

U.S.S. PORTLAND

DIARY FORM OF WAR RECORD FROM 7 DECEMBER 1941 TO 17 JUNE 1945.  
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7 DECEMBER 1941 TO 30 APRIL 1942.

UNDER COMMAND OF CAPTAIN C.E. VANHOOK, U.S.N., 7 DECEMBER PORTLAND WAS AT SEA ENROUTE PEARL HARBOR TO MIDWAY WITH A CARRIER GROUP. DURING REMAINDER DECEMBER AND UNTIL 1 MAY OPERATED BETWEEN THE WEST COAST, HAWAII, AND FIJI. IN LATE JANUARY, CAPTAIN R.R. THOMPSON, U.S.N. RELIEVED CAPTAIN VANHOOK AS COMMANDING OFFICER, AND WAS RELIEVED AS SUCH BY CAPTAIN B. PERLMAN, U.S.N. IN LATE APRIL.

1 - 27 MAY 1942 (CORAL SEA).

ON 1 MAY PORTLAND, IN LAT. 17-12 S., LONG. 162-41 E., (T.F. 17), WAS ENROUTE TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. ARRIVED IN THAT VICINITY ON 4 MAY AND SCREENED YORKTOWN DURING HER AIR STRIKES ON ENEMY FORCES AT TULAGI. ON 8 MAY, LAT. 14-15 S., LONG. 155 E., PARTICIPATED IN THE CORAL SEA ACTION AND SPLASHED 1 PLANE. LEXINGTON WAS LOST AND PORTLAND RECEIVED 39 OFFICERS AND 683 ENLISTED LEXINGTON SURVIVORS FROM DESTROYERS ON 8 AND 10 MAY. ON 15 MAY ANCHORED IN TONGATABU, TONGA. ON 16 MAY CAPTAIN B. PERLMAN WAS RELIEVED BY CAPTAIN L.T. DU BOSE, U.S.N. AS COMMANDING OFFICER. SAILED 19 MAY (T.F. 17.2) AND ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR 27 MAY.

30 MAY TO 13 JUNE 1942 (MIDWAY).

SAILED PEARL HARBOR 30 MAY (T.F. 17). ON 4 JUNE IN LAT. 30-39 N., LONG. 176-39 W., PARTICIPATED IN THE MIDWAY ACTION, SPLASHING 7 PLANES. YORKTOWN WAS LOST AND PORTLAND RECEIVED YORKTOWN WOUNDED AND SURVIVORS FROM DESTROYERS ON 4 AND 5 JUNE. ON 6 JUNE TRANSFERRED YORKTOWN PERSONNEL TO FULTON. ON 13 JUNE ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR.

15 JULY TO 10 SEPTEMBER 1942 (GUADALCANAL - TULAGI LANDING, CAPTURE AND DEFENSE OF GUADALCANAL; EASTERN SOLOMONS.)

SAILED PEARL HARBOR ON 15 JULY (T.F. 16). FUELED IN NUKNALOFA, TONGATABU, TONGA ON 24 JULY AND DEPARTED THE SAME DAY. ON 30 JULY JOINED T.U. 16.1.2 (ENTERPRISE UNIT). SCREENED ENTERPRISE 7 - 9



AUGUST WHILE SHE FURNISHED AIR COVER AND SUPPORT IN THE LANDINGS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF BEACHHEADS AT TULAGI AND GUADALCANAL. COMMENCING 10 AUGUST SCREENED ENTERPRISE DURING HER AIR OPERATIONS SUPPORTING OUR FORCES ASHORE ON GUADALCANAL AND AGAINST ENEMY FORCES IN THE EASTERN SOLOMONS. ON 24 AUGUST IN LAT. 08-31 S., LONG. 163-25 E., FIRED ON ENEMY PLANES ATTACKING THE UNIT AND SPLASHED 3 PLANES. ON 30 AUGUST ANCHORED IN TONGATABU, TONGA. 3 - 10 SEPTEMBER ENROUTE FROM TONGATABU, TONGA TO PEARL HARBOR IN ENTERPRISE UNIT.

9 - 18 OCTOBER (PORTLAND'S RAID ON TARAWA, MAIANA, AND APEMAMA.)  
SAILED PEARL HARBOR 9 OCTOBER AND PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY AS T.U. 16.9.1 AND ARRIVED OFF TARAWA, GILBERT ISLANDS, 15 OCTOBER. AT 1429 (-12) OPENED FIRE ON ENEMY GROUP COMPRISING ONE CL OR DL, ONE DD AND TWO AK'S OBTAINING HITS ON THE CL OR DL AND ON ONE AK. AT 1451 CEASED FIRING AND WITHDREW. TWO PORTLAND VOS BOMBED ONE AK OBTAINING NEAR MISS. ONE PLANE WAS HIT BY ENEMY AA FIRE CAUSING A GAS LEAK BUT PLANE RECOVERED. EXPENDED 245 ROUNDS MAIN BATTERY. RECONNOITERED APEMAMA FINDING NO SHIPPING NOR SIGNS OF OCCUPATION. ON 16 OCT. SAN JUAN JOINED AND ON 18 OCTOBER ARRIVED ESPIRITU SANTO.

