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R. W. Mindte
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Commander, U.S.N.

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1. January 1941

At 10:00 AM, the first snow of the season fell on the mountain. The snow was very light and melted quickly.

2. January 1941

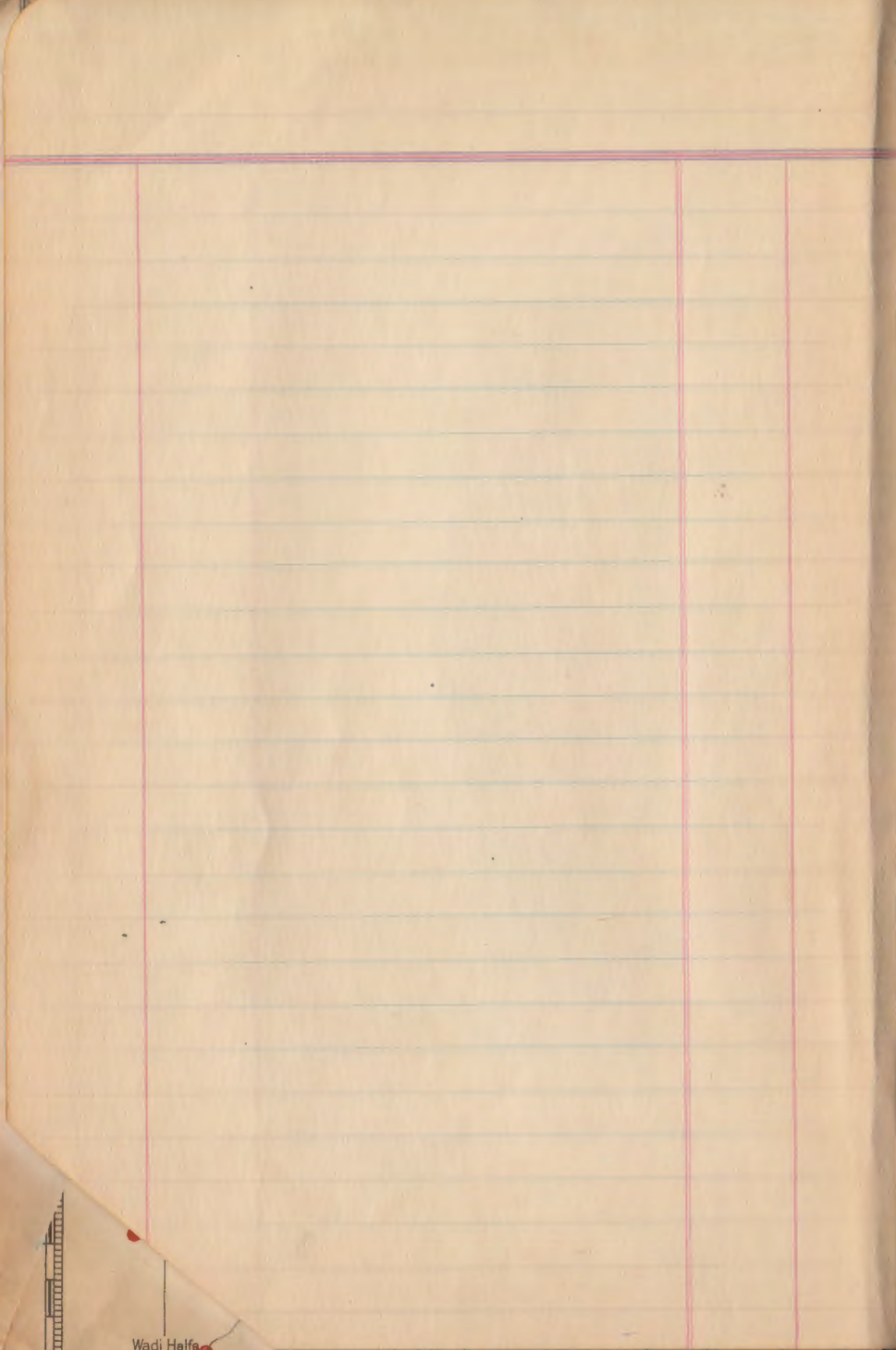
At 10:00 AM, the second snow of the season fell on the mountain. The snow was very light and melted quickly.

3. January 1941

At 10:00 AM, the third snow of the season fell on the mountain. The snow was very light and melted quickly.

4. January 1941

At 10:00 AM, the fourth snow of the season fell on the mountain. The snow was very light and melted quickly.



Wadi: Halfe

1 January, 1940

Holiday Routine. Listened to Rose Bowl Football game and loafed most of the day.

