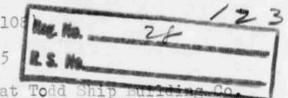
Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY
USS WASHBURN (AKA-108

Month of May 1945



- 17. Ship put in Commission at 1100 at Todd Ship Burlding Co. Yard, Hoboken, New Jersey. Underway at 1430 for 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York for loading stores and equipment in accordance with Commandant 3rd Naval District letter Serial No. 06014 of 9 May 1945.
- 18. Loading stores and equipment at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York.
- 19. Loading stores and equipment at 35th. Street Pier, Brocklyn, New York.
- 20. Loading stores and equipment at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York. Underway at 1600 for Deperming Station, Bayonne, New Jersey to be depermed and degaussed.
- 21. Completed deperming and degausing at Deperming Station, Bayonne, New Jersey. Underway at \$7\$\$ for anchorage at Gravesend Bay, New York, and loading ammunition.
- 22. Underway \$6\$\$ from anchorage at Gravesend Bay, New York.
 Proceeded through Hells Gate to Long Island Sound, New York
 off Cyster Bay, New York. Calibrated compasses and conducted trial runs. Anchored Cyster Bay, New York for the night.
- 23. Underway from anchorage at Cyster Bay, New York \$7\$\$ for full power run Long Island Sound conducting various drills. Returned to anchorage Cyster Bay, New York for the night.
- 24. Underway from anchorage Cyster Bay, New York \$7\$\$, conducted drills and trial runs until 13\$\$. Underway for 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York, via Hells Gate. Loaded stores and equipment.
- 25. Loaded stores and equipment and fitting out at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York.
- 26. Loading stores and equipment and fitting out at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York.

Approved:

W.C. TACKSON, Comdr. USNR

Companding.

Submitted:

H.C. PAINE, Lt(jg)USIR

WAR DIARY USS WASHBURN (AKA-108)

CONFIDENTIAL

Month of May 1945

- 27. Loading stores and equipment and fitting out at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York.
- 28. Loading stores and equipment and fitting out at 35thl Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York, Held dock trial for repairs to turbine, results satisfactory.
- 29. Loading stores and equipment and fitting out at 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York. Reported for duty to Commander-in-Chief, COTClant, and Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet, with Chief of Naval Operations and Commander Service Force, Atlantic Fleet information addressees in dispatch Of 291922, at the same time filed our departure report for the next day to proceed to Norfolk, Va. for a shakedown in accordance with ComPhibTralant Conf. Speedletter \$2423 of 15 May 1945.
- 30. Departed 35th. Street Pier, Brooklyn, New York enroute to Norfolk, Va. in accordance with ComPhibTraLant Conf. letter \$2423 of 15 May 1945, at various courses and speeds. 2000 position 38°36' N, 73°54' W. Completed structural firing test with satisfactory results. Conducted various drills including streaming paravanes.
- 31. Enroute New York to Norfolk, Va. until 1040 when anchored berth 5 Hampton Roads, Virginia. On reporting inspection party under Captain Meyers conducted inspection of ship.

Approved:

V.O. ACASON, Comdr. USNR

H.C. PAINE, Lt.(jg)USNR

Submitted:

USS WASHBURN AKA-108

NO 96

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

Month of June 1945

- Under administrative command of CTG 23.8, in accordance with ComPhibTralant Speedletter 02423 of 15 May 1945, continued shakedown training. Completed taking aboard landing craft at anchorage berth #5 Hampton Roads, Virginia. 2017 stood out from Hampton Roads and anchored area Baker, Lynn Haven Roads, Virginia.
- 2. At anchor Lynn Haven Roads, Virginia, continued shakedown training. Conducted boat drills at Condition 1A.
- 3. At anchor Lynn Haven Roads, Virginia continuing shakedown training. Conducted simulated beach assault of Little Creek, Virginia. Returned to Hampton Roads, Virginia, anchored berth #23.
- 4. 0823 underway from Hampton Roads, Virginia for Wolf Trap Degaussing Range. Swung ship to calibrate compasses. Ran degaussing range then proceeded to Fleet Bay anchorage Chesapeake Bay area.
- 5. Underway again for gunnery range holding General Quarters drill enroute. 0901 plane began runs for practice firing AA machine guns and 5"-38. 1328 began surface target practice for 5"-38. 2036 conducted night firing practice on sleeve with all guns. 2210 secured from gunnery exercises and proceeded back to anchorage Fleets Bay, Virginia.
- 6. Underway again from Fleets Bay, Virginia for gunnery range. 0933 commenced firing on drone with all guns exercising. 1150 secured from drone exercises, being unable to obtain sufficient drones to complete scheduled training. 1110 underway for Annapolis, Maryland. 1715 anchored off Annapolis, Maryland.
- 7. Underway from Annapolis, Maryland anchorage for measured mile runs off Kent Island. Completed runs at 4 speeds to establish RPM curve of speeds. Also conducted crash stop trials with satisfactory results. Proceeded to anchorage in Chesapeake Bay off Cape Charles City, Maryland.
- 8. After small fire in incinerator room, underway for fueling at sea exercises with Kantheus AR-19. After taking lines and hose from Kantheus and returning same with no casualties, secured from exercises. 1100 underway for Hampton Roads, Virginia. 1422 anchored Berth #4, Hampton Roads, Virginia to prepare for Military Inspections.

requested.