21 - 30 OCTOBER 1942 (SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS).  
SAILED ESPIRITU SANTO WITH SAN JUAN ON 21 OCTOBER AND ON 23 OCTOBER JOINED THE ENTERPRISE GROUP (T.F. 16) IN LAT. 12-43 IN LONG. 175-05 E. ON 26 OCTOBER PARTICIPATED IN THE SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS ACTION WITH ENEMY PLANES. ENTERPRISE, SOUTH DAKOTA, AND PORTER WERE HIT; PORTLAND SPLASHED THREE PLANES AND WAS HIT WITH THREE DUD TORPEDOES FROM A SUBMARINE, A FOURTH TORPEDO PASSING AHEAD. ARRIVED NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA 30 OCTOBER.



7 - 14 NOVEMBER 1942 (THIRD SAVO).

SAILED NOUMEA 7 NOVEMBER, COMMANDING OFFICER PORTLAND AS C.T.G. 67.3, SURFACE ATTACK GROUP; TO SUPPORT THE LANDING OF REENFORCING TROOPS AT GUADALCANAL. ARRIVED OFF GUADALCANAL 11 NOVEMBER. ON 12 NOVEMBER SPLASHED 2 ENEMY PLANES. WITH SAN FRANCISCO (FLAG), HELENA, JUNEAU, ATLANTA AND DD'S, ENTERED LENGU CHANNEL FROM EASTWARD AT MIDNIGHT 12 NOVEMBER, SEARCHING FOR ENEMY SURFACE FORCES. AT 0127, 13 NOVEMBER, HELENA SIGHTED (RADAR) AN ENEMY SURFACE FORCE INCLUDING BATTLESHIPS TO THE NORTHWESTWARD. AT 0151 PORTLAND OPENED FIRE ON AN ENEMY DD AT 6,200 YARDS; ON THE SECOND SALVO THE DESTROYER BLEW UP AND SUNK (HIBIKI CLASS, PROBABLY AKUTSUKI). AT 0152 RECEIVED A FIVE-INCH DUD HIT THE STARBOARD HANGAR. THEN FIRED TWO NINE-GUN SALVOES INTO AN ENEMY CRUISER AT 7,000 YARDS OBTAINING HITS CAUSING A FIRE. AT 0158 A TORPEDO HIT PORTLAND ON THE STARBOARD QUARTER, FRAME 134 BLOWING OFF THE INBOARD PROPELLERS, JAMMING THE RUDDER 5 DEGREES RIGHT, JAMMING NUMBER THREE TURRET IN TRAIN AND ELEVATION, AND DOING OTHER DAMAGE. THIS SHIP TOOK A FOUR DEGREE STARBOARD LIST WHICH WAS SOON CORRECTED BY SHIFTING FUEL AND WATER. HOWEVER, THE STEERING EFFECT OF THE JAMMED RUDDER AND OF PROJECTING DAMAGED STRUCTURE ON THE STARBOARD QUARTER COULD NOT BE OVERCOME WITH THE REMAINING TWO PROPELLERS AND THE SHIP WAS FORCED TO STEAM IN CIRCLES TO THE RIGHT. AT THE END OF THE FIRST CIRCLE A HARUNA TYPE BB ILLUMINATED BY NEARBY BURNING SHIPS AND FLARES, WAS TAKEN UNDER FIRE WITH THE FORWARD TURRETS AT 4,000 YARDS. FOUR SIX-GUN SALVOES WERE FIRED, OBTAINING HITS AND STARTING FIRES IN THE BATTLESHIP. SHE RETURNED SEVERAL SALVOES WHICH PASSED OVERHEAD WITHOUT PENETRATION. AT 0430 AND LATER, PICKED UP SEVERAL SURVIVORS FROM U.S. SHIPS. AT 0630 STILL CIRCLING IN LAT. 09-18 S., LONG. 159-58 E., OPENED FIRE ON A SHIGURNE CLASS DD AT 12,500 YARDS WITH SIX-GUN SALVOES. ON THE SIXTH SALVO THE DESTROYER EXPLODED, ROLLED OVER AND SANK WITHIN FIVE MINUTES. COMMENCING AT 0953, WITH THE HELP OF HIGGINS BOATS



SHOVING ON THE STARBOARD BOW, PORTLAND MADE SLOW PROGRESS SOUTH-EASTWARD. AT 1300 YP239 TOOK PORTLAND IN TOW BUT COULD NOT KEEP HER HEADED UP AGAINST THE STEERING EFFECT OF THE DAMAGED STRUCTURE AND JAMMED RUDDER. AT 1722 TUG BOBOLINK AND YP239 STEADIED PORTLAND ON A HEADING TOWARD TULAGI WHERE SHE ANCHORED AT 0118, 14 NOVEMBER. IN HIS ENDORSEMENT FORWARDING PORTLAND'S ACTION REPORT, ADMIRAL HALSEY, COMSOPACFOR, COMMENTED IN PART AS FOLLOWS: "THE PORTLAND'S PERFORMANCE WAS MOST COMMENDABLE, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS SHIP AND DAMAGE CONTROL. THE SINKING OF AN ENEMY DESTROYER BY PORTLAND THREE HOURS AND FORTY-FIVE MINUTES AFTER THE NIGHT ACTION, WHILE STILL OUT OF CONTROL AND STEAMING IN CIRCLES, WAS ONE OF THE HIGH-LIGHTS OF THIS ACTION."

