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Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

Contributed by Jason McDonald

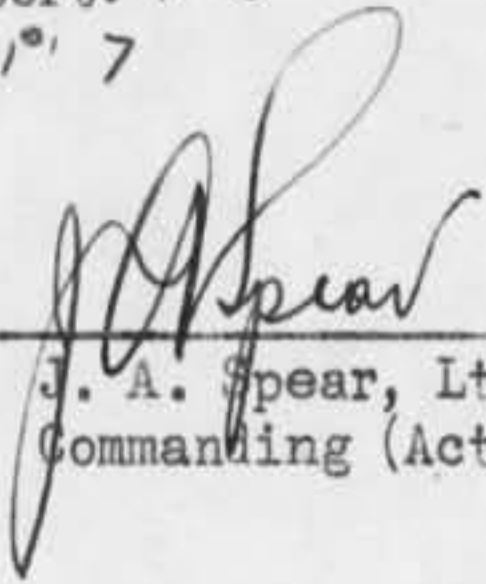
U.S.S. LCI(L) 90
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

8 June 1945

From: Commanding Officer, LCI (L) 90
To: Chief of Naval Operations
Subject: Action report of operations of 3 June 1945
Via: Commander Task Unit 31.9; Commander Task Force 31; Commander-in-Chief Pacific Fleet.

1. Submitted herewith are the following reports on action engaged in by this unit on 3 June, 1945:

Action report. *P 1*
Battle Damage Report. *P 3*
Casualty Report. *P 7*


J. A. Spear, Lt (jg) USCGR
Commanding (Acting)

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FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

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Serial: 0001

8 June 1945

From: Commanding Officer, LCI (L) 90
To: Chief of Naval Operations
Subject: Action Report of operations of 3 June 1945

1. At the time of suicide attack by one Japanese aircraft on 3 June, 1945, this vessel was at anchor in CHIMU WAN harbor, OKINAWA. The ship was acting in the capacity of harbor entrance control unit for that harbor. There was one other ship present in the harbor, the PCS 1460.

2. While at anchor the ship maintained a condition of readiness consisting of one man at number 1, 20 MM, gun on the bow, gun uncovered and cocked, and ready box opened but with no magazine in the gun. A lookout was stationed on the conning station, serving as signalman and having radio (SCR 608 and 610) guard. An additional lookout was stationed on the flag deck.

3. The time of attack was approximately 1340, Sunday, 3 June, 1945. It is not believed that an air raid warning had been broadcast for the area, but there is no way of establishing the point definitely because all records on the conning station and in the pilot house were destroyed, and the signalman on watch died as a result of injuries sustained in the action. It is believed that the first warning of attack was received when either the other ship in the harbor or a shore battery fired two shells which burst in the vicinity of the flight of planes. It is not known whether the enemy aircraft were picked up by radar or whether they were visible from the point at which the firing was done. No aircraft were visible from this ship until one plane dived below the low ceiling and descended toward the ship. At this time the general alarm had been sounded, and all hands were proceeding to battle stations except those who were already on station.

4. It is not definitely determined that the attack by the single Val was originally conceived as a suicidal attack, or whether the aircraft committed itself to a dive from which it was unable to recover, and crashed into the ship as a last resort. Three factors possibly indicate that it might not have been planned as a suicide attack: 1) the plane carried a small bomb which was dropped about fifty yards on the starboard quarter of the ship; 2) it engaged in strafing during its dive, some bullets hitting on the beach, some in the water, and some hitting the ship; and 3) the plane did not strike squarely on the ship, but rather struck a glancing blow on the after starboard side of the pilot house and conning station. This

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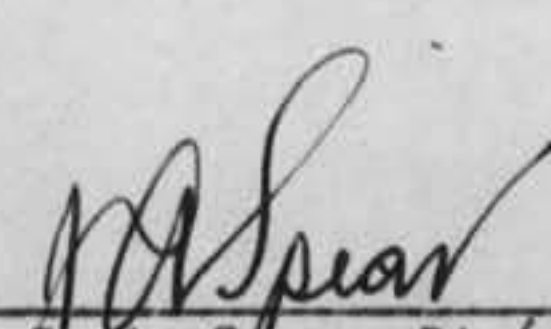
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-- page two --

last point possibly indicates that the plane was attempting to bank clear of the ship.

