

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, March 4, 1944	Ship went into commission at Bremerton, Washington
Wednesday, May 3, 1944	Have been on shore down cruise for the last month. We have two more weeks to go. So far, we have done well. Have sixteen more runs to make.
Thursday, May 4, 1944	Back out to sea for target practice all day and night and come in tomorrow evening.
Friday, May 5, 1944	Back in port. Did not do much firing. Too much fog just like rain.
Saturday, May 6, 1944	In port all day. Should go out tomorrow. Have an admiral inspection Tuesday.
Sunday, May 7, 1944	Made a power run today, 41.8 knots. She will stop on a dime.
Tuesday, May 16, 1944	We are on our way to Washington. Will be in tomorrow. Stay there for two weeks or more, then for Pearl Harbor.
Thursday, June 8, 1944	Still harboring our three liberty ships. They are loaded with soldiers. Should be in by Sunday or Monday.
Saturday, June 17, 1944	Well we are in Pearl Harbor. I don't guess we will be here long. It sure looks different than when it did years ago.
Monday, June 19, 1944	Battle of Philippine Sea (Naval) - Great Marianas Turkey Shoot - D + 4
Monday, June 19, 1944	We brought on stores yesterday and ammunition. Used most of it up today on shore bombardment. They are getting us ready for the kill. We are heading to the Philippines.
Friday, June 23, 1944	Brought on 30 passengers on yesterday. We are putting them off in the Marshall Islands, somewhere around Eniwetok Atoll.
Saturday, June 24, 1944	Well we are 400 miles or more toward our destination. We have the 565 with us and a carrier. She is ferrying planes to Eniwetok.

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Wednesday, June 28, 1944	<p>We went over the International Date Line last night so we missed Tuesday. Everyone is a member of the Domain of the Golden Dragon. Should be in by Friday.</p> <p><i>[The Domain of the Golden Dragon is an unofficial US Navy (say some), or sailing east (say others) It is given to crew members of ships which cross the International Date Line. You enter the dragon's empire when you cross the International Date Line by sailing west (say some), or sailing east (say others). With the extensive Navy operations in the Far East since (and before) World War II, this passage has become so common that few initiation ceremonies are actually held. The certificate, decorated with Chinese-style dragon, is still given out.</i></p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_of_the_Golden_Dragon</p>
Thursday, June 29, 1944	We are going between two Japanese islands today. Ninety miles distance. Should be in tomorrow some time.
Saturday, July 1, 1944	We made it in yesterday at 5:30 in Eniwetok. The whole fleet is here almost. Ships as far as you can see. Around battle wagons. Look like fleet maneuvers.
Monday, July 3, 1944	Well it looks as if we are going back to Pearl Harbor. I think they are using us for a transport. For my part I had rather stay here.
Tuesday, July 4, 1944	Here we go back to Pearl Harbor with the same carrier and a transport. We unloaded fresh fish today. I hope this don't keep up too long. Maybe they will send us back to the Philippines when we get back. This convoy duty is too slow.
Tuesday, July 11, 1944	Well we will be in Pearl Harbor in the morning. We picked up a sub contact but it ran out. Otherwise it has been peaceful. Pulled into Pearl Harbor this morning but came back out this evening to operate with a CV [aircraft carrier] and a destroyer. Picked up two sailors. Their plane crashed about a couple of hours before.
Friday, July 14, 1944	Back in Pearl Harbor. Will be here until Monday.
Tuesday, July 18, 1944	Pulled out of Pearl Harbor this morning with a carrier and a can [Tin Can - destroyer] for practice. Got rid of the ammunition so the people can buy more war bonds.