22 NOVEMBER 1942 TO MAY 1943.

SAILED TULAGI 22 NOVEMBER UNDER TOW BY NAVAJO AND ARRIVED SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA 30 NOVEMBER, WHERE PRELIMINARY REPAIRS WERE MADE TO PERMIT THE SHIP TO PROCEED TO THE UNITED STATES. SAILED SYDNEY THE MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY, AND PROCEEDED, WITH SHORT STOPS AT SAMOA AND PEARL HARBOR, TO THE NAVY YARD, MARE ISLAND, ARRIVING THERE 3 MARCH. BATTLE DAMAGE WAS REPAIRED, SHIP OVERHAULED, AND SHE WAS READY FOR SEA LATE IN MAY. CAPTAIN A.D. BURHANS RELIEVED CAPTAIN L.T. DU BOSE ON 23 MAY.

MAY TO OCTOBER 1943 (ALEUTIAN OPERATIONS).

SAILED MARE ISLAND LATE MAY AND AFTER AN OPERATIONAL TRAINING PERIOD IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATERS, ARRIVED IN ALEUTIAN WATERS 11 JUNE. ON 22 JULY (T.G. 16.22) BOMBARDED KISKA. ON 26 JULY (T.G. 16.7) PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRING ON FALSE CLOSE RADAR CONTACTS (BATTLE OF SITKIN PIP). ON 15 AND 16 AUGUST (T.U. 16.4.4) BOMBARDED KISKA IN FOG. ON 17 AUGUST, IN FOG, COVERED THE KANE RECONNAISSANCE LANDING ON LITTLE KISKA. LEFT ALEUTIAN WATERS 23 SEPTEMBER, PROCEEDED TO PEARL HARBOR, THEN TO SAN FRANCISCO IN EARLY OCTOBER. RETURNED TO PEARL HARBOR IN MID-OCTOBER. PROCEEDED TO EFATE IN EARLY NOVEMBER.



NOVEMBER 1943 (GILBERT ISLANDS OPERATIONS).

ON 12 NOVEMBER SAILED EFATE, NEW HEBRIDES (T.F. 53). ON 20 NOVEMBER CONDUCTED COUNTER-BATTERY FIRE WHILE UNDER FIRE FROM ENEMY SHORE BATTERIES, AND BOMBARDED BITITU AND ADJACENT ISLANDS, TARAWA, GILBERT ISLANDS. ON 21 NOVEMBER FIRED ON ENEMY PLANE WEST OF TARAWA. ON 22 NOVEMBER BOMBARDED BITITU. COMBATDIV 2 IN DESPATCH 222224 NOVEMBER 1943, ADDRESSED TO PORTLAND AND FOUR OTHER UNITS IS IN PART: "TASK FORCE COMMANDER, SAYS, 'WELL DONE.'" COMBATDIV 2 SAYS, 'PERFECT. YOU FIRED THE BEST BOMBARDMENT I HAVE SEEN YET. NO SHORTS, NO OVERS, ALL IN TARGET AREA'".

1 - 9 DECEMBER (CARRIER RAIDS ON MARSHALLS).

ON 1 DECEMBER AT SEA IN LAT. 13-08 N., LONG. 176-53 W., (T.G. 50.3). ON 4 DECEMBER SCREENED CARRIERS DURING AIR STRIKES ON THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR 9 DECEMBER.

23 JANUARY TO 7 MARCH 1944 (MARSHALL OPERATIONS).

ON 23 JANUARY SAILED PEARL HARBOR, (T.G. 51.2) AND PROCEEDED TO THE SOUTHWESTWARD. ON 31 JANUARY BOMBARDED DARRIT ISLET, MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS, BRIEFLY UNTIL IT WAS FOUND THAT NO ENEMY TROOPS WERE PRESENT. THEN REMAINED AT AND IN THE VICINITY OF MAJURO UNTIL 3 FEBRUARY WHEN PORTLAND WAS DETACHED FROM T.G. 51.2 AND SAILED MAJURO. REPORTED TO C.T.G. 50.15 IN THE VICINITY OF MALEOLAP ATOLL THE SAME DAY AND RETURNED WITH UNITS OF THAT GROUP TO MAJURO 4 FEBRUARY. 5 - 7 FEBRUARY OPERATED IN THE VICINITY OF WOTJE ATOLL AND ARRIVED KWAJALEIN ON 8 FEBRUARY. ON 15 FEBRUARY SAILED KWAJALEIN AND JOINED T.G. 51.11, ENIWETOK EXPEDITIONARY GROUP. ON 17, 18, 19 AND 21 FEBRUARY BOMBARDED PARRY, JAPTAN AND ENIWETOK ISLETS, ENIWETOK ATOLL ON 21 FEBRUARY ONE OF PORTLAND'S PLANES FAILED TO RETURN FROM ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL AND WAS GIVEN UP AS LOST. ON 21 FEBRUARY CAPTAIN BURHANS WAS DETACHED TO A HOSPITAL SHIP FOR TREATMENT AND COMMANDER W.E. GUITAR ASSUMED TEMPORARY COMMAND, SHIP REMAINING AT ENIWETOK ATOLL. ON 3 MARCH CAPTAIN T.G.W. SETTLE, U.S.N. RELIEVED COMMANDER



GUITAR AS COMMANDING OFFICER. ON 5 MARCH WITH CRUISERS DIVISION 4 AND OTHER UNITS, SAILED ENIWETOK AND ARRIVED MAJURO ON 7 MARCH.

