1200 \\ 32^{\circ} 13' \text{ N} \\ 136^{\circ} 52' \text{ E} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2000 \\ 31^{\circ} 12.5' \text{ N} \\ 135^{\circ} 02' \text{ E} \end{array}$$

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

11 September (Cont'd)

- (d) Steaming with TransRon 13. About 0300 convoy changed course and headed for Okinawa on order of ComTransRon 13 who received a message from C.T.F. 32 directing a diversion to that place to pick up and transport to Manila, allied POW's, internees and repatriates. All ships burning navigational lights and not zigzagging.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

12 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change, except we are routed via Okinawa.
- (c) 

	0800		1200		2000	
29°	32' N		28°	56.5' N	27°	43.5' N
132°	20' E		131°	31' E	129°	52.5' E
- (d) Steaming enroute to Philippine Islands via Okinawa until 2215 when pursuant to ComTransRon 13's visual dispatch 12 1304 September convoy was again diverted to Leyte, P.I. We were preparing to enter Buckner Bay, Okinawa and were within about 100 miles from there when the diversion took place cancelling this movement. ComTransRon dispatch 12 1304 September - cancelling entry into Okinawa and diverting to Leyte, P.I.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.



U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

13-14 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) ComTransRon 13's dispatch 12 1304 September.
- (c)
- |      |   |   |   |
|------|---|---|---|
|      | 0800  | 1200                                      | 2000                                      |
| 13th | $25^{\circ} 15.5' N$<br>$128^{\circ} 09' E$ | $24^{\circ} 33' N$<br>$127^{\circ} 40' E$ | $22^{\circ} 46' N$<br>$127^{\circ} 08' E$ |
| 14th | $19^{\circ} 41' N$<br>$126^{\circ} 53' E$   | $18^{\circ} 42' N$<br>$126^{\circ} 56' E$ | $16^{\circ} 42' N$<br>$126^{\circ} 26' E$ |
- (d) Steaming with TransRon 13 enroute to Leyte, P.I. Exercised at tactical maneuvers during evening and after sundown of the 13th, and also held flag hoist drills on the 14th.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

15 September 1945

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c)
- |                 |                                       |   |   |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
|                 | 0800                                  | 1200                                      | 2000                                      |
| 14 <sup>a</sup> | $19^{\circ} N$<br>$126^{\circ} 20' E$ | $13^{\circ} 32' N$<br>$126^{\circ} 22' E$ | $11^{\circ} 45' N$<br>$126^{\circ} 22' E$ |
- (d) Enroute Leyte with TransRon 13. Exercised at tactical maneuvers during early darkness. About 1800 received dispatch with us as info addressee, directing ComTransRon 13 to divert us to Guam escorted by the U.S.S. CAMPBELL. We have been outrunning a typhoon which is east of us and proceeding westerly. The typhoon has now swung north and at no time have we run into heavy weather as our speed south has enabled us to pass below the typhoon before its effects were felt. All preparations were made by the squadron for heavy weather which we are lucky to miss.
- (e) C.T.F. 32's 150326 action to ComTransRon 13 with UNION and CAMPBELL info addressees directing UNION with CAMPBELL as escort to divert to Guam taking course to avoid typhoon and UNION to report to ComTransRon 24 for duty on arrival. CAMPBELL to return to Leyte.



U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

15 September (Cont'd)

- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

16 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) C.T.F. 32 dispatch 150326 of September.
- (c) 0800  
Anchored
- (d) Proceeded with TransRon 13 until just before entry into Leyte Gulf. At about 0330 we were detached by ComTransRon 13 and together with the CAMPBELL and the KITTSON proceeded to east of Homonhan Island while the CAMPBELL fueled from the KITTSON. We anchored as directed at about 0530 and at 0820 were underway for Guam escorted by the CAMPBELL while the KITTSON proceeded into Leyte Gulf. We started using our automatic gyro pilot and it operates excellently.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

17-18-19 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c)	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
17th	11° 20' N 131° 35' E	11° 30' N 132° 33' E	11° 47' N 134° 28' E
18th	12° 03' N 137° 15' E	12° 11' N 138° 18' E	12° 28.5' N 140° 09.5' E
19th	13° 08' N 142° 44' E	13° 23' N 143° 35' E	Moored

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

17-18-19 September (Contd.)