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Thursday, July 20, 1944	Came back into Pearl Harbor yesterday to refuel. Left again this morning at 6:30. More practice. We got a word of good cheer from Admiral C. W. Nimitz from the Marines for escorting a carrier in.
Saturday, July 22, 1944	Boy this carrier is running us ragged. We picked up one pilot yesterday and two more this morning. They were hurt pretty bad. Lost one of the gunners. Boy these runs are really costing somebody something.
Tuesday, July 25, 1944	Came back into Pearl Harbor yesterday. Our orders were dummy runs today but when we pulled in this morning the PA went into action. We are escorting the USS <i>North Carolina</i> (BB-55) to Puget Sound Navy Yard. You could have heard them yell for a mile. I pity the owner of the Roll Inn in Seattle.
Wednesday, August 2, 1944	Well we are in the States at Seattle. Came in two days ago. Will be here a couple more days yet. I talked too quick. We pulled out this evening at 1600 back to Pearl Harbor I think.
Friday, August 4, 1944	Nothing doing today. Same as usual.
Wednesday, August 9, 1944	Back in Pearl Harbor. Probably won't be here long. Everybody thinks we are going back to the states carrying the [USS] <i>Maryland</i> back.
Friday, August 11, 1944	Came into Pearl Harbor this morning for a couple of days.
Saturday, August 12, 1944	We loaded ammunition today and stores.
Sunday, August 13, 1944	Underway at 0600 this morning. We are to be an escort for the USS <i>Mississippi</i> for training until sometime tomorrow. And then we are heading for Guadalcanal to join the first team. I guess we will be in it pretty soon now.

DATE	EVENT
Monday, August 14, 1944	<p>We haven't left the island yet. Everyone is making ready for the initiation when we cross the equator. Someone will probably get hurt. They usually do.</p> <p><i>[No one is really sure when or how the Line Crossing Ceremony, "Order of Neptune", came about. The ritual dates back at least 400 years in Western seafaring. The ceremony observes a mariner's transformation from slimy Pollywog, a seaman who hasn't crossed the equator, to trusty Shellback, also called a Son or Daughter of Neptune. It was a way for sailors to be tested for their seaworthiness. When a ship crosses the equator, King Neptune comes aboard to exercise authority over his domain and to judge charges brought against Pollywogs that they are only posing as sailors and haven't paid proper homage to the god of the sea. High ranking members of the crew and those who have been Shellbacks the longest dress up in elaborate costume and each play the part of King Neptune's court. For instance, the ship's captain might play the part of King Neptune himself. What proceeds is a day of festivities, which builds camaraderie among the seafaring crew.]</i></p> <p>https://www.veteransunited.com/network/the-navys-line-crossing-ceremony-revealed/</p>
Thursday, August 17, 1944	We refuel off the USS <i>Mississippi</i> this morning. Didn't take on very much.
Sunday, August 20, 1944	We had a pay day today. Well I guess we cross the equator tonight some time and then it starts a really silly tradition. Someone always getting hurt. I damn sure it's not going to be me if I can help it.
Monday, August 21, 1944	Met up with a task force this morning. They are transferring from the 5th to the 2nd or 7th Fleet. Nothing but LSTs [<i>Landing Ship, Tanks</i>] and destroyers. Well the annihilation started at noon. All pollywogs start 4 on and 4 off. Something is going to go wrong with their plans, I hope.
Tuesday, August 22, 1944	Boy, what a day! We really caught hell. Two minutes of hell I have had so much volts shot into me I feel like a dynamo. They put us through everything.
Thursday, August 24, 1944	Pulled into Guadalcanal this evening.
Friday, August 25, 1944	Loaded stores and fuel today. Probably take off tomorrow.

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Monday, August 28, 1944	Still in Guadalcanal. Looks as if we will be here for a while.
Thursday, August 31, 1944	Still in Guadalcanal. We have four cruisers with us: <i>Cleveland</i> (CL-55), <i>Columbia</i> (CL-56), <i>Honolulu</i> (CL-58), <i>Denver</i> (CL-58)
Friday, September 1, 1944	Going out for a few days' practice three days. A little rough this evening. I got some mail today, the first in a week since we were down here.
Wednesday, September 6, 1944	Well this I the day when all God's children start saying their prayers. The whole squadron is pulling out. The Tokyo Rose says we are going to hit Palau and they would be waiting for us. I don't like these runs. 8000 yards is too close for comfort.
Saturday, September 9, 1944	Well we are about two days from the Palaus. We will refuel tomorrow. I don't guess we will have much trouble. A task force of carriers has been hitting it for three days. Now we have a commander aboard Oldendorf? He says our record shows we are the best fighting ship on the west coast. I hope we stay that way. I guess we have the best gunnery officer yet.
Sunday, September 10, 1944	We refueled today from the USS <i>Pennsylvania</i> . Picked up one tanker this morning. One got rammed. Tomorrow night we go into Guadalcanal and start the bombardment Wednesday morning. The Marines are supposed to land Friday. I sure feel for them.
Tuesday, September 12, 1944	Started bombardment of Peleliu [D-3 Day] this morning at 0530. One destroyer was sunk. She ran aground and they [illegible] We haven't had a shot fired back at us. So far have been bombing it all morning. We have secured from ??? And only around 5,000 yards from the island. I would never thought of it.
Wednesday, September 13, 1944	Well we have picket duty [warning of enemy] all night and this morning. Was supposed to get relieved at 0800 but didn't. Had a little accident this morning. An 8-inch shell landed in front of our bow. It sprayed the ship with shrapnel. One piece missed my shoulder about a foot. If I had been standing up it would have hit center. It made a place on the [illegible] as big as my head. Broke an inch steel. Our man got hurt. Broke his ankle from a piece.