22 MARCH TO 6 APRIL 1944 (PALAU RAID).

SAILED MAJURO 22 MARCH (T.G. 58.9). ON 27 MARCH OTHER UNITS JOINED, TASK GROUP DESIGNATION CHANGED TO 58.3. ON 29 MARCH FIRED ON ENEMY PLANE PASSING CLOSE ABOARD: FOUR PORTLAND MEN WOUNDED, THREE MINOR ONE SERIOUS, BY SPLINTERS FROM PLANE'S FIRE AND THAT OF AN ADJACENT SHIP. SCREENED CARRIERS DURING AIR STRIKES ON PALAU, YAP, ULITHI, AND WOLEAI, 30 MARCH TO 1 APRIL. ARRIVED MAJURO ON 6 APRIL.

13 APRIL TO 4 MAY 1944 (NEW GUINEA AND TRUK AIR STRIKES, SATAWAN BOMBARDMENT).

SAILED MAJURO 13 APRIL (T.G. 58.3). 21 - 24 APRIL SCREENED CARRIERS DURING AIR STRIKES ON NORTHERN NEW GUINEA, IN CONNECTION WITH LANDINGS OF OUR AMPHIBIOUS FORCES. 29 APRIL SCREENED CARRIERS DURING AIR STRIKES ON TRUK. ON 30 APRIL IN COMPANY WITH FIVE OTHER CRUISERS, AND DESTROYERS, BOMBARDED SATAWAN, NOMEI GROUP. ON 4 MAY ARRIVED MAJURO.

14 MAY TO 7 AUGUST 1944 (NAVY YARD).

ON 14 MAY SAILED MAJURO AND PROCEEDED VIA PEARL HARBOR TO NAVY YARD, MARE ISLAND, CALIFORNIA ARRIVING 25 MAY FOR OVERHAUL EXTENDING UNTIL 7 AUGUST.

7 AUGUST TO 1 OCTOBER 1944 (PALAU LANDING).

SAILED MARE ISLAND 7 AUGUST AND PROCEEDED VIA PEARL HARBOR TO PURVIS BAY, FLORIDA, B.S.I., ARRIVING 30 AUGUST. ON 6 SEPTEMBER SAILED PURVIS BAY (T.G. 32.5). ON 12 SEPTEMBER ARRIVED OFF PELELIU AND CONDUCTED PRE-LANDING BOMBARDMENTS ON THAT ISLAND 12 - 14 SEPTEMBER. ON 15 SEPTEMBER SUPPORTED LANDINGS ON PELELIU AND CONDUCTED CALL FIRES. ON 16, 17, AND 19 SEPTEMBER, CALL FIRES ON PELELIU. DURING EVENING DUSK, 19 SEPTEMBER, WHILE ALONGSIDE AN AMMUNITION SHIP IN KOSSOL ROADS AN ENEMY FLOAT PLANE (JAKE) DROPPED TWO SMALL BOMBS AT PORTLAND, MISSING. 21 - 24 SEPTEMBER CALL FIRES ON PELELIU. ON 23



U.S.S. PORTLAND

7-7-7-7-7

SEPTEMBER FIRED INEFFECTIVELY ON ENEMY PLANE NORTHWEST OF PELELIU. 25 - 27 SEPTEMBER AT KOSSOL ROADS, REPLENISHING. 28 - 29 SEPTEMBER STOOD BY OFF PELELIU FOR CALL FIRE AND ON THE LATTER DATE LEFT THE AREA (T.U. 32.19.7), ARRIVING SEEDLER HARBOR, MANUS, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS ON 1 OCTOBER.