- (c) (Continued) At 0001 on the 19th, set clocks to -10(I) Zone Time.
- (d) Steaming in company with and escorted by U.S.S. CAMPBELL (APD 49). She is O.T.C. having ComTransDiv 107 aboard. Used automatic electric steering most of the trip and it worked very well. At 1314 on the 19th, a lookout without glasses, shortly after a rain squall in the direction of land; sighted Guam at a range of 45 miles. This was verified by LORAN and later by radar. 1700 Moored in Apra Harbor in Berth 18.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

20-21-22-23 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored in Apra Harbor, Guam, M.I.
- (d) Awaiting arrival of ComTransRon 24 in the U.S.S. DADE (APA99) to report for duty and loading in our next operation. On 23 September, we moved into the inner harbor to Berth Sugar 1 and started to receive cargo.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

24-25-26-27 September

- (a) Transport Squadron 24 (Commodore E.T. Short, Commander, Task Group 78.6, U.S.S. DADE (APA99) Flagship.)
- (b) None as yet.
- (c) Moored alongside dock.
- (d) Loaded cargo and units of 6th Marine Division; 5 officers and 62 enlisted men. Reported to ComTransRon 24 for duty on the 24th. On the 26th, loading was completed and at 1000 we went alongside ABSD 3 for exchange of SG radar antenna. At 1700 anchored in harbor, awaiting berth assignment. On the 27th we moored in Berth 21.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

28-29-30 September

- (a) No change.
- (b) C.T.G. 78.6 operation order for TransRon 24, No. A4-45.
- (c) Moored, Berth 21, Apra Harbor.
- (d) Moored and awaiting completion of loading of ships in squadron for Tsingtao, China lift.
- (e) On September 28, we received a copy of Commander, Task Force 78's "Beleager Operation". This is the Commander, 7th Amphibious Force Operation Plan No. A1703-45. In general it contains the overall plan for operations during October of the 3rd Marine Amphibious Corps in Tientsin, Tsingtao and Chefoo, China. ComTaskGroup 78.6 (also ComTransRon 24) promulgated his Operation Order A4-45 for the Tsingtao lift from directives contained in the master plan A1703-45. Briefly, we depart 2 October from Guam and arrive at our objective 10 October. The alternate objective in this operation is Shanghai. C.T.F. 78 is Vice Adm. D.E. Barbey, Commander, 7th Amphibious Force.

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

CONFIDENTIAL

28-29-30 September (Cont'd)

- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

AKA106/A12-1

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

Serial: (037)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

20 November 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.  
 To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
 Subject: War Diary for Month of October 1945.  
 Reference: (a) Cominch Serial 7152, FF1/A12-1/A16-3, dated  
 29 October 1943. Navy Department Bulletin  
 43-1531.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the War Diary for the Month of October is herewith submitted.

RECEIVED SC FILES

Room 2055

ROUTE TO: 03

11 DEC 1945

File No. (SC) A12-1/AKA106

Doc. No. ....

Copy No. 1

Req. No. 5221

*H. T. Doughty*  
H. T. Doughty.

Copy to:  
CinCPac

153140



CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

OCTOBER WAR DIARY

1 October

- (a) TransRon 24 (Commodore C.T. Short, Commander, Task Group 78.6. U.S.S. DADE (APA99) Flagship.)
- (b) C.T.G. 78.6 Operation Order for TransRon 24, No. A4-45.
- (c) -10(J) Zone Time. Anchored Apra Harbor, Guam, M.I.
- (d) Moored and awaiting completion of loading of ships in Squadron for Tsingtao, China lift.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

2 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) -10(J) Zone Time.

2000  
14° 08.5' N  
143° 59.5' E

At 1700, ship's clocks retarded to conform with -9(I) Zone Time.