- 9. Anchored in Berth #4, Hampton Roads, Virginia continuing shakedown and preparations for Military Inspection. 0910 Captain Meyers, USN, Commander Auxiliary Vessel Shakedown Group (CTG 23.8) and inspection party arrived to conduct Military Inspection. Ships personnel was inspected, then a battle problem was presented. Crew was exercised at General Quarters, Condition 1A, with simulated landing craft assualt. Simulated casualties brought out that Damage Control parties had not had sufficient time for training and that stretcher bearers at various stations needed to be assigned and trained. At abandon ship drill concluding the inspection it was noted that men were lacking in life jackets and knowledge of their proper use. Material and personnel inspection were reported as very good. 1200 secured from Military Inspection. 1352 underway for Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia for Post Shakedown Availability. 1548 moored Berth #8, Navy Yard and Inspection party from yard came aboard to plan work
- 10. Berthed at Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia continuing ships work and yard repairs and alterations.
- 11. Berthed at Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia continuing availability. Received orders from COTCLant by dispatch of 112040 to report to Naval Transport Service prior to 0800, 15 June 1945 for duty.
- 12. Berthed Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia continuing shakedown availability. Received dispatch of 121346 from Commander Auxiliary Vessel Shakedown Group ordering ship to report to COTCLant 15 June for duty.
- 13. Berthed Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia continuing shakedown availability. Received orders from Chief of Naval Operations via dispatch of 131410 relayed by Com-5, ordering ship upon reporting to obtain routing from Port Director, Norfolk, Va. and proceed to Marseille, France, departing 15 June 1945.
- 14. Berthed Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia continuing shakedown availability. Moved to Pier #7, U.S. Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia for loading supplies and equipment.
- 15. (Zone / 4 hours) Berthed Pier #7, NOB, Norfolk, Virginia.
 Reported to COTCLant for duty by dispatch 151015 in accordance to dispatch orders 121346. Reported to NTS for duty 151108 in accordance with COTCLant dispatch orders 112040. Filed departure report for Marseille, France in accordance LantFlt. 16B. 1155 underway from NOB, Norfolk, Virginia enroute to Marseille, France operating singly without escort in obedience to orders of C.N.O. to load supplies and troops for transportation to Manila, P.I. In accordance with verbal authority Port Director, Norfolk, Virginia ship is to run with full brilliancy of navigation lights and without blackout precautions. At 1331 passed Cape Henry lighthouse abeam to starboard.

1743 passed buoy XS and took departure from seaward end of swept channel, Lat. 36°56'38" North, Long. 74°40'20" West, course 087°T, standard speed 16 knots, 83.5 RPM.

- 16. Steaming independently enroute to Marseille, France on course 086°T.
 0810 changed course to 083°T. 0800 position Lat. 37°07' North, Long.
 70°06' West. 1200 position Lat. 37°28' North, Long. 68°10' West.
 2000 position Lat. 37°34' North, Long. 65°26' West. 2135 changed course to 079°T.
- 17. (Zone # 3½ hours) Steaming as before. Position 0800 Lat. 38°10' North, Long. 61°55' West. 0817 changed course to 084°T. 1200 position Lat. 38°22' North, Long. 60°21' West. 2000 position Lat. 38°35' North, Long. 57°35' West.
- 18. (Zone # 3 hours) Steaming as before. 0800 position Lat. 38°54'
 North, Long. 53°55' West. 1200 position Lat. 39°02' North, Long. 52°05' West. 2000 position Lat. 39°12' North, Long. 49°09' West.
- 19. (Zone / 2½ hours) Steaming as before. 0320 changed course to 074°T, to avoid other shipping. 0445 changed course to 084°T. 0800 position Lat. 39°34' North, Long. 45°10' West. 0817 changed course to 087°T. 1200 position Lat. 39°43' North, Long. 43°42' West. 1700 changed course to 090°T. 2000 position Lat. 39°48' North, Long. 40°54' West.
- 20. (Zone / 2 hours) Steaming as before. 0755 changed course to 085°T. 0800 position Lat. 39°48' North, Long. 36°55' West. 1200 position Lat. 39°37' North, Long. 35°45' West. 2000 position Lat. 39°46' North, Long. 33°04' West. 2300 radar target at 90,000 yards confirmed as land, bearing 099°T, one of the Azores Island group.
- 21. (Zone / 1½ hours) Steaming as before. 0125 passed Pt. Albernas lighthouse abeam, distance 5 miles. 0205 changed course to 093°T. 0800 position Lat. 39°45' North, Long. 29°11 West. 1034 sighted Graciosa Island bearing 168½°T, distance 37.5 miles. 1200 position Lat. 39°37' North, Long. 27°38' West. Exercised at General Quarters and changing to Condition 1A and back in line with reorganization of battle station assignments. Drills satisfactory. 2000 position Lat. 39°27' North, Long. 24°52' West. Changed course to 100°T. Crossed CHOP at 2330.
- 22. (Zone / 1 hour) Steaming as before. 0800 position Lat. 38°56' North, Long. 21°00' West. 1200 position Lat. 38°42' North, Long. 19°40' West. 1537 exercised at General Quarters. Damage Control parties exercised at own discretion. 2000 position Lat. 38°18' North, Long. 17°01' West.
- 23. (Zone / hour) Steaming as before. 0800 position Lat. 37040'
 North, Long. 13016' West. Changed course to 1080T. 1200 position
 Lat. 37017' North, Long. 11057' West. 2000 position Lat. 36038'
 North, Long. 09023' West.