DATE	EVENT
Thursday, September 14, 1944	Boy they are really giving this island a beating. Planes dive bombing and strafing. Wagons throwing in four a minute. The airstrip looks like hell. Nothing but the frame of the hangars left. We lost a mine sweeper yesterday. Hit a mine and blew her fantail off and some planes. Those pilots have sure got guts. They have one foot on the ground almost while they are bombing and strafing.
Friday, September 15, 1944	1st Marine Division lands on Peleliu
Friday, September 15, 1944	Today is the day. Since dawn we have been giving them hell. I don't see how anyone is alive on that island. Wave after wave of planes hitting and every ship firing. We fired 850 rounds. A few planes got knocked down and the troops went in at 8:15. They have got as far as the airfield.
Saturday, September 16, 1944	Fired all night so we are loading ammunition today. 900 rounds will be fired tonight.
Sunday, September 17, 1944	We fired all night up until 0600 this morning. The boys are having a hard time on the beach. Can't see how those Japs live after the pounding we gave them. The battlewagons [informal: a battleship or armored vehicle] and cruisers are laying them in now.
Monday, September 18, 1944	Well they are still going after them. In a few more days there will be no trees left on the island. We have got to refuel tomorrow. Last night and today we fired around 700 rounds. We knocked out a mortar nest yesterday.
Tuesday, September 19, 1944	Loaded ammunition today
Wednesday, September 20, 1944	Doing night firing illuminating the front lines. We have been on [illegible] since we have been out here. Sometimes we get a couple hours off. I haven't been in my bunk nor had my shoes off except to shower.
Thursday, September 21, 1944	Been firing all night and day. Nothing unusual.
Friday, September 22, 1944	Haven't done much firing until this evening. We really put them out. Our shore

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Sunday, September 24, 1944	We didn't fire yesterday. Last night we sunk 12 barges. There were Japs all over the reefs this morning. We are going to load ammunition today. Our shore control said it was the best he had ever seen. <i>[Joined Task Group 77.2 at Manus Island, Admiralties, for the invasion of the Philippines. (Wikipedia)]</i>
Monday, September 25, 1944	Loaded ammunition today. Over 1000 rounds. We had all night in last night. No GQ. We are pulling out now going to the Admiralty Islands. All of the Task Force 58 is in here. They have been hitting the Philippines all week. <i>[GQ: General quarters, battle stations, or action stations is an announcement made aboard a naval warship to signal that all hands (everyone available) aboard a ship must go to battle stations as quickly as possible.]</i>
Wednesday, September 27, 1944	We left Peleliu the 25 th . Going to New Guinea at Hollandia. Taking the USS <i>Louisville</i> there. She has some big shot aboard that is going to see MacArthur.
Thursday, October 5, 1944	Left Hollandia and came to Manus Island in the Admiralties. We will be out by the 15th I guess for the Philippines. That will be where we put up a fight for what we get, not like Palau.
Thursday, October 12, 1944	Left Manus this morning with a task force of 5 battlewagons, 6 cruisers, and about 20 destroyers for some place in the Philippines. We should get to our destination the 17th. We are to guard minesweepers while they clean out the minefield. Not such a hot job. We will be going back to the States after this war.
Monday, October 16, 1944	We are 200 miles off our destination. We will be there in the morning. They are expecting quite a bit of opposition some place in the middle of the Philippines.
Tuesday, October 17, 1944	We had plenty of rough weather last night and today. We are to start bombardment today. Started firing at 15 to three.