12 OCTOBER TO 1 NOVEMBER 1944 (LEYTE LANDINGS AND SURIGAO BATTLE).  
SAILED MANUS ON 12 OCTOBER (T.G. 77.2) AND ARRIVED OFF LEYTE GULF 17 OCTOBER. ENTERED LEYTE GULF 18 OCTOBER. CONDUCTED PRE-LANDING BOMBARDMENT ON LEYTE 19 OCTOBER. ON 20 OCTOBER SUPPORTED LANDINGS, THEN CONDUCTED CALL FIRES. 21 - 23 OCTOBER CALL FIRES. ON 22 OCTOBER SPLASHED ONE VAL. ON 24 OCTOBER FIRED ON ENEMY PLANE INEFFECTIVELY. ON 25 OCTOBER AS A UNIT OF CRUISERS, LEFT FLANK FORCE, (77.2 AND 77.3) PARTICIPATED IN THE BATTLE OF SURIGAO STRAITS (BATTLE FOR LEYTE GULF). THE ENEMY FORCE COMPRISED TWO BATTLESHIPS; ONE HEAVY CRUISER; AND FOUR DESTROYERS, AND APPROACHED TO THE NORTHWARD UP SURIGAO STRAITS, WHILE OWN FORCE DISPOSED ACROSS THE TOP OF THE STRAIT "CROSSING THE ENEMY'S 'TEE'". AT 0352 OPENED FIRE, AFTER RADAR TRACKING, ON THE LEADING ENEMY HEAVY UNIT, AT 15,500 YARDS; FIRED ON FIVE UNITS AND ASSISTED IN SINKING TWO BATTLESHIPS, TWO DESTROYERS AND IN DAMAGING THE HEAVY CRUISER DURING THE MAIN ACTION AND THE PURSUIT WHICH FOLLOWED PART WAY DOWN SURIGAO STRAITS, THE ACTION CONTINUING UNTIL 0539. THE ENEMY RETURNED SEVERAL INEFFECTUAL SALVOES TO THE VICINITY OF THE LEFT FLANK CRUISERS. FIRED ON ENEMY PLANE INEFFECTIVELY LATER ON 25 OCTOBER. DEPARTED LEYTE GULF 29 OCTOBER AND ARRIVED ULITHI 1 NOVEMBER.

2 - 22 NOVEMBER 1944 (PHILIPPINES AIR STRIKES).  
SAILED ULITHI ON 2 NOVEMBER (T.G. 38.1). SCREENED CARRIERS DURING AIR STRIKES ON LUZON AIR FIELDS 5 - 6 NOVEMBER, AND ON VISAYAN SHIPPING 11 NOVEMBER, AND ON THE MANILA AREA 13 - 14 AND 19 NOVEMBER. ON 21 NOVEMBER DETACHED FROM T.G. 38.1 AND ARRIVED KOSSOL ROADS ON 22 NOVEMBER.



27 NOVEMBER TO 20 DECEMBER 1944 (LEYTE GULF PATROL AND MINDORO LANDINGS).

SAILED KOSSOL ROADS 27 NOVEMBER AND ARRIVED LEYTE GULF 29 NOVEMBER JOINING T.G. 77.2. LATER ON 29 NOVEMBER SPLASHED ONE ZEKE ATTEMPTING TO CRASH PORTLAND. FIRED ON ANOTHER ENEMY PLANE WHO CRASHED INTO MARYLAND. 2 DECEMBER SHIFTED TO T.G. 77.3, LEYTE GULF PATROL. ON 6 DECEMBER FIRED INEFFECTIVELY ON ENEMY PLANE. ON 12 DECEMBER SAILED LEYTE GULF FOR THE MINDORO OPERATION, (T.G. 77.3, A COMPONENT OF T.G. 78.3). 13 DECEMBER FIRED INEFFECTIVELY ON ENEMY PLANE. 15 DECEMBER COVERED MINDORO LANDING; ASSISTED IN SPLASHING ONE ENEMY PLANE.

21 - 31 DECEMBER 1944 (FORAGING).

ON 23 DECEMBER SAILED LEYTE WITH DESTROYERS MOALE AND INGRAHAM SCREENING, TO OBTAIN STORES AND MAIL AT OTHER BASES. 25 - 26 DECEMBER AT KOSSOL ROADS. 27 - 28 DECEMBER AT ULITHI. 29 DECEMBER, KOSSOL ROADS. 31 DECEMBER ARRIVED SAN PEDRO BAY, LEYTE, P.I.

3 JANUARY TO 1 MARCH 1945 (LINGAYEN; CORREGIDOR OPERATIONS).

SAILED LEYTE 3 JANUARY (T.G. 77.2). 4 JANUARY FIRED INEFFECTIVELY AT ENEMY PLANE WHICH CRASHED CLOSE ASTERN OF LUNGA POINT. 5 JANUARY ARRIVED OFF LINGAYEN GULF AND BOMBARDED VICINITY CAPE BOLIANO. AT 1436 FIRED ON ENEMY PLANE WHICH CRASHED CLOSE ABOARD COLUMBIA NEXT ASTERN OF PORTLAND, AT 1600 ENTERED LINGAYEN GULF. AT 1719 COMMENCED BOMBARDMENT OF EASTERN SHORE BUT DISCONTINUED IMMEDIATELY AS HEAVY ENEMY AIR ATTACK (KAMIKAZE) CAME IN LASTING UNTIL 1831. FIRED ON ENEMY PLANES AND MANY SHIPS WERE CRASHED INTO INCLUDING COLUMBIA (AGAIN) AND LOUISVILLE ADJACENT TO PORTLAND IN COLUMN. 7 - 8 JANUARY CONDUCTED BOMBARDMENT AND UNDER WATER DEMOLITION TEAM (UDT) SUPPORT FIRES, AND FIRED ON BOGIES. 9 JANUARY SUPPORTED LANDING AND FIRED ON BOGIES. 10 JANUARY REPLENISHED AMMUNITION, THEN LEFT LINGAYEN GULF TO CRUISE NORTHWESTWARD, (T.G. 77.2, LINGAYEN DEFENSE FORCE) UNTIL 18 JANUARY WHEN RETURNED TO THE GULF. 19 - 31 JANUARY CONDUCTED SUPPORT FIRES, AIR AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECONNAISSANCE



