

Historical Deck Log

United States Ship **Renshaw DD - 499**

Year: **1944**

Day	Date	Month	Event
Sa	08	Jan	Bombarded enemy shore installations on Faisi, Poporang and Shortland Islands in the Solomon Islands
Th	20	Jan	Retired southward with the task unit to give fire support to the landings on Bougainville, Solomon Islands.
Fr	21	Jan	Bombarding enemy airfields in the New Britain / New Ireland area of the Solomon Islands. Came under heavy fire from shore batteries.
Tu	15	Feb	Screen transports landing New Zealand troops on Green Islands off New Ireland, Solomon Islands. Invaded Green Island with Australian and American troops. Attacked by dive bombers and torpedo planes.
Tu	22	Feb	Steaming with SUAFLEY and PHILIP enroute to bomb an enemy radar station at Cape St. George and the Borpop and Namatanai airfields. The weather is poor.

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Fr	25	Feb	Bombarded enemy positions at Kavieng, New Ireland and Rabaul, New Britian.
Tu	29	Feb	Bombarded wharf area and buildings at Rabaul, New Britian. 2300 Bombarded Cape St. George, New Ireland.
We	01	Mar	0330 Opened fire on Borope Harbor, New Ireland. 0725 Opened fire on Nomantanis airfield, New Ireland.
Fr	10	Mar	Patrolled around Bougainville for Jap barges. Sunk one barge and shot down one plane.
Mo	13	Mar	Bombarding enemy positions at Empress Augusta Bay in the jungles east of the beach head held by allied forces. 0030 Bombarded south of Cape Torokina.
Sa	18	Mar	Bombarding enemy positions in Wewak area, New Guinea.
Sa	25	Mar	Invaded Emireau Islands. Little opposition.

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Tu	28	Mar	Bombarding enemy positions on Kapingamarangi Atoll north of New Ireland.
Fr	31	Mar	Patrolling around the Admiralty and New Ireland Island groups.
Fr	07	Apr	0600 Detected an enemy submarine. The USS SAUFLEY dropped depth charges. In the afternoon, oil was found on the water.
Sa	08	Apr	Contacted enemy planes but no opposition was made. Went to Kaviena.
Su	23	Apr	In dry dock at Purvis Bay for repairs and a paint job.
Mo	01	May	Operating with four cruisers.
Th	04	May	Departed the south Pacific area for Pearl Harbor, H. T. and amphibious training. Will lead a force of LST's to the Mariana Islands.

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Su	07	May	1100 Crossed the equator.
We	10	May	Detected a submarine 50 miles off Pearl Harbor.
Fr	12	May	1130 Arrived at Pearl Harbor, H. T. On this trip from the Ellice Islands to Pearl Harbor we burned a record of 40 gallons of fuel per mile or 114,000 gallons for this 2850 mile trip.
Sa	13	May	Departed Pearl Harbor with three mine sweepers.
Su	14	May	Picked up troop ships off HILO, Hawaii, H.T.
Mo	15	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani. Picked up two aviators whose PBY crashed while on patrol.
Tu	16	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani.
We	17	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani.
Th	18	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani.
Fr	19	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani.
Sa	20	May	Patrolled from Kake Point to Cape Nummonani.
Mo	22	May	In port. Pearl Harbor, H.T.
Tu	23	May	In port. Pearl Harbor, H.T.
We	24	May	In port. Pearl Harbor, H.T.
Th	25	May	In port. Pearl Harbor, H.T.

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Fr	26	May	In port. Pearl Harbor, H.T.
Sa	27	May	Departed Pearl Harbor with 3 PC's and 4 LST's enroute to Roi, Marshall, Islands.
Sa	03	Jun	2400 Crossed the equator and the International Date Line.
Tu	06	Jun	Have made plane contacts.
Th	08	Jun	0630 Arrived in the Marshall Islands, met the task force and dropped anchor 40 miles from Jap positions.
Sa	10	Jun	Departed with the same 3 PC's and 4 LST's from Saipan. Our large task force will shell from the 12 th to the 15 th . Landing will be made on the 17 th . The task force size is 800 ships.
Mo	12	Jun	Attached to the Eastern Landing Group and providing transport screen protection and shore bombardment for the occupation of Tinian. 0400 Passed Enitewok, 400 miles from Tinian.
Tu	13	Jun	There have been reports that Jap planes are attacking our task force. Aslito airfield taken.
We	14	Jun	Arrived at Saipan in the morning. Bombarding Jap positions and installations at Saipan and Tinian, Mariana Islands.