5. At the time of attack, the ship was at anchor at a distance of approximately three hundred yards from the beach, using the bow anchor. Our heading at that time was about 045 degrees true. At first sight of the aircraft it was descending almost vertically, having apparently banked from a heading of about 140 degrees true. At that time it appeared to have as its objective a small Marine camp located on the island of Taka Hanare. Upon getting below the low ceiling, the pilot of the plane apparently sighted this vessel, and, banking and decreasing its angle of descent, came in on a heading of approximately 060 degrees true toward the ship.

6. The fact that the attack was made from astern precluded the possibility of getting number 1 gun into operation against the plane. Both men who had manned number 2 gun on the flag deck were thrown clear of the gun tub by the concussion before any shots could be fired in defense of the ship. The plane struck the ship with the main force of the blow being taken by the after starboard side of the pilot house and conning station, with the port side ready service ammunition box cover on the flag deck, and the back of the after flag bag being knocked off by what appears to have been one of the wheels of the plane.



J. A. Spear, Lt (jg)
Commanding (Acting)

(4)

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

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8 June 1945

From: Commanding Officer, LCI (L) 90
To: Chief of Naval Operations
Subject: Battle Damage Report
Reference: Commanding Officer's Report Serial 0001, of 8 June 1945

1. Following is a report of damage sustained as a result of enemy action, a report of which is contained in the above reference.

Troop Compartment #2

1. Broken fresh water line to troop head.
2. Main fuel oil transfer line at the point at which it passes through W. T. bulkhead at frame 42.
3. Deck, which is overhead of tank A-311-F badly damaged.
4. The 3" diameter stanchion at frame 35 on starboard side is bent, and the weld broken.
5. Ship's skin between frames 35 and 57 is caved in between each frame.

Troop Compartment #3

1. Hole in overhead between frames 42 and 43, about two feet in diameter, near skin of hull, breaking and bending several frames.
2. The 3" diameter support stanchion at frame 50, starboard side badly bent, and broken from overhead.

Troop Officer's Quarters

1. Overhead badly warped.
2. All electrical wiring destroyed by fire.

Radio Room

1. All radio antenna leads broken.
2. Chronometer slightly damaged.

Pilot House

1. All electrical wiring destroyed.
2. All navigational gear destroyed, including gyro, sextant, stadimeter, comparing watch, stop watch, binoculars, steering compass, and rudder angle indicator.
3. Entire structure is warped, starboard side and after section destroyed.

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8 June 1945

From: Commanding Officer, LCI (L) 90
To: Chief Of Naval Operations
Subject: Casualty Report
Reference: Commanding Officers Report Serial 0001, of 8 June 1945

1. Following is a list of personnel casualties sustained in enemy action on 3 June 1945:

Fatalities

1. ROSS, John Parcell, Jr., (617-098) SM 3/c, died 1050, 4 June, aboard USS BOWDITCH, as a result of second- and third-degree burns on entire body.

Other Casualties

1. NADON, William H., Lt (jg), USCGR, burns (degree unknown).
2. REAMS, Floyd O., Boatswain, USCG, burns (degree unknown).
3. FRIES, William V., (564-083) GM 3/c, second-degree burns.
4. WAGNER, Richard J., (648-477) SM 3/c, burns (degree unknown).
5. JOHNSON, Kline W., (533-826) F 1/c, shrapnel wounds and slight burns.
6. GEVEDA, Chester J., (578-292) F 1/c, minor burns.
7. FILLMORE, James F., (701-017) StM 2/c, second- and third-degree burns on back and right arm.

All personnel, with the exception of ROSS, John Parcell, Jr, and FILLMORE, James F., received medical treatment ashore, and for this reason an entirely accurate report on the extent of injuries cannot be made without confirmation from shore hospital. Further report will be submitted on receipt of full report from shore unit.