- 24. (Zone Z time) Steaming as before. 0649 changed course to 084°T. 0705 changed course to 073°T. 0717 changed course to 080°T. 0720 sighted Cape Spartel light bearing 127°T, distance 9 miles. 0728 changed standard speed to 16.8 knots, 92 RPM. Passed through Straits of Gibraltar without incident. 0800 position Lat. 35°54' North, Long. 05°46' West. 1200 position Lat. 36°07' North, Long. 04°31' West. 1855 standard speed changed to 82 RPM, 15 knots. 1934 changed course to 054°T. 2000 position Lat. 36°49' North, Long. 01°42' West. 2307 changed course to 057°T.
- 25. (Zone -1 hour) Steaming as before, along the coastal route from Gibraltar to Marseille, France changing course and speeds to reach destination at originally planned time. No. 3 hold flooded for ballast purposes. 0800 position Lat. 39°06' North, Long. 00°53' East. 1200 position Lat. 39°53' North, Long. 01°41' East. 2000 position Lat. 41°16' North, Long. 01°53' East.
- 26. (Zone -1 hour) Steaming as before. 0710 entered seaward end swept channel to Marseille, France, Lat. 42°50' North, Long. 05°16' East. 0929 anchored in Bay de Marseille, France. 1400 Commanding Officer left the ship and reported to U.S. Naval Routing Officer as directed by Port Director, Norfolk, Virginia Serial N-45-370 of 14 June 1945 and in compliance with C.N.O. dispatch 131410 reported to CTF-125 for onward routing.
- 27. (Zone -2 hours) Anchored, awaiting instructions to proceed to berth for loading.
- 28. Anchored as before, awaiting instructions to proceed to berth for loading.
- 29. Anchored as before, awaiting instructions to proceed to berth for loading.
- 30. Anchored as before, awaiting instructions to proceed to berth for loading.

W.C. JACKSON, Comdr. USNR Commanding

H.C. PAINE, Lieut(jg)USNR

REG. NO 180 R. S. NO REG. SHEET NO 28

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

Month of July 1945

- 1. (Zone -2) Under Administrative Command of Naval Transport Service awaiting loading and further routing of Commander Task Force 125 in compliance with CNO dispatch 131410 of June, anchored in Bay de Marseille, France awaiting berth assignment.
- 2. Anchored as before.
- 3. Anchored as before.
- 4. Anchored as before.
- 5. Anchored as before.
- 6. In accordance with Sixth Port Transportation Corps, U.S. Army Hqs. 6th Port Transportation Corps Order of 6 July proceeded to berth 23, Pier C, Marseille, France and began loading U.S. Army equipment as directed. Cargo being loaded by U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps using additional German Prisoners of War personnel.
- 7. Moored as before, continuing loading cargo and vehicles delivered by U.S. Army.
- 8. Moored as before, continuing loading cargo and vehicles delivered by U.S. Army.
- 9. Moored as before, continuing loading cargo and vehicles delivered by U.S. Army.
- 10. Moored as before, continuing loading cargo and vehicles delivered by U.S. Army. 1830 moved to Pier A, berth 2 in compliance to Hqs. 6th Port Transportation Corps movement order #373 of 10 July 1945.
- 11. Moored as before. Loading of cargo and vehicles completed in accordance with Army Ocean Manifest 6th Port Embarkation 1st. half July 1945. Made preparations to get underway for Cristobal, C.Z. enroute to Manila, P.I. 1609 got underway for Cristobal, C.Z. in compliance with Commander Naval Advance Base, Marseille, France movement order 9-45 of 11 July 1945, speed of advance 16 knots.
- 12. (Zone -2) Steaming independently enroute Marseille, France to Cristobal, C.Z. as before.
- 13. (Zone -1) Steaming as before.
- 14. (Zone 40) Steaming as before.