- (d) Moored in Apra Harbor, Guam, M.I., until 1437 when pursuant to orders contained in TransRon 24's Operation Order No. A4-45, we got underway for Tsingtao, China in company with Transport Squadron 24 which was composed as follows:

C.T.G. 78.6	Transport Squadron 24 (Temporary) - Commodore Short. Flagship, U.S.S. DADE (APA99)	
C.T.U. 78.6.1	TransDiv 70 (temp.) - Commodore Short. DADE (APA99), SITKA (APA113), HYDE (APA173), OKALOOSA (APA219), ANNE ARUNDEL (AP76), LEO (AKA60), UNION (AKA106), TOLLAND (AKA64)	4 APA 1 AP 3 AKA



CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

2 October (Cont'd.)

- (d) (Cont'd.)
- |               |  |                 |       |
|---------------|--|-----------------|-------|
| C.T.U. 78.6.2 | TransDiv 71 (temp.)  | Captain Davis   |       |
|               | BROOKINGS (APA140)(F), NAPA(APA157),<br>SAINT CROIX (APA211), ORMSBY (APA49),<br>ELKHART (APA80), VENANGO (AKA82), |                 | 5 APA |
|               | OSTARA (AKA33), YANCEY (AKA93)   |                 | 2 AKA |
| 78.6.3        | TransDiv 36 (temp.)  | Captain Tyler   |       |
|               | MONROUIA (APA31)(F), CLINTON (APA144),<br>WARREN (APA53), FULLER (APA7),<br>CLARENDON (APA72), MELLENA (AKA32),    |                 | 5 APA |
|               | LACERTA (AKA29), WHITESIDE (AKA90)   |                 | 2 AKA |
| 78.6.5        | Escort Unit Able   | Captain Cleland |       |
|               | LANING (APD55)(F), INGRAM (APD43),<br>WOLF (APD129), BALDUCK (APD132),   |                 | 4 APD |
|               | KELLER (DE419)   |                 | 1 DE  |
| 78.6.6        | Escort Unit Baker  | Captain         |       |
|               | KINGER (APD91), SCRIBNER (APD122),<br>TATUM (APD81)  |                 | 3 APD |

TransDiv 36 was not present and the only escorts present were the U.S.S. NAWMAN (DE416) and the U.S.S. R.F. KELLER (DE419). Ships exercised at tactical maneuvers.

- (e) Nothing to report.  
(f) Nothing to report.  
(g) Nothing to report.  
(h) Nothing to report.

3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10 October

- (a) No change.  
(b) No change.

(c)

	0800	1200	2000
3rd	15° 31' N 142° 26' E	15° 53' N 141° 53' E	16° 35' N 140° 52' E
4th	17° 52' N 138° 47' E	18° 20' N 138° 08' E	19° 06' N 136° 56' E
5th	20° 19' N 135° 02' E	20° 40' N 134° 29' E	21° 31' N 133° 12' E
6th	22° 40' N 131° 08' E	23° 19' N 130° 20' E	24° 17' N 129° 22' E

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10 October (Cont'd.)

(c) (Cont'd.)

	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
7th	<u>25° 32' N</u> 127° 33' E	<u>25° 45' N</u> 127° 15' E	<u>26° 48' N</u> 125° 51' E
8th	28° 58' N <u>124° 48' E</u>	29° 39' N <u>125° 05' E</u>	31° 18' N <u>125° 48' E</u>
9th	33° 20' N <u>125° 38' E</u>	32° 06' N <u>125° 27' E</u>	33° 28' N <u>125° 19' E</u>
10th	34° 41' N <u>123° 46' E</u>	34° 56' N <u>123° 15' E</u>	35° 22' N <u>121° 51' E</u>

On the 9th and 10th, high seas and winds up to 40 knots were encountered causing the formation to be delayed one day in its arrival at Tsingtao.

(d) Underway in formation 2-C, enroute Tsingtao, China from Guam with units of the 6th Marine Division aboard. Navigational lights were burned at full brilliancy during the entire time. At various times, ships exercised at tactical and general drills in preparation for mine evasion. On the 7th the formation was joined by the following escorts: U.S.S. LC TAYLOR (DE415)(F), U.S.S. OLIVER MITCHELL (DE417) and U.S.S. TABBERER (DE418). On the 7th the U.S.S. NAWMAN (DE416) embarked the Commanding General and staff of the 6th Marine Division from the U.S.S. DADE (APA99) and proceeded ahead of squadron to Tsingtao. During this period several floating mines were sighted and sunk by the escorting vessels.

(e) Nothing to report.

(f) Nothing to report.

(g) Nothing to report.

(h) Nothing to report.

11 October

(a) No change.