DATE	EVENT
Friday, October 20, 1944	Americans land on Leyte Island, Philippines
Friday, October 20, 1944	We landed troops this morning in Leyte at 8:45. Really a sight to see. We were 1000 yards from the beach. You could see Japs everywhere. We had a few dive bombing attacks. Nothing to speak of. They are landing 120,000 troops on these islands. There are about 2,000 Marines in the hills that are stranded here. They picked up three Filipinos yesterday. They said there were 20,000 guerillas in the hills waiting for arms. This is the biggest landing they have had out here. Rather a funny one happened this morning. We were firing phosphorous shells. It set fire to some Japs. They were beating the fire out with their hands. They shouldn't have bothered. The next one put it out for them.
Saturday, October 21, 1944	We had easy duty last night. Got a good night's sleep. Had a couple of air raids
Tuesday, October 24, 1944	<i>[Battle of Leyte Gulf – October 24-25; 11 US casualties]</i>
Wednesday, October 25, 1944	<i>[Battle of Leyte Gulf – October 24-25; 11 US casualties]</i>
Thursday, October 26, 1944	Not much going on. Last night some of the cans [?Tin Cans - destroyers] made more torpedo runs. We weren't close to the fighting yesterday morning. The score came out eight to nothing. We had a little damage. They sank one of our CVs [Aircraft Carrier] About a hundred miles out there were several torpedo boats sank and one destroyer damaged by our own guns.
Friday, October 27, 1944	Came out this morning to escort a couple of carriers. I don't know where we are going. We had a couple air alerts today. The fighter patrol shot down one plane.
Wednesday, November 1, 1944	Not too much has been happening. Quite a few dive bombings and torpedo planes. They are really going for the destroyers. They are making suicide dives. Three was hit this morning. One of them was sunk. – which one?

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, November 4, 1944	We have been on picket duty [A ship placed on a line forward of a position to provide warning of an enemy advance.] for 60 hours and on GQ [General Quarters, battle stations, or action stations is an announcement made aboard a naval warship to signal that all hands (everyone available) aboard a ship must go to battle stations as quickly as possible.] Boy am I tired. Planes have hit at us every day and night. Boy did they come close. Torpedo planes dive-bombing. They put them so close they gave the ship a bath and was I scared. Many more days of this and I will be grey headed.
Saturday, November 11, 1944	Well we are doing ok. Haven't had anything to do for a few days. I guess we will go back to Manus around the 15th for supplies. We sure as hell need them. Hash and stew gets rather old.
Sunday, November 12, 1944	Not much happening today. Last night we had an air raid. Didn't amount to much. We will probably go back on the trigger run tomorrow. Be back on GQ all the time.
Tuesday, November 14, 1944	We are supposed to refuel in the morning and pick up some mail. I sure hope so. Don't know where we will go back to Manus or not. I could use a full night in. We have been out here a month now.
Monday, November 20, 1944	We are supposed to leave for Manus tonight or tomorrow. It will be good to get off these watches for a while. We have been standing them for 40 days with GQ 60 and 70 hours at a time. Everyone is getting grumpy.
Thursday, November 23, 1944	We will be in Manus the 25th. Are only going to stay there one week. We had some more torpedo planes over the 21. They didn't hit anything.
Saturday, November 25, 1944	We pulled into Manus this morning. Our orders read seven days or less so I suppose we will make the [illegible] Invasion. That one is going to be a tough one. I sure would like to wait here and be the relieving ship.