FOR THE ARMY ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF LINGAYEN GULF. (ARMY GENERAL KRUEGER COMMENDED THE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND RECONNAISSANCE WORK OF THE PORTLAND PILOTS.) ON 15 FEBRUARY (T.U. 77.3.5) SAILED FOR CORREGIDOR AND ON 16 FEBRUARY BOMBARDED THE SOUTHERN COAST OF THAT ISLAND PREPARATORY TO PARATROOPS AND AMPHIBIOUS LANDINGS. RETURNED TO LINGAYEN GULF ON 17 FEBRUARY. ON 26 FEBRUARY (T.G. 70.6) SAILED LINGAYEN AND ARRIVED SAN PEDRO BAY, LEYTE ON 1 MARCH. (ENDING PORTLANDS TWENTIETH WEEK OF CONTINUOUS DUTY IN ADVANCED AREAS).

21 MARCH - 20 APRIL 1945 (OKINAWA SHIMA ASSAULT).

SAILED ULITHI 21 MARCH (T.G. 54.3) ARRIVED OKINAWA 26 MARCH. 0705, 26 MARCH COMMENCED BOMBARDMENT OF ASSIGNED AREAS, WEST SIDE OF YONTAN AIRFIELD. ON 27 MARCH AT 0620, UNDER HEAVY AIR ATTACK AND ASSISTED IN SHOOTING DOWN ONE LARGE JAP BOMBER. AT 0832, THE SAME MORNING, WHILE UNDERWAY IN COLUMN ASTERN THE U.S.S. PENSACOLA, TWO TORPEDO WAKES WERE SIGHTED BY THE PORTLAND FIRED IN QUICK SUCCESSION AND NARROWLY MISSED THE PENSACOLA. A PERISCOPE AND THEN CONNING TOWER OF A MIDGET SUBMARINE EMERGED. PORTLAND TOOK IT UNDER AUTOMATIC WEAPON GUNFIRE AND USED FULL RUDDER AND ENGINES TO ATTEMPT RAMMING. THE SUB THEN TURNED SHARPLY TO CROSS AHEAD TO STARBOARD, AND DESPITE FULL OPPOSITE RUDDER THE PORTLAND'S STEM MISSED THE JAPANESE SUBMARINE STERN BY 10 - 20 FEET. THE SUB WAS UNDER HEAVY POINT BLANK FIRE FROM THE PORTLAND, SCORING MANY DIRECT HITS ON THE CONNING TOWER AND PERISCOPE. ESCORTS CAME UP AT HIGH SPEED AND DROPPED ONE DEPTH CHARGE PATTERN--NEGATIVE RESULTS. 1 APRIL BOMBARDED WEST COAST OF OKINAWA SHIMA IN SUPPORT OF LANDINGS BY U.S. TROOPS. 7 APRIL JOINED T.G. 54.7 IN APPROACH DISPOSITION IN ANTICIPATION OF EXPECTED NIGHT ACTION WITH ENEMY SURFACE FORCE HEADED BY JAP BATTLESHIP YAMAMOTO. AT 2215 THAT NIGHT CHANGED TO CRUISING DISPOSITION UPON NOTIFICATION THAT T.F. 58 HAD ALREADY SUNK THE ENEMY SURFACE FORCE. 16 APRIL BOMBARDED IE SHIMA IN SUPPORT OF LANDING BY U.S. TROOPS. DURING THE PERIOD 26 MARCH TO 20 APRIL OF SUPPORTING THE OKINAWA CAMPAIGN, THE PORTLAND UNDERWENT TWENTY-FOUR AIR RAIDS; SHOT DOWN FOUR



10-10-10-10-10

ENEMY PLANES; AND ASSISTED IN DOWNING EIGHT OTHERS. ON APRIL 6, THE PORTLAND SHOT DOWN THREE KAMIKAZE PLANES IN ONE ATTACK CLOSING FROM WIDELY SEPARATED ANGLES AND ASSISTED IN DOWNING TWO OTHERS. 20 APRIL SAILED FOR ULITHI.

24 APRIL - 5 MAY (REPLENISHMENT, ULITHI)

ARRIVED ULITHI FOR TEN DAYS AVAILABILITY. REPLENISHED FUEL, STORES, AMMUNITION AND PERFORMED ROUTINE UPKEEP AND MINOR REPAIRS. DEPARTED ULITHI 5 MAY FOR OKINAWA.