(b) No change.

(c) At 0800 retarded ship's clocks to conform with -8(H) Zone Time.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>35° 58.5' N</u>	Anchored	Anchored
120° 30' E		

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

11 October (Cont'd.)

- (d) Steaming enroute Tsingtao, China and at 0550, **TransRon 24** formed entrance disposition of a single line of ships. O.T.C. designated U.S.S. SITKA (AP113) as Temporary ComTransDiv 70 during forming of disposition. At 0911 anchored in Berth F9, Tsingtao Harbor, China. At 1447 we proceeded without pilot to the outer end, northside of Pier No. 2 where unloading was commenced at once using Marine crews in the holds.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

12-13 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Moored.
- (d) Continued to discharge cargo. All Marine personnel debarked.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

14 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) 0800 1200 2000  
Moored Anchored Anchored
- (d) Received fuel from U.S.S. SARANAC (A)74) and returned to Berth F9.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

14 October (Cont'd.)

- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

15-16 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Anchored.
- (d) Awaiting remainder of ships in squadron to complete unloading.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

17 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.

(c) 

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
Anchored	Anchored	35° 49' N
		121° 08' E

- (d) Got underway at 1604 pursuant to Sortie Plan contained in Com-TransRon 24's Operation Order No. A6-45 enroute to Manila, P.I. from Tsingtao, China in company with Transport Squadron 24 which was composed as follows:

TransDiv 70 - Commodore E.T. Short  
U.S.S. DADE (APA99) (SF)  
U.S.S. SITKA (APA113)  
U.S.S. HYDE (APA173)  
U.S.S. OKALOOSA (APA219)  
U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL (AP76)  
U.S.S. LEO (AKA60)  
U.S.S. UNION (AKA106)



CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)

FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

17 October (Cont'd.)

(d) (Cont'd.)

TransDiv 71 - Captain Davis

U.S.S. BROOKINGS (APA140)  
U.S.S. SAINT CROIX (APA231)  
U.S.S. ORMSBY (APA49)  
U.S.S. NAPA (APA157)  
U.S.S. ELKHART (APA80)  
U.S.S. VENANGO (AKA82)  
U.S.S. OSTARA (AKA33)  
U.S.S. CENTAURUS (AKA17)

Escort Unit A - Captain J.B. Cleland

U.S.S. LANNING (APD55)  
U.S.S. INGRAM (APD43)  
U.S.S. WOLF (APD129)

(e) Nothing to report.

(f) Nothing to report.

(g) Nothing to report.

(h) Nothing to report.

18-19-20-21-22 October

(a) No change.

(b) No change.

(c)	0800	1200	2000
18th	34° 33' N 123° 54' E	34° 09' N 124° 36' E	32° 39.2' N 125° 20' E
19th	30° 07' N 125° 25' E	29° 31' N 124° 57' E	27° 49' N 124° 36' E
20th	25° 47' N 124° 48' E	25° 17' N 124° 12' E	24° 13' N 123° 00' E
21st	22° 24' N 121° 26' E	21° 43.4' N 121° 07.2' E	20° 21' N 120° 39' E
22nd	18° 22' N 119° 48' E	17° 18' N 119° 25' E	15° 44' N 119° 33' E

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

18-19-20-21-22 October (Cont'd.)

- (d) Steaming in formation enroute Tsingtao to Manila. General drills were held on the 19th and maneuvered on various occasions to avoid floating mines which were sunk by escorting vessels.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

23 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) At 0700 all ship's clocks were advanced one hour to conform with Zone -9(I) Time.  

0800	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>14</u> <sup>o</sup> 24.5' N	Anchored	Anchored
120 <sup>o</sup> 42' E		
- (d) At 1024 we anchored in Berth 540 in Manila Bay. While in Manila Bay, we took on fuel.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

24-25-26-27-28-29 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) Anchored.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

24-25-26-27-28-29 October (Cont'd.)