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Th	15	Jun	Bombarding Jap installations at Saipan and Tinian, Mariana Islands in support of Marine landings.
Fr	16	Jun	Bombarding Jap positions on Guam, Mariana Islands.
Su	18	Jun	At general quarters all morning and evening on the look out for enemy planes.
Mo	19	Jun	Fighting the Jap navy head to head in the Battle of the Philippine Sea. Action continued around the clock for three days. Heavy anti-aircraft action that will become known as the "Marianas Turkey Shoot." The Japs lose 395 (92%) of their carrier planes and 31 (72%) of their float planes.
Tu	20	Jun	At general quarters all day and all night. Shot star shells.
We	21	Jun	Bombarded Saipan. Shot star shells at night for troop advance.
Th	22	Jun	0730 CMM Campfield died of a heart attack. 1830 Burial at sea for CMM Campfield.
Fr	23	Jun	Bombarded Saipan heavily. Three pill boxes destroyed.
Sa	24	Jun	Patrolled between Saipan and Tinian for Jap barges. Attacked by two-engined bombers.
Tu	27	Jun	Patrolled with four cruisers 30 miles off islands.

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Day	Date	Month	Event
Fr	30	Jun	Screened for USS BIRMINGHAM while she shelled Tinian and Aguijan.
Su	02	Jul	<p>0215 While shooting star shells over Saipan, a Jap plane took off from Tinian and made a surprise dive over us. Being a little off in their calculations for giving us a torpedo, the bomb went over the ship and as the plane made a turn to try another run on us it hit an air pocket and crashed into the sea.</p> <p>0315 Picked up two Japs from the crashed plane. One died later. Also picked up a wheel.</p> <p>0630 Picked up another survivor who died later.</p> <p>0700 Picked up a Jap aviator of a high rank. The two dead Japs were heaved over the side, while the remaining two were given medical attention and turned over to naval intelligence the same day.</p>
Tu	04	Jul	<p>1600 Took on ammunition</p> <p>1930 Secured from taking on ammunition.</p>
Th	06	Jul	Intermittent air attacks by Jap torpedo planes.
Sa	08	Jul	Beginning of daily gunfire bombardment of enemy defenses on Guam, Mariana Islands.
Su	09	Jul	2350 The Japs surrender on Saipan.

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Day	Date	Month	Event
Mo	10	Jul	Saw 7 Jap bodies floating off Saipan. Believed to have come from a sunken barge.
Su	16	Jul	Took two troop transports half way to Roi.
Mo	17	Jul	Took 3 troop transports back to Saipan. It has been a month of straight morning and evening general quarters at Saipan.
Fr	21	Jul	Operating as part of the naval attack force landing Marines and army forces on Guam. Arrived with the invasion troops on Guam, Mariana Islands.
Sa	22	Jul	On patrol near Saipan
Su	23	Jul	Screened for the USS CALIFORNIA and USS BIRMINGHAM while they bombarded Tinian. Large fire started on the island.
Mo	24	Jul	Operating as part of the naval attack force landing Marines and army forces on Tinian, Mariana, Islands A destroyer and a battleship were hit by 6 inch enemy shore battery fire.
We	26	Jul	0800 - 1700 Bombarded Jap positions

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Tu	01	Aug	0000 – 0500 Fired star shells over Tinian. The organized resistance falls on Tinian.
We	02	Aug	2000 – 0815 Fired star shells
Tu	08	Aug	Bombarding Jap positions on Taroa, Maloelap Atoll, Marshall Islands.
Sa	12	Aug	Departed area with 7 troop transports enroute to Pearl Harbor, H.T. via Eniwetok.
We	16	Aug	Arrived Eniwetok
Th	17	Aug	Departed Eniwetok enroute to Pearl Harbor.
Th	24	Aug	Arrived Pear Harbor, H.T.
We	30	Aug	Arrived in the United States