J. A. Spear, Lt (jg)
Commanding (Acting)

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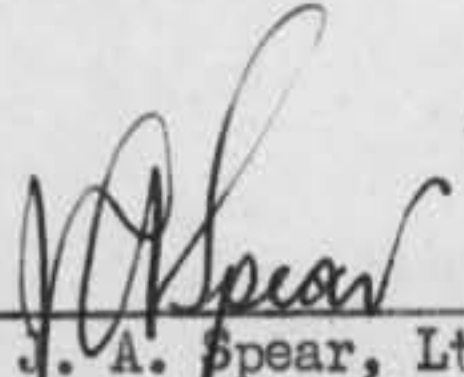
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Conning Station

1. Starboard side and after section destroyed, including starboard side of deck.
2. Standard compass binnacle damaged beyond repair.
3. SCR 610 radio entirely destroyed.

Flag Deck

1. Mast, yardarm, and all gear mounted thereon entirely damaged, including magnesyn compass, Nan gear, and IFF antenna.
2. Flag bags and flags destroyed.
3. Port ready-service ammunition box for #2 gun damaged.
4. Numerous small holes and bulges in deck.
5. Starboard life raft and equipment destroyed.
6. Life boat destroyed.



J. A. Spear, Lt (jg)
Commanding (Acting)

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By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

Refer to FE25-SF3/A16-3
Serial: 0307

LCS(L) FLOTILLA THREE
c/o FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
C.O., U.S.S. LCI(L) 90
Secret ltr of 8 June 1945
to CNO.

28 June 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commander, LCS(L) Flotilla THREE (CTG 32.9).
To : The Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.

Via : (1) The Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIXTY-THREE
(CTG 31.5).
(2) The Commander, FIFTH Amphibious Force, U. S.
Pacific Fleet (CTF 31).
(3) The Commander, Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific
Fleet.
(4) The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report of Operations of 3 June 1945.

1. Forwarded.

2. Classification of basic correspondence is herewith
lowered to "Confidential".

T.C. Ayward
T. C. AYLRWARD.

cc: C.O., U.S.S. LCI(L) 90.

No

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Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

Recd. 7/13

1273

CTDFlot5/A16-3
serial 0567

COMMANDER TASK DESTROYER FLOTILLA FIVE
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

3 July 1945

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

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CO, USS LCI(L) 90
Secret ltr. of 8 June 1945

From: Commander Task Group 31.5 (ComTaskDesFlot 5).
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via: (1) Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
(2) Commander Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
(3) Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
Subject: Action Report of Operations of 3 June 1945.
1. Forwarded.

H. T. Deutermann
H. T. DEUTERMANN
By direction.

no

8

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Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

Al6-3(3)/C
Serial 0304

COMMANDER FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

3494

471

23 JUL 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to
CO USS LCI(L) 90 secret
ltr. serial 0001 dated
8 June 1945.

From: Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : (1) Commander Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.
(2) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report of Operations of 3 June 1945.

1. Forwarded.

H. W. Hill

H. W. HILL.

No

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By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

CAF/A16-3

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
AMPHIBIOUS FORCES, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



Serial

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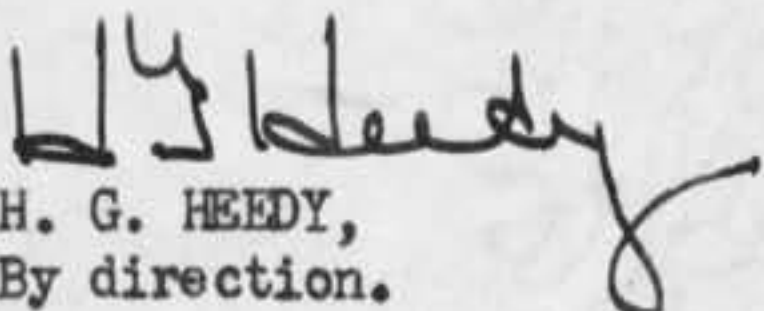
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FOURTH ENDORSEMENT to
CO USS LCI(L) 90 Sec.
ltr. Serial 0001, dtd.
8 June 1945.

From: Commander Amphibious Forces, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via : Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report of Operations of 3 June 1945.

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


H. G. HEEDY,
By direction.

Copy to
LCI(L) 90

ENCLOSURE 18

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