- (d) Anchored in harbor completing logistics. On the 25th proceeded to Subic Bay in company with the U.S.S. LEO (AKA60) and picked up small boat replacements for squadron returning to Berth 540 the same day.
- (e) On the 28th, we received change No. 2 to ComTransRon 24's Operation Order No. A6-45.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

30 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) At 1700 retarded all ship's clocks to conform with Zone -8(H) Time.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
14° 22' N	14° 23' N	14° 33' N
120° 18' E	119° 27' E	117° 24.5' E

- (d) Pursuant to Operation Order A6-45 got underway for Haiphong, French Indo China in company with:

TransDiv 70 - Commodore Short

U.S.S. DADE (APA99) (SF)  
U.S.S. SITKA (APA113)  
U.S.S. HYDE (APA173)  
U.S.S. OKALOOSA (219)  
U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL (AP76)  
U.S.S. LEO (AKA60)  
U.S.S. UNION (AKA106)

TransDiv 71 - Captain Davis

U.S.S. BROOKINGS (APA140)  
U.S.S. SAINT CROIX (APA231)  
U.S.S. ORMSBY (APA49)  
U.S.S. NAPA (APA157)  
U.S.S. ELKHART (APA80)  
U.S.S. VENANGO (AKA82)  
U.S.S. OSTARA (AKA33)  
U.S.S. CENTAURUS (AKA17)



CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

30 October (Cont'd.)

- (d) (Cont'd.)  
Escort Unit A - Captain Cleland  
U.S.S. LANNING (APD55)  
U.S.S. INGRAM (APD43)  
U.S.S. WOLF (APD129)
- (e) The purpose of this trip is to pick up the 52nd Chinese Nationalist Army for transportation to Northern China.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

31 October

- (a) No change.
- (b) No change.
- (c) 

0800	1200	2000
$14^{\circ} 39' N$	$14^{\circ} 39' N$	$15^{\circ} 01' N$
$114^{\circ} 34' E$	$113^{\circ} 42' E$	$111^{\circ} 53' E$
- (d) Enroute Haiphong, French Indo China.
- (e) Nothing to report.
- (f) Nothing to report.
- (g) Nothing to report.
- (h) Nothing to report.

AKA106/A12  
Serial: (2)

U. S. S. UNION (AKA 106)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

2 January 1946.

From: Commanding Officer.  
To : Secretary of the Navy (Public Information Section).  
Subject: U.S.S. UNION (AKA-106) Ship's History -  
Forwarding of.  
Enclosure: (A) Three (3) copies U.S.S. UNION (AKA-106)  
Ship's History.  
1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.



*H. T. Doughty*  
H. T. Doughty.

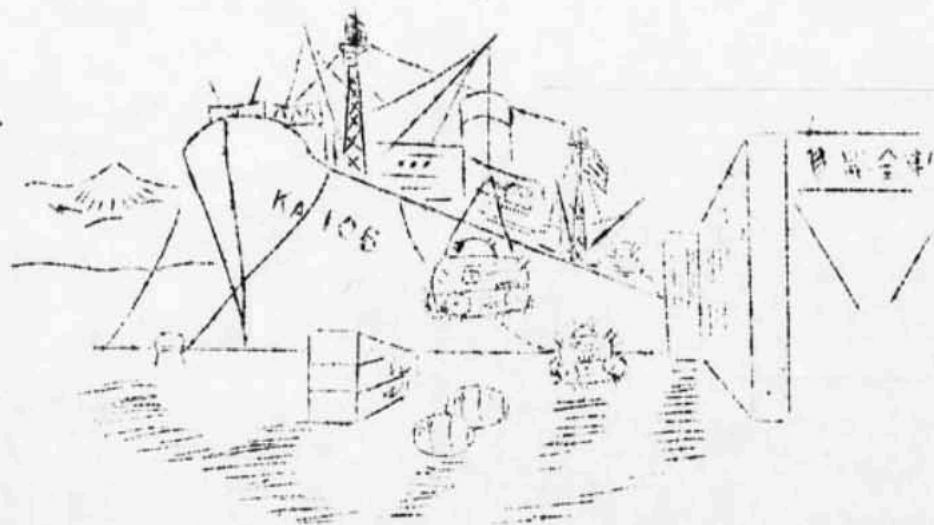
Copy to:  
File.

158678

The History  
Of The

USS UNION

AKA 106



## HISTORY OF THE U.S.S. UNION

During the year 1944, the keel of this ship was laid and the work of building her was started at the North Carolina Shipbuilding Company, Wilmington, North Carolina. She was known as North Carolina S.B. Hull No. 168 and U.S. Maritime Commission Hull No. 1697. The bearing upon which the ship was built was 097° True.