2 January, 1941

Orders for getting underway were cancelled this morning. Conducted Radio Procedure Drill in AM.

3 January, 1941

Conducted test for Speed Key certificates in AM. Received check from U.S. Naval Institute for Discussion. Check came in just in time to be applied to mess bill.

4 January, 1941

We were surprised by an Admiral's Inspection this morning. Fortunately my Division looked excellent.

5 January, 1941

Stayed aboard all day as usual. Practiced on Radio Procedure Drill most of morning. Will get underway tomorrow morning for exercises. Have all arrangements made for Radio work during these exercises.

6 January, 1941

0600 Departed Pearl Harbor for Operating Area. Had 12-1600 O.O.D watch which included some fine practice of giving maneuvering orders while steaming at 24 knots. Two General Quarters today. Will be Safety and check sight observer on #1 5" gun tomorrow.

7 January, 1941

- 0800 General Quarters. Observed + checked sights on #1 5" gun. Believe me they sure make a disturbance when they go off.
- 0900 Conducted examinations for Yeomen and Quarter masters.
- 1330 Manned Radio Officers circuit on 2576 Kcs for drill.
- 1600 -1800 O.O.D. watch. General Quarters again after dinner while conducting search problem. Finally secured from General Quarters at about 2100 and so to bed for I. have the 0400-0800 O.O.D. watch.

8 January, 1941

0400 - 0800 O.O.D. watch during which time we were on a standard zig-zag course. At just before daylight we encountered a darkened ship which turned out to be the BROOKLYN of our forces. Shortly after day-break we were to make a formation like this

QK QB

being astern of H at first we increased speed and attempted to get in position P but due to several complicated movements on the part of the HONOLULU we couldn't make our position and a general mixup ensued.

Spent all of AM giving code tests to Radio Operators. General Quarters and more code tests in PM.

We darkened ship every night at sunset and maneuver the entire night without lights of any kind.

9 January, 1946

0800 1200 OOD watch. Fired QMTBP with 5" guns. 10 rounds each gun on Port side. Forward Director was out and score was not very good.

Radio Officer's drill circuit in PM. Also graded all papers for Radio Operator's examinations. Examinations appeared to be very easy and all hands made good grades.

Darkened ship as usual.

Note: Admiral Kimmel, who gave us a surprise inspection last Saturday, was today appointed Commander-in-chief of the U.S. Fleet. The rank of fleet & probably the most important position of any U.S. military officer.

10 January, 1941

0800 1200 ~~0.0.0~~ ~~watch~~ Aircraft navigation Exercise with contact and amplifist reports which kept me engaged in decoding work

1200 - 1600 O.O.D watch. Dive bombing on target towed by us. Recovered planes about 1400 and proceeded to Pearl Harbor where we moored to buoy at 1700. With 3 tugs it took more than one hour for us to moor.

The air was Blue for the past 20 hours with vitrealic messages from the C.O. of the Helena to our Captain, Criticising him for the manner in which he handled his ship in manoeuvres.

Capt. DuBose who later was promoted to Rear Admiral.

Capt. Hermann Fischer a notoriously poor ship handler.

11 January, 1941

~~1400~~
0000

-0400 O.O.D watch

Captains Inspection. My Division looked good except for two men who failed to have buckets on their jumpers. They were restricted.

Logged + filed confidential mail and did some decode work.

Slept all afternoon.

12 January, 1941

loafed most of morning.

1600 Departed Pearl Harbor for Operating Area.

2000 2400 O.O.D watch. Darkened ship and Zig Zagging in accordance with pre-arranged plans.

Received my first letter since leaving Long Beach on 6 Dec., 1940. A letter from Mother.

13 January, 1941

Ship calibrated Degaussing coils
all morning.

Was taken off of O.O.D. watch
list today in order for me to devote
more time in Radio.

Will take sextant angles of spot-
shots tomorrow for Spotting practice
with 6" guns.

Saw news item concerning the
death of Bill Brown, famous character
of Eastern Oregon. He must have
been quite old at the time of death
for when I knew him in 1923-1924
he was an old gray haired man.

14 January, 1941

Offset Battle Practice in morning.
For this practice the sights of the guns are offset a few degrees. By this means the guns can be aimed directly at the target, which was a cruiser *Thetis*, and the shells will fall ahead of the target.

I observed this practice from the machine gun platform by taking sextant angles between the ship and the splash of the shot. By moving the reflected image of the target ahead a very realistic picture of the action was observed as the splashes fell about the image.

Damage control practice in PM in which various damages to ship and personnel are assumed and provisions made for repairs and replacements. A very instructive and important drill.