- 15. (Zone /1) Steaming as before. Engineering casualty due to loss of oil suction damaged main shaft spring bearing. Stopped for 15 minutes temporary repairs completed by ship's company. Proceeded as before, stood out of the Mediterranean through the Straits of Gibraltar and entered the Atlantic ocean.
- 16. (Zone /1) Steaming as before.
- 17. (Zone /2) Steaming as before.
- 18. (Zone /2) Steaming as before.
- 19. (Zone /3) Steaming as before.
- 20. (Zone /3) Steaming as before.
- 21. (Zone /4) Steaming as before.
- 22. (Zone /4) Steaming as before. Passed from Atlantic ocean to Caribean sea through Mona Passage.
- 23. (Zone /4) Steaming as before.
- 24. (Zone /5) Steaming as before. 1440 passed through breakwaters and entered Colon Harbor. 1541 moored Berth #9, Cristobal, C.Z. Secured main engine for repairs to main shaft spring bearing by verbal authority of Port Director, Cristobal, C.Z. Commenced refueling and loading of stores and provisions.
- 25. (Zone ≠5) Moored Pier #9, Cristobal, C.Z. Completed fueling and taking on provisions. Tugs came alongside and towed ship to anchorage in Berth M-36 as main engine still disabled for repairs to main bearing.
- 26. (Zone \(\frac{1}{2} \)) Anchored as before with main engine still disabled for repairs to shaft bearing. Loaded ammunition.
- 27. (Zone /5) Anchored as before with main engine still disabled for repairs.
- 28. (Zone /5) Anchored as before. Repairs to shaft bearing completed and main engine in operation. 0820 underway for transit of Canal. 1525 completed transit of Canal and proceeded through Bay of Balboa to sea enroute to Manila, P.I. in accordance with Port Director, Balboa, C.Z. dispatch 272032 of July 1945.
- 29. (Zone /5) Steaming independently from Cristobal, C.Z. to Manila, P.I. at 16 knots on various courses in accordance with routing instructions.

Page 3

- 30. (Zone /6) Steaming as before.
- 31. (Zone /6) Steaming as before.

approved:

N.C. JACKSON, Comdr. USNR

Commanding

Submitted:

H.C. PAINE, Lieut(jg) USNR

WAR DIARY

REG. NO 266 R. S. NO REG. SHEET NO/03

Month of August 1945

- 1. (Zone #6) Under Administrative Command of Naval Transport Service enroute Cristobal, Canal Zone to Manila, P.I. in accordance with CNO dispatch 131410 of June and onward routing of Port Director, Cristobal, C.Z. Steaming independently at various courses and at various speeds.
- 2. (Zone /6) Steaming as before.
- 3. (Zone 47) Steaming as before.
- 4. (Zone #7) Steaming as before. Conducted firing practice at General Quarters.
- 5. (Zone 48) Steaming as before.
- 6. (Zone /8) Steaming as before.
- 7. (Zone #8) Steaming as before. Conducted firing practice at Condition 1A and 1B.
- 8. (Zone #9) Steaming as before. Conducted firing practice at Condition III.
- 9. (Zone 49) Steaming as before.
- 10. (Zone #10) Steaming as before.
- 11. (Zone /10) Steaming as before.
- 12. (Zone /11) Steaming as before.
- 14. (Zone -12) Steaming as before. Conducted Tiring practice at Condition III.
- 15. (Zone -12) Steaming as before.
- 16. (Zone -12) Steaming as before.
- 17. (Zone -12) Steaming as before.
- 18. (Zone -11) Steaming as before.
- 19. (Zone -11) Steaming as before.
- 20. (Zone -10) Steaming as before.
- 21. (Zone -10) Steaming as before.