On November 23, 1944, the ship was launched, being sponsored by Mrs. William Olive Burgin of Lexington, North Carolina, the wife of the Representative to Congress from the 8th District of North Carolina and appropriately named "UNION" after like named counties in some eighteen states.

Some of the principal physical characteristics of the UNION are that she is a Class "C-2" Hull with an overall length of 459 feet, 2 inches and a breadth of 63 feet. Her gross tonnage is about 8,258 tons with seven cargo hatches, four forward and three aft. She is powered by a General Electric Steam Turbine of 6,000 horsepower driving a single screw.

The ship was ordered by the U.S. Maritime Commission and after building was taken to the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company Yard at Hoboken, New Jersey for commission into an AKA type vessel for the U.S. Navy.

The work proceeded with dispatch and the commissioning of the UNION (AKA 106) was scheduled to take place at Pier 14, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company Yard at 1100 on Wednesday, April 25, 1945. The commissioning ceremony was held in the rain with the officers and crew paraded aft on No. 5 hatch. Captain Harold V. McKittisk, USN, Captain of the Navy Yard, New York and representing the Commandant of the 3rd Naval District read the orders from the Secretary of the Navy and they directed the ship be placed in full commission. The band played the National Anthem while the Ensign and Union Jack were hoisted and then lowered to half mast as this was during the period of national mourning for our late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Commander Hartwell T. Doughty, DE, USNR assumed command of the vessel and a close personal friend of Captain Doughty, Chaplain R. D. Driscoll, Commander (Ch.C) USNR offered a prayer invoking the aid, protection and blessing of God upon the vessel, its crew and mission.

That same afternoon, Wednesday, April 25, 1945, the ship was moved to the Naval Supply Pier at 33rd Street, Brooklyn for provisioning and completion of previous jobs prior to a test run. On Saturday, 28 April, the ship proceeded to Bayonne for deperming and then into Gransend Bay for loading of ammunition. Then on 30 April, we proceeded into Long Island Sound for test runs, securing tactical data, compass calibration and in general a performance check on the ship. On 2 May we returned to the Supply Pier at 33rd Street, for supplies and additional work by Bethlehem and on May 5, reported ready for the shakedown and training cruise.

We proceeded to Norfolk on May 6 and on arrival reported to the Amphibious Training Command and for a week in Chesapeake Bay we carried out the shakedown schedule of exercises. On May 15, we returned to the Navy Yard at Norfolk, Virginia and had availability there until May 20 when we moved to the Naval Supply Depot and loaded for Pearl Harbor with a miscellaneous cargo.

On May 27, we left Norfolk for the Canal Zone in company with the U.S.S. SELINUR (AKA41) where we arrived on June 2. We made transit at once and tied up in Balboa at night.

The next day we were joined by the U.S.S. MACABI (SS375) and the three ships proceeded in company to Pearl Harbor, carrying out a schedule of training exercises for the submarine underway. The program worked out very well. We steamed in company until June 13, when as we neared the Hawaiian area the U.S.S. MACABI (SS375) left to proceed independently. The arrival at Pearl was made on June 18, and from June 21 to June 27 we proceeded to Kahului, Maui and then to Hilo, Hawaii to unload our cargo after which we returned to Pearl.

A period of 10 days followed during which we laid at Pearl, had yard availability for repairs and awaited orders which came on July 10 when we moved to Honolulu for loading by the Army. On July 16, fully loaded with maintenance cargo for Guam, we left Honolulu enroute to Eniwetok to await a call from Guam.

At this time we were unattached and unassigned to any transport squadron. We operated under AdComPhibsPac and were apparently loaned to ComHawSeaFor temporarily. A landfall and entry was made at Eniwetok on July 24 and we waited until July 30 when our orders came, calling us out to Guam.

At this point, it might be mentioned that the gun crews had had considerable practice since the commissioning, at each port as we entered or left it, where target planes were available. This continued practice began to show results when we arrived at Eniwetok. The firing practice we had prior to entry resulted in knocking down 4 sleeves and upon leaving Eniwetok, we held another practice when we knocked down 3 sleeves.