8 MAY - 17 JUNE (SECOND PHASE, OKINAWA BOMBARDMENT AND CAPTURE).

REPORTED TO C.T.G. 54.2 FOR DUTY 8 MAY OFF HAGUSHI BEACH. RESUMED BOMBARDMENT SOUTHWESTERN OKINAWA WITH ILLUMINATION ASSIGNMENTS NIGHTLY. ON 8, 9, AND 10 JUNE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF TWENTY-SIX WOUNDED AND ONE DECEASED ARMY AND MARINE CASUALTIES FROM ASHORE VIA AMPHIBIOUS CRAFT FOR MEDICAL CARE AND HOSPITALIZATION. ENEMY AIRCRAFT WERE FREQUENTLY IN THE VICINITY DURING THIS PERIOD BUT THIS VESSEL WAS NOT ATTACKED, NOR DID THE PORTLAND BRING ANY ENEMY AIRCRAFT UNDER FIRE. DEPARTED OKINAWA ON 17 JUNE FOR LEYTE FOR UPKEEP AND PERSONNEL RELAXATION. IT WAS DURING THIS PERIOD THAT PORTLAND FIRED HER LAST SHELLS AGAINST THE JAPANESE--A UNIT OF "THE FLEET THAT CAME TO STAY."

21 JUNE - 31 JULY (REPLENISHMENT, LEYTE).

ANCHORED IN SAN PEDRO BAY, LEYTE, P.I., AS UNIT IN T.F. 32, FOR AVAILABILITY UNDER COMSERVRON 10. REPLENISHED FUEL AND STORES. 25 JULY T.F. 32 DISOLVED. PORTLAND ASSIGNED T.G. 95.7. 26 JULY CAPTAIN LYMAN A. THACKREY, U.S.N., RELIEVED CAPTAIN T.G.W. SETTLE, U.S.N., AS COMMANDING OFFICER. CONTINUED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND MINOR REPAIRS, PERSONNEL RELAXATION AND TRAINING.

3 AUGUST - 31 AUGUST 1945 (BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA).

0703 UNDERWAY AS A UNIT OF T.U. 95.7.1 ENROUTE TO OKINAWA. 3 AUGUST RECEIVED WORD SISTER-SHIP U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS LOST AT SEA ENROUTE LEYTE. 6 AUGUST ANCHORED IN BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA SHIMA. JOINED T.G. 95.3. CONDUCTED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND TRAINING. 12 AUGUST



11-11-11-11-11

PENNSYLVANIA, ANCHORED NEREBY IN BUCKNER BAY, HIT BY AERIAL TORPEDO. RUMOR OF JAPANESE CAPITULATION. 13 AND 14 AUGUST UNDERWAY AS A UNIT OF T.G. 95.3 FOR NIGHT RETIREMENT. 15 AUGUST IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMANDER IN CHIEF PACIFIC FLEET'S DESPATCH, CEASED ALL OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS AGAINST THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT PENDING SIGNATURE OF PEACE TERMS. 15TH AND 16TH UNDERWAY FOR NIGHT RETIREMENT.

24 AUGUST TO 1 SEPTEMBER 1945 (APRA HARBOR, GUAM, MARIANAS ISLANDS.)

24 AUG. ASSIGNED TO T.G. 95.2 FOR DUTY. 25 AUG., 1014, UNDERWAY AS C.T.U. 95.3.7 FOR APRA HARBOR, GUAM, MARIANAS ISLANDS. U.S.S. MUGFORD SCREENING. 1602 U.S.S. RALPH TALBOT RELIEVED MUGFORD AS SCREEN. 28 AUGUST ARRIVED APRA HARBOR, GUAM. REPLENISHED FUEL. 30 AUGUST, 0440 COMMANDING OFFICER, U.S.S. PORTLAND, ASSUMED DUTIES OF S.O.P.A.. 31 AUGUST, 1700, VICE-ADMIRAL GEORGE D. MURRAY, U.S.N. COMMANDER MARIANAS, CAME ABOARD WITH HIS STAFF AND ASSUMED FUNCTIONS OF C.T.U. 94.3.2 AND S.O.P.A.. 1 SEPTEMBER UNDERWAY TO TRUK AS FLAGSHIP OF VICE-ADMIRAL GEO. D. MURRAY TO ACCEPT SURRENDER OF THE CAROLINES.

2 AUGUST 1945 (SURRENDER OF CAROLINES AT TRUK).

WITH VICE-ADMIRAL GEORGE D. MURRAY, U.S.N., ABOARD, ARRIVED TRUK ATOLL TO ACCEPT THE SURRENDER OF ALL JAPANESE HELD ISLANDS UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE SENIOR JAPANESE IMPERIAL FORCES BASED AT TRUK, CAROLINE ISLANDS. 0920 JAPANESE SIGNATORIES BOARDED PORTLAND FROM THEIR MOTOR LAUNCHES. 1015 (TOKYO TIME) SURRENDER ACCEPTED AND JAPANESE DEPARTED VIA MOTOR LAUNCH. SAILED TRUK FOR APRA HARBOR, GUAM ARRIVING SEPTEMBER 3. VICE-ADMIRAL MURRAY SHIFTED FLAG TO GUAM.

3 - 20 SEPTEMBER 1945 (GUAM).