WAR DIARY

Month of August 1945 Page 2

- (Zone -9) Steaming as before. 1415 arrived Homonhon, P.I. and 22. maneuvered off signal tower awaiting orders from Port Director. 1445 departed Homonhon, P.I. for Manila, P.I. in accordance with routing instructions from Port Director.
- (Zone -9) Steaming as before. Passed through San Bernardino 23. Straits enroute Manila, P.I.
- (Zone -9) Steaming as before. Passed Corregidor Island entered Manila Bay, dropping anchor, 0838 in Berth #68 to await instruc-24. tions to proceed to dock for unloading.
- 25. Anchored as before. 1308 underway for Pier #1, Manila harbor. 1505 moored to Pier and commenced unloading army cargo and debarking army personnel under orders of Port Commander 6th Port. 2045 received permission to break down main engines for 72 hours for overhaul by ships force.
- 26. Moored as before. Continued unloading cargo.
- 27. Moored as before. Completed unloading cargo. 1759 underway from Pier #1, Manila harbor, P.I. for Berth #197, Manila Bay, P.I. in accordance with dispatch 270313 from ComNavBase. 1931 moored alongside USS BANSHEE, Berth #197, and commenced fueling.
- Moored as before. Completed taking on fuel and proceeded to 28. Berth #559, Manila Bay, P.I. anchoring. 1413 reported to Commander Amphibious Group Eight requesting orders.
- 29. Moored as before, awaiting orders.
- Moored as before, awaiting orders. 30.

31. Moored as before, awaiting orders.

W.C. JACKSON, Comdr. USNR

Commanding

Approved:

Submitted:

H.C. PAINE, Lieut(jg) USNR Communication Officer

U.S.S. WASHBURN (AWA108) % Fleet Post Office San Francisco, Calif.

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8 October 1945

From:

The Commanding Officer.

To:

Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.

Via:

ComTransDiv-38, (Temp), CTU 54.6.13 ComTransRon-14 (Temp), CTU 54.6.1

ComPhibGroup-8, CTG 54.6 ComFifthPhib. CTF 54

ComInCh, US PacFleet and POA

Subject:

Action Report, Amphibious Landing and Occupation Force at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25-27 September 1945.

Reference:

(a) PacFlt 1 CL-45.

Part I

Brief Summary.

A. Summary.

This report covers the participation of U.S.S. WASHBURN in the amphibious landing of occupational forces at Wakayama, on the southern coast of Honshu, Japan from the time of reporting to ComTransDiv 38 at Manila on 28 August 1945 through the completion of its unloading and departure from Wakayama 27 September 1945.

This ship loaded and transported troops and cargo of units of the 33rd. Division, 6th. US Army, of the occupation force and landed them on beach at the objective.

This ship during period 29 August to 3 September completed logistics at Manila. 4 September 1945 departed Manila for Lingayen Gulf via Subic Bay in company with USS DUPLIN in accordance ComPhibGroup 8 despatch 210904 August. At Subic Bay, on orders of ComTransRon 14 transferred 8 LCM's to boat pool for safe keeping. Departed Subic Bay in company USS DUPLIN (OTC), USS TOBORA, and USS SYLVANIA and anchored Lingayen Gulf 5 September 1945. 6 September commenced loading operations with Navy LCT's and Army LCM's. Completed loading cargo and embarking troops 16 September.

Rehersal landing operations was held 17 September in accordance with ComTransRon 14 order A2-45. Departed for objective at 0630 I, 20 September 1945, in company ComPhibBroup-8 in accordance his operation order

D.

ACTION REPORT

A801-45 and A802-45 and CTS 14 operation order A1-45.

Arrived Transport Area A at 0620 I on 25 September and commenced discharge of assault troops and priority cargo for assault waves in 7 LCM's. 0652 I all boats waterborne. 0905 I underway to Transport Area C. anchoring 1016 I and commenced general unloading. 1400 I 25th. to 2300 I 25 September suspended unloading because of congestion on beach and lack of boats. 2301 I resumed unloading general cargo with own boats and LCT's and LSM's as available. 1707 I 26th. Trans-Ron 14 less USS DUPLIN, USS BIRGIT and USS WASHBURN operations area for Leyte Gulf, designating USS DUPLIN as OTC of TU 54.18.11 with orders for ships remaining to depart from areas upon completion unloading. 1715, 27 September, unloading of cargo and personnel completed, and departed Wakayama area in TU 54.18.11 for Leyte Gulf.

Part II Preliminaries.

- A. Operating as a unit of TransDiv 38(Temp)(TU 54.6.13), USS BARNSTABLE (APA-93), NEW KENT (APA-217), MIFFLIN (APA-207), SIBLEY (APA-206) and this vessel, next higher operational command being TransRon-14 (Temp) (TU 54.611)
- B. Loaded troops and cargo of 33rd. Division, 6th. U.S. Army, at Aringay, Lingayen Gulf, Philippine Islands 6-16 September. Conducted rehersal landing 17 September at Bauang Point. Departed Lingayen Gulf 20 September. Arrived objective area 0620 I 25 September 1945.
- C. The mission of the USS WASHBURN was to transport and land assault and general cargo and troops of 33rd. Division on the beach of Wakayama, Honshu, Japan as part of Eastern Occupation Forces in accordance with ComFifthFleet operation plan 6-45 and subordinate operation plans of CTF 54 (A 1501-45), CTG 54.6 (A802-45) CTS 14 (A1-45). Doctrine, plans, assumptions and tactical aspects as stated in above operation plan.
- D. Own forces as enumerated in operation orders mentioned in section C.