Our C.I.C. team is also functioning well and all hands are getting the feel of the ship. The run to Guam was without incident and we arrived there on August 2 only to be rerouted to Saipan as Guam was crowded and we were to await recall when there was available dock space. The ship lay at Saipan for a few days and on August 5, we returned to Guam on an all night run when we went alongside a dock and unloaded our cargo.

The rumors of the war's end found us unloaded on the 13th of August and we waited until August 16, before we learned that we were to load with general cargo for Leyte, P.I. and on arrival report to ComTransRon 13 for duty. This was the first assignment to an organized operation.



On August 20, we got underway for Leyte and also had a portion of ComTransRon 13's staff aboard as passengers. The trip to Leyte was made in good time. This ship is economical to run, averaging about 9,000 gallons of fuel for the 24 hours running at 14.5 or 15 knots. We have had no engine trouble and there is no vibration at our cruising speeds.

The landfall was made on Homonhan Island August 23 as scheduled and we proceeded into Leyte Gulf then up San Pedro Bay to the anchorage. Upon reporting to ComTransRon 13, we were directed to unload as quickly as possible and proceed at once to Cebu to be loaded for the coming occupation of Japan. So, we unloaded, proceeded to Cebu and were loading there on the 27th of August. We are taking parts of the Americal Division to Japan as a part of TransRon 13 pursuant to the overall plan "Campus". On September 2 in Leyte Gulf, TransRon 13 consisting of some 22 ships, 4 of which are APA's, 5 AKA's, 1 APH, and 2 merchant "Victory" ships and escorted by 2 DE's and 2 APD's rendezvoused and set course for Yokohama to arrive September 8th. The Squadron was made up as follows:

- C.T.G. 33.3 Transport Group Baker - Commodore Carlson  
Flagship, U.S.S. HARRIS (APA2) - Captain Burns
- 33.3.1 TransDiv 53 (temp.) Captain Thornton  
ROCKBRIDGE (APA228)(F), MITCHELL (APA23),  
NAVARRO (APA215), WINDSOR (APA55), NIAGARA  
(APA87), WOODFORD (APA86), VERMIGO (APA82)
- 33.3.2 TransDiv 51 (Temp.) Captain Allen  
GOODRICH (APA107), HYDE (APA173);  
OCOMOBO (APA187), KEYWOOD (APA6), BRACKETT  
(APA64), UNION (AKA106), POLANA (AKA35),  
TRYON (APHL)
- 33.3.3 Tra. Div 35 (temp.) Captain Bartman  
CLAY (AKA39)(F), SAMUEL CHASE (AKA26),  
GOSTEN (APA108), BLAND (APA134),  
ROLETT (AKA99), TOWNER (AKA77)
- 33.3.5 Screen Captain Miller  
J.E. CAMPBELL (APD49), ODUM (APD71),  
BURNOWS (DE105), GANDY (DE764)

S.S. NORTHEAST VICTORY attached to TransDiv 51  
S.S. NEW WORLD VICTORY attached to TransDiv 53

Commodore Carlson was said to have aptly described this operation as the "graduation exercises" of the Amphibious Forces and daily while enroute to Yokohama, the squadron carried out a well organized and extensive "practice" program for the "graduation" which consisted of all kinds of signalling drills and tactical maneuvers, approach and entry dispositions and the like. All preparations were made ready for a landing on the beaches at Sagami Wan, outside Yokohama Harbor, but orders received enroute advised us that the docks at Yokohama were in excellent shape, and so on the early morning of September 8, the group steamed into the harbor, berths were assigned and by afternoon, we were unloading our cargo and the Army personnel which accompanied us.



The Army cargo crews which unloaded us did a quick job and by 1500 September 10, the squadron was underway again for the Philippines for a turn around trip.

The APA's of TransDiv 51 as well as the U.S.S. UNION (APHL) did not accompany us on the return trip.

We were diverted to Okinawa to pick up repatriated POW's for Manila, but later these orders were cancelled and we headed for Leyte.

As we approached Leyte, this vessel was detached and diverted to Guam to report to ComTransRon 24. So on September 16 on arrival outside Leyte Gulf we waited while our escort, the U.S.S. CAMDEN (APD49) fueled and then in company with her, set course for Guam, where we arrived in the early afternoon of September 18 to await ComTransRon 24's arrival to report for duty.