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Tuesday, December 5, 1944	Still in Manus on 12 hour notes to get underway. They have us down unfit for combat duty so we will be doing convoy duty. That is OK with me. I have had enough of combat duty to last me. There are quite a few getting transferred to the States I am not that lucky. I guess I will be on this thing till she goes down or back to Frisco. Rather it be the later one.
Saturday, December 9, 1944	Went out on a firing test yesterday with some [illegible]. Looks like we are going to be in here a few more days.
Tuesday, December 19, 1944	We are back in Palau again. Came in yesterday. Can't find out what we are doing here. Waiting for a task force to the Philippines. A group of carriers and cruisers came in this morning. Maybe we will go back with them.
Saturday, December 23, 1944	Still in Palau. Went out on firing practice. I guess we will be here until after the 26th. Haven't gotten any mail since we have been here. I sure would like to hear from my baby. We have gone swimming. It's about all we can do except work.
Tuesday, December 26, 1944	Still in Palau. Some Christmas we had and the boys overseas get everything. It all stinks to me.
Wednesday, January 3, 1945	Left Palau yesterday morning with task force going to the Luzon [northernmost Philippines]. This one is going to be a tough job. That's what they say. We have twelve carriers and 4 BB, one cruiser. Some think we are going in with the mine sweeper. We had a couple of suicide planes come over. They missed.
Thursday, January 4, 1945	More raids today. They had better luck this time. They hit a carrier. She went down. Quite a few men were lost. Around four hundred out of thirteen hundreds. We are passing Mindanao right now. The Japs raided it today and have quite a few fires burning. We are supposed to hit the Luzon the sixth and the troops go in the north, eighty thousand or so.
Friday, January 5, 1945	We had a few air raids today. Some of the ships got hit. The <i>Louisville</i> took a suicide plane on number 2 turret.

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Saturday, January 6, 1945	<p>A merry day we had today. We started bombardment on San Fernando [Philippines]. We had air raids all day long about seven ships took hits. The Louisville took a suicide plane on her bridge. It knocked quite a few men over the side. We were throwing life jackets to them. Some of them had their clothes blown off. The plane that hit them was headed for us. We threw enough fire in him it turned him to the cruiser. Boy I really earned my pay today. This is what puts gray hair on our head. There were twelve planes knocked down beside what was got by the fighter patrol.</p>
Sunday, January 7, 1945	<p>Very peaceful day. A few planes over now and then one APD was sunk. They crash dived her. Hit the fantail. One hell of a blaze. Early in the morning we went close to the beach and sunk a small craft that was trying to pull away. <i>APD: High-speed transports were converted destroyers and destroyer escorts used in US Navy amphibious operations in World War II and afterward. They received the US Hull classification symbol APD; "AP" for transport and "D" for destroyer.</i></p> <p><i>APDs were intended to deliver small units such as Marine Raiders, Underwater Demolition Teams, and United States Army Rangers onto hostile shores. An APD could carry up to 200 troops - a company-size unit. It could also provide gunfire support if needed. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-speed_transport</i></p>
Monday, January 8, 1945	<p>We are out with the mine sweepers. We are off from the main task force. They are coming down to bombardment. The beach here is being swept now. The <i>Columbia</i> got hit again.</p>
Tuesday, January 9, 1945	<p>Well today is the day. Went to GQ around 0800. We really gave the beach a going over. The troops went in about 1000. Two hours they were two miles inland. We picked up six Filipinos. They said all the Japs had moved inland and had brought up reinforcements from Manilla. On the landing they only lost one man killed and four wounded. The first thing this morning we had an air raid. Rather not for a while. Had one at dusk. A lot of flak put up but didn't get any planes. The fighter patrol downed several today. 2000 [10 pm] One of the ships just bagged a plane. Tried to sneak in.</p>

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Wednesday, January 10, 1945	Something new has been added to this game here. This morning we had several small boats hooking charges on ships. They were lucky at it. They sank two LC and one small transport and damaged a destroyer. We spotted one just in time. They were fixing to tie one on us. Our guns wouldn't bear on him. We had an air raid just after that. Bagged one plane.
[illegible]	0800 Just came off GQ. Couple of planes came over. One of them crashed into an APD. This ship is really lucky. One of the LSTs sprayed us with 20 mm. One man got hurt rather bad. Put several holes in the ship. A couple of 40 mm hit us.
Wednesday, January 17, 1945	We have been patrolling the gulf since the 11th and has it been rough. Lost three destroyers. They capsized. They lost most of the men. I am a little leery a deck. bout this thing. Most of the time you can't sleep in your bunk. We had a carrier hit the morning of the 11th. Started a fire in the hangar deck. Not much damage done. I sure will be glad to get out of the China Sea.
Sunday, January 21, 1945	Back in Lingayen. Haven't had any air raids since we came back. The troops seem to be having a trouble at a couple of places. The cruiser and BB [battle ship] have been bombarding again. A flight of B25s came over this morning and gave them a plastering. I guess we will be pulling out in the morning. They are sending us to a little island off of Guam for five days under repair. We sure can use some. We haven't gotten any mail since we came here. It's getting about time we were getting some.
Monday, January 22, 1945	Left Lingayen. First stop Leyte, then to Guam I guess.
Wednesday, January 24, 1945	Will be in Leyte tonight or in the morning. Have been having beautiful weather. No GQ since is we left. One of the GMs [gunner mate] is getting transferred when we get in. Going to school in San Diego. Lucky man.
Thursday, January 25, 1945	We bypassed Leyte today. They brought out a bag of mail to us. I got two letters. We had a sub kb attack last night. The <i>New Mexico</i> had two torpedoes to miss her fantail. The ships ahead knocked the plane

