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By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

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Page

ADDITIONAL SHEET

U. S. S. SKYLARK (AM63)

Date, 19.....

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

WAR DIARY

From: July 1, 1943 To: July 31, 1943

Original to: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Copy to: Commander Mine Squadron ONE.

53969

Approved:

Examined:

U. S. N., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP SKYLARK (AM63) Monday 5 July, 1943
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION _____

REMARKS

00-04 Steaming on base course 308°T in accordance with Commander Task Unit 32.4.9 dispatch from ComTransGr 262133 of June, speed of advance 9 knots. 0016 Contact on land by Radar bearing 290°T, distant 32,000 yards. 0035 Changed course to 288°T. 1400 Changed course to 000°T. 1440 Changed course to 300°T. 1510 Changed course to 288°T.

S.C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

04-08 Steaming as before. 0530 Commenced zigzagging according to plan #17. 0545 Radar land fall 150° 25000 yards, Santa Anna Island. 0653 Secured from General Quarters. 0655 Ceased zigzagging resumed base course 308°T. 0702 Commenced zigzagging #12 plan.

R.A. Evans Jr.
R.A. Evans Jr.,
Lieut., USNR.

08-12 Steaming as before. 0800 Position 09°48' Lat. 161°15' Long. 0800 Changed base course to 308°T. 1125 Ceased zigzagging. 1150 Changed base course to 290°T.

M.M. Rowley
M.M. Rowley,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

12-16 Steaming as before. 1200 Position Lat. 9°29'S Long. 160°46'E. 1240 Changed base course to 280°T. 1245 Resumed zigzagging accordance plan #12. 1330 Ceased zigzagging. 1332 Approaching Lengo Channel convoy changing formation to conform to channel, steaming at various courses and speeds. 1530 Captain took the Conn, screening convoy while breaking up to take various unloading berths at Guadalcanal.

L.R. Rhein
L.R. Rhein,
Bos'n, USN.

16-20 Steaming as before. 1700 Took screening position 6000 yards from Beacon "A" off Koli Point, Guadalcanal, Solomons.

L.L. Long
L.L. Long,
Ensign, USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2010 Steering control lost. 2020 Steering control regained. 2050 Sounded General Quarters on red flare air alert warning from beach. 2106 Secured from General Quarters on green flare all clear from beach. 2354 Steering control lost. 2358 Steering control regained.

S.C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Roy H. Jones
ROY H. JONES,
Lieut. Comdr., U.S.N.R.,
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

R.A. Evans Jr.
R.A. EVANS Jr., Lieut., U.S. Navy Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP SKYLARK (AM63) Tuesday 6 July, 1943
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION

REMARKS

00-04 In accordance with ComTransGr 262133 of June to Commander Task Unit 32.4.9, patrolling station 7000 yards from Beacon "A", Koli Point, Guadalcanal, Solomons, turning on bearing 140°T and 220°T from "A".

M. M. Rowley
MLM. Rowley,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

04-08 Steaming as before. 0440 Unidentified craft sighted, changed course to identify. 0515 Discovered craft to be an unmaned LCT, stood by to put a crew aboard. 0700 Put crew aboard and proceeded back to Koli Point.

R. A. Evans Jr.
R.A. Evans Jr.,
Lieut., USNR.

08-12 Steaming as before. 0919 Anchored in Berth #16 in 20 fathoms of water, 42 fathoms of chain at waters edge, starboard anchor in use, while effecting repairs to steering gear. 1043 Underway proceeding to patrol station 6000 yards from Beacon "A" on semi-circle limiting bearings 212°T and 140°T.

L. R. Rhein
L.R. Rhein,
Bos'n, USN.

12-16 Steaming as before.

S. C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

16-20 Steaming as before.

L. L. Long
L.L. Long,
Ensign, USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before.

M. M. Rowley
M.M. Rowley,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Roy H. Jones
ROY H. JONES,
Lieut. Comdr., U.S.N.R.,
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

R. A. Evans Jr.
R.A. EVANS Jr., Lieut., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP SKYLARK (AM63) Wednesday 7 July, 1943
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION

REMARKS

00-04 In accordance instructions ComTaskUnit 32.4.9 dispatch ComTransGr 262133 of June Patrolling sector off Koli Point, Guadalcanal, Beacon "A" distant 6000 yards.

L.R. Rhein
L.R. Rhein,
Bos'n, USN.

04-08 Steaming as before. 0545 Observed LCT adrift, stood by until sufficient light and put crew aboard. Resumed patrol station.

L.L. Long
L.L. Long,
Ensign, USNR.

08-12 Steaming as before.

S.C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

12-16 Steaming as before.

M.M. Rowley
M.M. Rowley,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

16-20 Steaming as before.

L.L. Long
L.L. Long,
Ensign, USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2310 Observed TBF plane to crash into water and immediately disappear about 1 mile bearing 195°T from Beacon "G". 2311 Observed burning gasoline on water from crashed plane, changed speed to 10 knots on course 200°T. 2315 Stopped all engines rescued one man R.T. DOLE, ARM3c, VF21-TBF 125. 2320 Proceeding to Lunga Beach at various courses and speeds to send injured man to Henderson Field.

L.R. Rhein
L.R. Rhein,
Bos'n, USN.

Approved:

Roy H. Jones
ROY H. JONES,
Lieut. Comdr., U.S.N.R.,
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

R.A. Evans Jr.
R.A. EVANS Jr., Lieut., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP SKYLARK (AM63) Thursday 8 July, 1943
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description _____

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS
(WAR DIARY)

00-04 Underway in compliance of orders of ComTransGr 262133 of June to Commander Task Unit 32.4.9. Proceeding at various courses and speeds toward Beacon Easy with injured man rescued from plane crash. 0040 Anchored in 28 fathoms of water with 48 fathoms of chain at waters edge to starboard anchor with the following bearings: Beacon Fox 249°T, Signal Tower 136°T, Mountain Peak 158°T. 0115 Boat from beach alongside with Doctor from Henderson Field for injured man. 0135 Boat from beach left ship with injured man.

S.C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

04-08 Anchored as before. 0530 Prepared to get underway. 0545 Underway to resume patrol station from Beacon "E" to westward. 0741 Landing barge adrift, investigated. 0805 Landing barge in tow to Lunga Point.

R.A. Evans Jr.
R.A. EVANS Jr.,
Lieut., USNR.

08-12 0805 Landing barge in tow along starboard side. Proceeding on various courses and speeds returning boat to beach. 1026 Returned to former patrol.

M.M. Rowley
M.M. Rowley,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

12-16 Steaming as before. 1430 Upon arrival S.C.701 ceased patrolling area off Lunga Point, proceeding to Koli Point at various courses & speed 10 knots. 1540 Commenced patrolling area off Koli Point, Beacon "A" approximately 6000 yards.

L.R. Rhein
L.R. Rhein,
Bos'n, USN.

16-20 Steaming as before.

L.L. Long
L.L. Long,
Ensign, USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2230 Sounded General Quarters on red flare air raid alert from beach. 2241 Secured from General Quarters on green flare all clear from beach.

S.C. Guenard
S.C. Guenard,
Lieut.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Roy H. Jones
ROY H. JONES, Lieut. Comdr., USNR.
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

R.A. Evans Jr.
R.A. EVANS Jr., Lieut., USNR.
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.