We stayed at Guam until October 2, when in company with TransRon 24, set course for Tsingtao, China. The trip to Tsingtao, China was for the purpose of transporting units of the 6th Marine Division to that area for occupational purposes, and on Wednesday, October 11, 1945 the squadron arrived at its destination and was welcomed by the Chinese at that port for the Marines we carried were the first American troops in the area of the Shantung Peninsula. The arrival date coincided with a local celebration in connection with the 10th Anniversary of the New Chinese Republic.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, 17 October 1945, Transport Squadron 24, including the UNION, proceeded out of Tsingtao Harbor, China enroute once again to the Philippines.

During this trip as in previous trips, the UNION distinguished herself by the excellent performance of her radar, and the information submitted to the Squadron Commander aided materially to the safe and efficient navigation of the entire unit.

At about 1000 on the morning of Tuesday, 23 October 1945, we anchored in Manila Bay. On the next afternoon we transferred several of our landing craft to various other ships in the Squadron, and then proceeded to Subic Bay, P.I. in company with the U.S.S. IFO (AM60), to pick up landing craft replacements for the entire squadron. After returning to Manila Bay we remained there until Tuesday the 30th of October, at which time TransRon 24 got underway for Haiphong, French Indo China.

The purpose of our trip to Haiphong was to embark elements of the 52nd Chinese Nationalist Army for transportation to Manchuria. Our voyage to Haiphong was without incident.

We arrived there in the afternoon of November the 2nd, and commenced embarking troops and equipment that same afternoon. By the 4th of November, all ships of the Squadron had completed loading and we proceeded out of Tonkin Harbor in formation on our way to Yingkow,

Manchuria. On the 5th of November 1945, our destination was changed from Yingkow, Manchuria to Chinwangtao, North China. Our passengers, numbering 913 officers and enlisted men of the Chinese 52nd Army, unused to shipboard life, for the most part became sea sick shortly after leaving Tonkin Gulf. However, due to previous installation of additional sanitary facilities, which were constructed by ship's company, the situation was not as bad as it normally would have been on a ship of this type.

During the last four days of this voyage, we encountered extremely bad weather which necessitated the Squadron Commander to slow the speed of the formation to such an extent that we were a day late arriving at our destination.

On the morning of November 12th, we arrived at Chinwangtao, North China, anchored and began making preparations for the debarkation of our troops. In the afternoon of November 13, 1945, the UNION was called in to pier #1, to debark troops and equipment.

The debarkation was very orderly and by the morning of the 14th, we had completed unloading troops and their equipment. We then got underway and proceeded to our position in the formation which at that time was forming up and proceeding toward sea, enroute to Taku, at the mouth of the Peiping River, China.

We remained at Taku until the 2nd of December awaiting orders. During this time we were detached from TransRon 24 and made available to PhibsPac for duty. While there, we fueled, took on provisions and caught up with ship's maintenance work.

On December 1st, 1945, the UNION received orders to proceed to the United States via Manila, with maximum personnel and boat lift. We commenced taking on separates the next morning and by the following evening had loaded our capacity of personnel consisting of 19 officers and 392 enlisted men.

On the 2nd of December, 1945, as per orders of the Port Director, Taku, Task Unit 78.19.01 was formed with Commander H. T. Doughty, USNR, as C.T.U. 78.19.01. The Task Unit was made up of the UNION and the U.S.S. TABBERER (DE418), the latter acting as escort to the UNION.

Early on the 2nd of December, Task Unit 78.19.01 got underway from Taku Anchorage and proceeded toward Manila. On the afternoon of the 4th of December, the TABBERER (DE418) was detached and proceeded back toward Taku.

On December 8th, the UNION anchored in Borth 51, Manila Bay, P.I. On the afternoon of the 9th, we received orders to proceed on the following morning to San Pedro, California. At 0930 on the 10th of December, 1945, the UNION got underway from Manila Harbor. On the 11th we were forced to reduce speed due to high seas which caused the ship to roll heavily. We encountered heavy weather from the 10th to the 22nd, which made it necessary to reduce speed. In addition to reducing our speed, the heavy weather, caused an increased fuel consumption which on the 22nd necessitated our diverting to Pearl Harbor to replenish reserve fuel supply.