3 SEPTEMBER ANCHORED IN APRA HARBOR, GUAM. CONTINUED ROUTINE UPKEEP AND MINOR REPAIRS. 10 SEPTEMBER DUTY COMPLETED T.F. 94. 12 SEPTEMBER RECEIVED 500 NAVY AND 300 MARINE DISCHARGEES PASSENGERS ABOARD. SAME AFTERNOON DEPARTED GUAM FOR PEARL HARBOR TO REPORT TO C.T.F. 11 FOR ONWARD ROUTING TO U.S. ARRIVED PEARL 20 SEPTEMBER.



21 - 24 SEPTEMBER 1945 (PEARL HARBOR).

ANCHORED IN PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS AS A UNIT OF T.F. 11  
CONTINUED SHIP'S UPKEEP, MINOR REPAIRS AND PERSONNEL RELAXATION. 24  
SEPTEMBER RECEIVED 600 NAVAL DISCHARGEES PASSENGERS.

25 SEPTEMBER - 12 OCTOBER 1945 (PANAMA CANAL ZONE).

0714 UNDERWAY, WITH C.T.G. 11.6 IN ENTERPRISE, SAILED PEARL HARBOR  
ENROUTE EAST COAST VIA PANAMA CANAL. 8 OCTOBER AT 0657 ARRIVED BAL-  
BOA, PANAMA. REPORTED TO CINCLANT FOR DUTY. ARRIVED MIRAFLORES LOCK  
1057. COMPLETED TRANSIT THROUGH PANAMA CANAL AND MOORED TO DOCK AT  
CRISTOBAL, LIMON BAY, PANAMA CANAL ZONE AT 1839. CONTINUED SHIP'S  
UPKEEP, MINOR REPAIRS AND PERSONNEL RELAXATION. 12 OCTOBER AS UNIT  
IN T.F. 62 UNDERWAY AND ENROUTE CONTINENTAL U.S. AND PORTLAND, MAINE  
FOR NAVY DAY CELEBRATION ON OCTOBER 27TH.



U.S.S. PORTLAND

OPERATIONS AND ENGAGEMENTS IN WHICH THE PORTLAND HAS PARTICIPATED:

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. CORAL SEA   | 4 - 8 MAY '42.        |
| 2. MIDWAY  | 3 - 6 JUNE '42.       |
| 3. GUADALCANAL - TULAGI LANDINGS                                 | 7 - 9 AUG. '42.       |
| 4. CAPTURE AND DEFENSE OF GUADALCANAL                            | 10-25 AUG. '42.       |
| 5. EASTERN SOLOMONS (STEWART ISLANDS)                            | 23-25 AUG. '42.       |
| 6. SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS  | 26 OCT. '42.          |
| 7. GUADALCANAL (THIRD SAVO)                                      | 12-15 NOV. '42.       |
| 8. GILBERT ISLANDS OPERATION                                     | 19 NOV. - 3 DEC. '43. |
| 9. MARSHALL ISLANDS OPERATION (ONLY 1 STAR)                      |                       |
| (A) CARRIER STRIKE AGAINST MARSHALLS                             | 4 DEC. '43.           |
| (B) OCCUPATION OF KWAJALEIN AND MAJURO                           | 29 JAN. - 8 FEB. '44. |
| (C) OCCUPATION OF ENIWETOK                                       | 17 FEB. - 2 MAR. '44. |
| 10. ASIATIC-PACIFIC RAIDS-1944 (ONLY 1 STAR)                     |                       |
| (A) PALAU, YAP, ULITHI, WOLEAI RAID                              | 30 MAR. - 1 APR. '44. |
| (B) TRUK, SATAWAN, PONAPE RAID                                   | 29 APR. - 1 MAY. '44. |
| 11. WESTERN NEW GUINEA OPERATIONS                                |                       |
| (A) HOLLANDIA OPERATIONS   | 21-24 APRIL '44.      |
| 12. WESTERN CAROLINE ISLE. OPERATION (ONLY 1 STAR)               |                       |
| (A) CAPTURE AND OCCUPATION OF THE SOUTHERN PALAU ISLANDS         | 12-29 SEPT. '44.      |
| 13. LEYTE OPERATIONS (ONLY 1 STAR).                              |                       |
| (A) LEYTE LANDINGS   | 17-30 OCT. '44.       |
| (B) BATTLE FOR LEYTE GULF (INCLUDING BATTLE FOR SURIGAO STRAIT). | 24-26 OCT. '44.       |
| (C) LUZON ATTACKS (CARRIER FORCE)                                | 5 - 6 NOV. '44.       |
| (D) VISAYAS ATTACKS  | 13-14 NOV. '44.       |
| 14. LUZON OPERATIONS (ONLY 1 STAR).                              | 11 NOV. '44.          |
| (A) MINDORO LANDINGS   | 12-18 DEC. '44.       |
| (B) LINGAYEN GULF LANDINGS                                       | 4 -18 JAN. '45.       |
| (C) BATAAN - CORREGIDOR LANDINGS                                 | 15-16 FEB. '45.       |
| 15. OKINAWA SHIMA ASSAULT  |                       |
| (A) OKINAWA  | 21 MAR. -20 APR. '45. |
|  | 8 MAY-17 JUNE '45.    |
| (B) IE SHIMA   | 16 APRIL '45.         |