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- E. No enemy forces encountered.
- Part III Chronological account of the operation.
 - A At 1000 I 28 August Commanding Officer reported to ComPhibGroup 8 in Manila Bay for duty with Transport Squadron 14 (Temp) and was assigned to TransDiv 38 (Temp).
 - 29 August 3 September completed logistics in Manila Bay.
 - 4 September underway for Aringay, Lingayen Gulf, P.I. via Subic Bay in company USS DUPLIN.1150 anchored Subic Bay and transferred 8 LCM's to boat pool. 1805 underway from Subic Bay for Aringay, Lingayen Gulf.
 - 5 September 1024 anchored off Aringay, Lingayen Gulf, P.I. 1350 Executive Officer went ashore for conference with representative 33rd. Division as to details of loading.
 - 6 September 0700 Army representatives came aboard for further conference as to loading plans. 0950 shifted anchorage to close loading beach. 1430 commenced loading cargo, using Army LCM's.
 - 16 September 0845 shifted anchorage to Bauang, Lingayen Gulf to clear anchorage area Aringay for Trans-Ron 20. 1445 1 officer and 12 men with 6 of ship's LCVP's left on temporary orders for Naval Section Base, San Fernando, P.I. to make place for 6 Army LCJ's.
 - 17 September at 0630 underway for rehersal of landing operations in accordance CTS 14 A2-45. Completed rehersal 1330 and returned to anchorage area Aringay.
 - 19 September 1350 completed loading cargo and troops.
 - 20 September 0630 underway with Amphibious Group 8 for objective, Wakayama, Honshu, Japan. ComPhibGroup 8 in WASATCH SOPA, ComTransRon 14 0.T.C. The USS WASHBURN 5th ship in left center column with ComTransDiv 38 (Temp) in BARNSTABLE (APA-93) as division guide.
 - 21 September 0947 lost steering control due to power breakdown and sheered out of column. 0950 regained power and resumed station 1015.

25 September - King Day.

Oól8 Received orders to land the landing force and began lowering away boats. Oó24 Anchored in Transport Area A. Oó52 Completed lowering away all boats and dispatched boats as follows:

2 LCVP's to USS SIBLEY 5 LCVP's to USS NEW KENT

Army LCJ's were ordered to stand by for further orders. 7 LCM's loaded with priority EBSR cranes, wreckers, etc., were dispatched to TransDiv Control individually as soon as loaded, the last LCM leaving the ship at 0905, the first two participating in assault wave five.

0905 Underway for Transport Area C.

1015 Anchored Transport Area C.

1015 Commenced general unloading of vehicles in LCM's, ammunition and rations in LCVP's returned from assault waves.

1300 Completed hoisting out DuKws "(DUCKS)".

1400 Suspended unloading because of lack of boats or lighterage.

2200 Resumed sporadic general unloading, (ammunition, rations, drum gasoline and oil) into boats as the became available.

2301 LSM 102 partially loaded alongside to receive cargo.

26 September - King Day plus 1.

0306 LCT 1156 alongside to receive cargo.

0314 LSM 273 alongside to receive cargo.

0315 LCT 629 alongside to receive cargo. Ceased loading into LCM's and LCVP's as no room at ship's side.

0607 LSM 102 completed loading and shoved off for beach. Commenced loading into LCM's at vacated hatch.

0656 LCT 1156 completed loading and shoved off for beach. Ship commenced using LCM's at this hatch.

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0657 LCM's dispatched to ComTransDiv 56 for assignment as ordered by ComTransRon 14.

0715 LCT 629 completed loading and departed for beach.

0903 LSM 62 alongside to receive cargo.

0927 LCT 1162 alongside.

1707 TransRon 14 (Temp), less USS WASHBURN, DUPLIN, OTC, BIRGIT, weighs anchor and depart from the area ordering above named ships to remain until completely unloaded and then depart.

2026 LCT 1162 was loaded and departed.

2138 LSM 62 was loaded and departed.

2141 LSM 273 was loaded and departed.

2215 LCT 1257 alongside.

2238 LCT 1402 alongside.

2255 LCT 1156 alongside.

2325 LCT 1056 alongside.

27 September - King Day plus 2. Unloading continuing.

1320 LCT 1056 and 1257 were loaded and departed.

1705 LCT 1402 and 1156 were loaded and departed.

D. No special comment is made of matters this section other than paragraph 6. Supply. 1 LSM and 11 LCT's were provisioned during unloading period at Wakayama.