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Th	19	Oct	Departed the United States for Pearl Harbor, H. T.
We	25	Oct	Arrived at Pearl Harbor, H.T.
Mo	30	Oct	Avery, MM1/c fell overboard and drowned.
		Nov	Change of command. CDR George H. Cairnes, USN relieves LCDR Jacob A. Lark, USN
Mo	06	Nov	Departed Pearl Harbor, H.T. with USS COLORADO and USS SAUFLEY for an eleven day trip to Leyte, Philippines.
Fr	10	Nov	Crossed the International Date Line
Su	12	Nov	Refueled from USS COLORADO
Fr	17	Nov	Arrived at Ulithi Island

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Sa	18	Nov	Departed Ulithi Island with USS COLORADO and USS SAUFLEY enroute to Leyte, Philippines.
Mo	20	Nov	Arrived at Leyte Gulf, Philippines
We	22	Nov	1535 A Jap plane attempted to drop a bomb on our fantail but missed. Slight damage to the after steering room.
Th	23	Nov	Another sneak attack by a Jap plane, but we spotted the plane and fired upon it.
Mo	27	Nov	<p>Bombarding Jap positions at Ormoc Bay, Leyte, Philippines.</p> <p>1030 – 1330 About 25 Jap planes made an attack on our task force in the Leyte Gulf, P. I.. The first plane made a surprise dive on USS DENVER and dropped a bomb that missed. The second plane made a suicide dive on the USS ST. LOUIS and hit the fantail killing 18 men. The third plane also made a dive on the USS ST. LOUIS and crashed on the port side of the fantail. The fourth plane made an unsuccessful dive on the USS ST. LOUIS as one of our gunners hit it and it crashed near us. The fifth and sixth planes made dives on the tanker and the USS WEST VIRGINIA, but were shot down. The seventh and eighth planes were shot down before reaching their targets.</p>

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Tu	28	Nov	<p>2300 – 0300 Operating with USS SAUFLEY, USS WALLER and USS PRINGLE in Ormoc Bay bombarding shore targets with gunfire. An airborne patrol Black Cat PBY spotted a Jap submarine on the surface two miles south of Camotes Islands. USS WALLER picked up I-46, one of Japan's newest submarines, on radar and all ships opened fire. The sub attempted to fight with her deck gun and was soon hit. The USS WALLER fired star shells and heeled in a tight circle firing the 40mm guns into the sub and finally finished her off with 5/38 gunfire.</p> <p>Intermittent air attacks all day.</p>
We	29	Nov	<p>2300 – 0300 Operating in Ormoc Bay hunting for Jap transports but none found. Under air attack all the time with one bomb being dropped off our port bow.</p>
Sa	02	Dec	<p>Heard that the USS COOPER was torpedoed by a Jap destroyer and sunk in the area that we had patrolled for the two previous days.</p> <p>Underway for Palu Islands with the task force.</p>
Mo	04	Dec	<p>Arrived at Kossol.</p>
Su	10	Dec	<p>Departed with the task force for Mindoro to aid in the invasion landing.</p>

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Tu	12	Dec	Operating as part of the Mindoro attack force. Bombarded Mindoro landing site with 5/38 gunfire. The anti-aircraft gun crews were totally consumed with protecting the ship from Kamikaze attacks.
We	13	Dec	Attacked by enemy planes. One shot down and one made a suicide dive and crashed into another destroyer. Another plane was shot down while making a torpedo run on a battleship.
Fr	15	Dec	Landing made on Mindoro with very little opposition. On the trip to Mindoro, we were the first American ship to enter the Sulu Sea since the raid on Pearl Harbor.
Tu	19	Dec	Arrived at Kossol.
We	20	Dec	Departed Kossol for Manus Island.
Sa	23	Dec	Arrived at Manus Island.
Su	31	Dec	Screen a large transport group enroute to landings for the invasion of Luzon. Came under air attack in the Sulu and South China Sea. Operating with five destroyers and a number of transports.