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Saturday, January 27, 1945	Pulled into Ulithi around 0700. Boy have they got a fleet in here. First line carriers and new BB cruiser. This place is lousy with them. They have enough ships in here to raid Tokyo Bay. If they could see this I think they would quit. I guess we will get a lot of mail tomorrow. Hope so.
Monday, January 29, 1945	We brought on ammunition yesterday. I can still feel it. We should be alongside tender tomorrow [support boat]
Tuesday, January 30, 1945	We are still . out. We are not going alongside the tender. It looks as though we are going north. They are putting all of the heaters back in. I am not liking this a little bit. They say it is pretty cold. Around 750 miles from Tokyo. I guess it will be hot in places.
Saturday, February 10, 1945	We are hoisting anchor at 1300 going to hit one of the volcano islands, Iwo Jima. So they think the word is going around we are going back to the States after this operation. Hope so.
Sunday, February 11, 1945	We are supposed to pull into Saipan this evening. The captain passed the word yesterday we were going to take Iwo Jima and the main force was hitting the [illegible] That is Task Force 58.
Tuesday, February 13, 1945	Came into Saipan yesterday morning and refuel and protect for the invasion of Iwo Jima. We took on more power. Boy have they really got the B59s in here. I sure would hate to be in Japan when this invasion starts. I guess we will leave here today or in the morning.
Friday, February 16, 1945	At dawn this morning, we started bombardment of Iwo Jima. We didn't get any return fire. We are going in closer tomorrow. They say they have shore batteries along the beach. This island is the smallest we have hit yet, 3 miles long and 2 1/2 miles wide. Not much to it. We seen one plane all day. She tried to slip in on a cruiser but failed. We haven't been to GQ all day. This is miserable weather down here. Almost froze this morning. The radio is really blaring out about our carrier planes hitting Japan. Sure am glad I am not in that task force.

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Saturday, February 17, 1945	It was getting hot this morning on the [illegible] really took a beating. One of them took five hits about the size of three inch. We took one in the forward stack. Quite a bit of shrapnel. The skipper got hit pretty bad. I guess he will be relieved from command. One man from Chattanooga got hit pretty bad. This place is going to be like Palau I think. They are buried in. They really been unloading bombs on it. Can't see how anyone could live after that pounding. Looks as if they have hit just about every inch of the island.
Sunday, February 18, 1945	We didn't fire any today. We had the outside screen. We took four men off yesterday. They were hurt rather bad. The captain was hit in several places. One piece in the neck paralyzed him. He went off with the others. The [illegible] has took over for a while. Leaving for Ulithi at 2000 to escort the <i>New York</i> . She lost one of her screws. We have to have emergency work done. Hope the tender can't fix it. Maybe we will get a chance to go back to the states. I guess the Marines have landed on Iwo Jima. They are going to have a tough fight on their hands. Would have liked to stayed and seen this morning's operation. The Jap radio said we tried to land the 17th. We had a few barges out for dems. Boys I guess the LCI [Landing Craft Infantry] really took a beating this time. One of them I seen took 5 hits. 60% of their crew was killed. The <i>Pensacola</i> was hit pretty bad. Ten was killed and twenty wounded. She took hits in the CIC [Combat Information Center] and the hangar decks. We are suppose to be in Ulithi the 22nd. Well one thing about missing the landing. We won't have to watch the Marines go in the place they are landing is all [illegible] The Japs will have a machine gun in every hole there is going to be a lot killed in taking that place. The big shot says take it at all costs. He can say that. He doesn't have to go in. They are supposed to have it secured in 24 hours.
Friday, February 23, 1945	Back in Ulithi. We took on fuel and ammunition yesterday. Came alongside the <i>Cascade</i> this morning. We probably won't be here long.