Part IV Ordnance.

A,B & C Ordnance performance .

No ordnance material and equipment, own or enemy employed.

Part V Damage.

A & B No damage to own ship or enemy units.

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Part VI Special comments and information.

A & B No comments.

C Amphibious Phase.

1. Troops and cargo.

a. 12 officers and 143 enlisted personnel of 33rd Infantry Division of 6th U.S. Army.

b. Embarked troops at Aringay and Bauang, Lingayen Gulf, P.I. 16 September 1945. They were disembarked at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan 25 September 1945.

c. Cargo embarked totaled 2125 short tons.

ammunition 1000 tons rations 500 tons vehicles 300 tons gasoline and oil 200 tons organizational equip. 125 tons

d. Cargo was semi combat loaded and stowed.

e. Cargo was loaded at Aringay Point, Lingayen Gulf, P.I. 6th - 16th September 1945. Discharged Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25 - 27 September.

2. Landing craft.

a. Carried 8 Army LCM-6's and 6 Army LCJ's; 9

Navy LCVP's and 1 LCP(L).

b. All boats were lowered to water and loaded from slings and nets. Commenced lowering boats 0618 25 September. All boats waterborne 0652. 0905 all boats dispatched as assigned or loaded with priority EBSR cranes and vehicles.

c. Control of landing craft was in accordance ComPhibGroup 8 Operation Orders Al-45.

- 3. Minesweeping, underwater demolition, no comment.
- 4. Landing of troops and cargo.

a. No comment.

b. Beach organization and operation.

- 1. Ships only participation in this phase was sending 17 man working party with one officer to beach at 1800. 2104 working party was returned to ship.
- 5. Casualties.
 - a. All preparations were made to handle maximum number of casualties. None received.

b. No comment.

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- D. Special comment on the following:
 - 1. C.I.C. No comment.
 - 2. Communication No comment.
- E. No Comment.
- F. No Comment.
- Part VII Personnel performance and casualties.
 - 1. No casualties.
 - 2. No comments on individual performance.
- Part VIII Lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations.

1. No comment.

W. C. JACKSON, Comdr. USNR.

CTD 38/ A16-3/(00)/Mr

SERIAL: 0137

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET COMMANDER TRANSPORT DIVISION THIRTY-EIGHT

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO. CALIFORNIA

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11 October 1945.

1st ENDORSEMENT on CO, USS WASHBURN Conf. Ltr.dtd. 8 Oct. 1945.

From:

Commander Transport Division THIRTY-EIGHT.

(Commander Task Unit 54.6.13)

To: Via: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.

(1) Commander Transport Squadron FOURTEEN (Commander Task Unit 54.6.1).

(2) Commander Amphibious Group EIGHT (Commander Task Group 54.6).

(3) Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force (Commander Task Force 54).

(4) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas.

Subject:

Action Report, Amphibious Landing and Occupation Force at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25-27 September 1945.

1. Forwarded.

2. This report was not included in Composite Action Report of Transport Division THURTY-EIGHT. It was received late as this ship was temporarily detached from the remainder of the unit.

Philip P. WELCH.

Copy to: USS WASHBURN A16-3

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET TRANSPORT SQUADRON FOURTEEN

Serial: 0259 CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif., 19 OCT 1945

CO, USS WASHBURN
(AKA108) Conf. 1tr
dated 8 October 1945.

From:

Commander Transport Squadron FOURTEEN.

To :

The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via :

(1) Commander Amphibious Group EIGHT (CTU 54.5 and 54.6)

(2) Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force (CTG 54)

(3) Commander Amphibious Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

(4) Commander FIFTH Fleet (CTF-50)

(5) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas.

Subject:

Action Report, Amphibious Landing and Occupation Force at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25-27 September 1945.

1. Forwarded.

D. L. RYAN

Copy to: USS WASHBURN File No. FE25/A16-3/bd Serial No. 0285 4686 End king

AMPHIBIOUS GROUP EIGHT UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET Fleet Post Office San Francisco, California

11 NOV 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to: CO, USS WASHBURN (AKA 108) conf. ltr., dated 8 October 1945.

From:

Commander EASTERN Occupation Group (Commander

Amphibious Group EIGHT, CTG 54.5 and CTG 54.6).

To :

Chief of Naval Operations.

Via :

(1) Commander Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

(2) Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject:

Action Report, Amphibious Landing and Occupation

Force at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25 - 27 Sept. 1945.

1.

Forwarded, routing changed as indicated.

A. G. NOBLE

cc:

CO, USS WASHBURN ComTransRon 14 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
AMPHIBIOUS FORCES, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CAF/A16-3(3)

Serial: 03168

R10198

27 NOV 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

4TH

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to CO, USS WASHBURN (AKA 108) conf ltr, dated 8 October 1945.