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Sunday, March 4, 1945	Well we have been in commission one year today. This baby has seen quite a bit in that year. We got a little mail this morning. I didn't get any. I guess they have it all messed up. I guess it is all at Saipan. No one seems to know where we are going from here. They say it is going to be a big operation. Two months or more. Our captain did not come back aboard. Our [illegible] is still in charge. We had quite a stink night before last. The officers had all the space roped off for them so they would have a place to stretch their legs. They expected three hundred men to see the movie in a space where you couldn't get a hundred. Everyone got up and walked out. Boy were they mad. We had quarters at 2000. Some of them got rather wise. I guess they will be sorry one of these days but they rearranged the seats. The movie is for the enlisted men and officers are supposed to be invited. Our [illegible] officer made an ass of himself. We are going back to Iwo Jima to relieve some other [illegible] We are by ourselves.
Thursday, March 8, 1945	What do you know. They don't want us down here. Our orders were fouled up. We have been doing a little firing. We were on GQ all night firing star shells. It is a little cold up here at night. I guess we will go back to Ulithi tonight or tomorrow. Boy they are really pounding the hell out of this place. Planes were bombing and strafing all day yesterday and today. Can't see how anyone could live through it. we are really losing men on this island.
Saturday, March 10, 1945	We fired all day yesterday. Fired five hundred rounds. A fire control officer came aboard for a while. He was in Palau with us. We headed back for Ulithi today. Four other [illegible] are with us.
Saturday, March 17, 1945	Well boy am I happy. My transfer came in yesterday. School in San Diego for 12 weeks. Boy is that lucky. The school does not start till the 28th of May. Maybe I will get 30 days have [illegible] a transfer. The Admiral [illegible] They say it will pull out in the next two days. If so, we should be in San Francisco by the 5th of April.

DATE	EVENT
Sunday, March 18, 1945	I suppose we will pull out tomorrow evening. We stop in Pearl Harbor to unload some and take on more. I am rather anxious to get underway. This waiting around gets on my nerves. She carries around 10,000. This place is going to smell after a week.
Thursday, March 22, 1945	We got underway the 19th at 1500. Should be in Pearl Harbor the 27th. Guess we will have tomorrow. Boy will I be glad to get out of here. No liberty in here.
Thursday, April 5, 1945	Badly damaged by a Japanese kamikaze aircraft on 6 April 1945 off Okinawa, 8 casualties.
Tuesday, May 1, 1945	The end of a good dream that came true.
Thursday, December 6, 1945	USS Leutze decommissioned

USS LEUTZE	
Navy	The US Navy
Type	Destroyer
Class	Fletcher
Pennant	DD 481
Built by	Puget Sound Navy Yard (Bremerton, Washington, U.S.A.)
Ordered	28 Jun 1940
Laid down	3 Jun 1941
Launched	29 Oct 1942
Commissioned	4 Mar 1944
End service	6 Dec 1945
History	Badly damaged by a Japanese kamikaze aircraft on 6 April 1945 off Okinawa, 8 casualties.
	Decommissioned 6 December 1945.
	Stricken 3 January 1946.
	Sold for scrap on 11 February 1947.
Motto	Never Sail, The Lucky Lady
Displacement	2,050 tons
Length	376 ft 6 in
Beam	39 ft
Draft	17 ft 9 in
Propulsion	60,000 shp; geared turbines; 2 propellers
Speed	38 knots (44 mph)
Range	6,500 nm at 15 kn
Armament	5 x 5 in/38 caliber guns

10 x 40 mm AA guns

7x20 mm AA guns

10x21 in torpedo tubes

6 x depth charge projectors

2 x depth charge tracks

Honors

5 battle stars for Wprld War II service

Commanding Officers

Cmdr Berton Aldrich Robbins, Jr. (4 March 1944 - 17 Feb 1945)

Lt. Leon Grabowsky (17 Feb 1945 -)