From:

Commander Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

To :

Chief of Naval Operations.

Via:

Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject:

Action Report, Amphibious Landing and Occupation Force at Wakayama, Honshu, Japan, 25 - 27 September 1945.

1. Forwarded. Comments will be forwarded at a later date if deemed advisable.

T. B. LARKIN, By direction.

30 NOV 1945

Indorsement.

From: To: CinCPac

RECEIVED S-C FILES

Room 2055

ROUTE TO: / 3

3 DEC 1945

S DEC 1340

File No. (SC) 112341

Doc. No.

/ot /

B-3407

1. Forwarded.

2. If comment is considered appropriate, it will be included in CinCPac's Monthly Report of Operations in the Pacific Ocean Areas for the month concerned.

J.H. Kentle

J.H. KEMBLE, By direction. 0833

USS WASHBURN (AKA-108) % Fleet Post Office San Francisco, Calif.



WAR DIARY

(Zone -9)

- Anchored at IYO Nada, Matsuyama, Japan, awaiting orders.
- 2 November 1945

 Awaiting orders. 0720 shifted anchorage. 1720 moored to tanker for fueling. Received ComSerPac dispatch 010352

 November.
- November 1945
 0610 underway independently for Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea.
- 4 November 1945
 Steaming as before.
- 5 November 1945 Steaming as before.
- 6 November 1945 Steaming as before.
- 7 November 1945
 Steaming as before. 1601 and 1631 held fire drills.
- 8 November 1945
 Steaming as before. 1314 held fire drill.
- 9 November 1945 Steaming as before.
- 10 November 1945

 0801 moored port side to Navy Dock No. 1, Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea. 1415 commenced loading operations.
- 11 November 1945
 Continued loading operations.
- 12 November 1945 Continued Toading operations.
- Continued loading operations. 2200 loading completed. Loaded 10 weight tons to KESSO, 125 tons to UCIP and 1952 tons to ULOD. Requested routing instructions from ComSerPac.
- 14 November 1945
 Moored as before awaiting routing instructions.

USS WASHBURN (AKA-108) % Fleet Post Office San Francisco, Calif.

WAR DIARY

- 15 November 1945

 0812 underway to shift berths. 0919 anchored in Hollandia Bay,
 Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea. Received ComservPac dispatch
 131952 November. 1736 underway for Manila, P.I.
- 16 November 1945
 Steaming independently enroute Manila, P.I.
- 17 November 1945
 Steaming as before.
- 18 November 1945
 Steaming as before.
- 19 November 1945 Steaming as before.
- 20 November 1945
 Steaming as before. 1006 anchored in Manila Bay, P.I.
- 21 November 1945
 Anchored as before.
- Anchored as before. 1543 underway independently for Guiuan, Samar, P. I. pursuant to ComPhibSeaFron dispatch 210501 November.
- 23 November 1945
 Steaming independently enroute Guiuan, Samar, P.I.
- Steaming as before. 0826 anchored in Guiuan Anchorage, Samar, P.I.
- 25 November 1945
 Anchored as before awaiting unloading.
- 26 November 1945
 Awaiting unloading.
- 27 November 1945 Awaiting unloading.
- 28 November 1945
 Awaiting unloading.
- 29 November 1945
 Awaiting unloading.

USS WASHBURN (AKA-108) % Fleet Post Office San Francisce, Calif.

WAR DIARY

30 November 1945
Awaiting unloading.

Approved by:

W. C. Jackson Commander, USNR

Commanding

Submitted by:

W. D. Southard Lieut. (jg) USNR Communication Officer

USS WASHBURN AKA-108 % Fleet Post Office San Francisco, Calif.

CONFIDENTIAL

26 September 1945

HISTORY OF USS WASHBURN AKA-108

This ship was placed in Commission 17 May 1945 in Todd-Hoboken Ship Yards, Hoboken, New Jersey. After loading stores proceeded to Norfolk, Virginia for a two week shakedown of crew and ship. 15th of June left Norfolk, Virginia for Marseille, France operating under orders of Naval Transport Service, to load troops and equipment destined for Manila, P.I. Arrived in Marseille, France on the 26th of June loaded troops and cargo of U.S. Army and departed for Manila, P.I. on 11 July 1945. Arrived in Manila, P.I. on 24th of August 1945 and after unloading troops and equipment departed for Lingayen Gulf, P.I. to load cargo and personnel of 33rd Division of 6th Army for occupational landing of Wakayama, Japan on 25-27 September 1945. 25 September 1945 landed troops on Honshu Island, Japan with Wakayama occupation forces.

W.C. JACKSON, Comdr. USNR Commanding

158829