15 January, 1941

Conducted OBP with main batteries this AM. 150 rounds of 6" shells were fired at HELENA while she was firing the same at us. Our firing was much superior to hers. Words cannot describe the tremendousness of such an amount of firing. During that time everything else in the world is blanked out of a person's mind and there seems to be nothing but a world of hot flashes, blasts of air, smoke, screaming shells and above it all the tremendous shock and concussion of the guns. The range was about 20,000 yards and it took over 40 seconds for the shells to reach the target. My station was again on the machine gun platform for taking sextant angles between the target ship and the splash of the shot. Out of the 150 shots I could only get about 12 angles because the jar of the guns jerked me around and the air was full of smoke and debris from the loads.

Started Condition II watches at 1900

16 January, 1941

0000 - 0600 Coding board watch, during which time I decoded several signals and spent spare time practicing on the various devices encoding messages

Radio Officers circuit drill at 1300

Conducted a tracking exercise in p.m., tracking U.S.S. HELENA. We determined her course 282° speed 10 knots. Her actual course was 280° speed 10 knots so our RDF tracking was very successful.

We will enter Pearl Harbor tomorrow morning.

17 January, 1941

0830 Arrived Pearl Harbor and tied to buoy.
St. Louis tied alongside later on.

logged and routed confidential
mail in AM.

I have been detailed as Radio inspecting
observer for ST. LOUIS military and
Damage control inspection party
tomorrow.

No mail today!

18 January, 1941

0900 Conducted military + Damage Control inspection of Radio on USS ST LOUIS and found W.T. KELLY RM1C in charge of their Radio Transmitting Room. Kelly came in the Navy as a green former mid + reported aboard the U.S.S. TRACY where I was RM2IC in 1927. I took him under my wing, so to speak, and hadn't seen him since 1928! To make it a complete OLD HOME WEEK I found Ensign Morrell attached to the St. Louis as assistant Radio Officer. He was a RM1C in the NCR at San Francisco back in 1931-1932.

logged and filed, routed, Confidential mail in afternoon.

19 January, 1941

- 0500 Went over to USS ST LOUIS where I remained all day as an observer for their Battle and Damage Control problem, in which several assumed casualties were carried out.
- 1700 Returned to Phoenix via St Louis motor launch
- 1900 Went into condition II and just as I ready to secure at midnight we received two badly garbled messages to decode. Worked on them until 0230

20 January, 1948

This is the 21st. I've missed a day someplace. Guess it was last Sunday. But a day or two missed out here makes very little difference.

Well this morning I did very little. Copied an intercept Radio schedule for a couple of hours. In afternoon I spent about 3 hours setting up a new mechanical Fleet Radio Call List. Very ingenious little outfit but as it is strictly confidential, I can't describe it in detail.

Darken ship every night as usual.

We are acting as target vessel for submarines. We make runs at various speed in certain areas where the submarines are submerged and they fire torpedos at us.

22 January, 1941

Conducted Radio Operators school
in morning.

Division bag inspection in PM.
All emergency drills.
Casualty drill in evening. Radio
needs plenty of drill on this

News today of the British capture
of TOBRUK

23 January, 1941

Spent most of morning in copying
Fox intercept schedules.

Officers Tactical school in PM
also more Foxes. We are still
operating with SUBDIV 15. Will
return to Pearl Harbor tomorrow
afternoon.

24 January, 1941

1300 Arrived Pearl Harbor tied to buoy
with HONOLULU and HELENA. Radio
RO tests during day with logging
and routing of confidential mail.

Received a letter from Lillian

25 January, 1941

Captain's inspection in AM. Capt. complimented me on appearance of my division.

Went ashore in PM. Drank a few beers. Called up Gene Goldrup and he took me out to see KGMP. He is chief engineer of the station. Later went to his place for dinner. Then back down to the Young hotel for a few beers and back to the ship on the 0100 boat.

U. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

26 January, 1941

Just received the distressing news from Martha that her Mother had passed away last week.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

27 January, 1941

Radio Tracking Drill in AM in which we found some glaring weaknesses.

Coding exercise in PM in which I found some glaring weaknesses in my coding ability.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

28 January, 1941

0000-0400 O.O.D. watch.

0600 Departed Pearl Harbor for Operating Area
Radio Officers circuit drill in PM

29 January, 1941

Pencil Copying drill for operators
in AM. Radio contact reports from
four planes

Took some star sights this AM
and they worked out OK although
I found myself rusty already in
Navigation.

30 January, 1941

General quarters and emergency drills all day long. The 3rd section of the radio watch will have a complete 24 hours stretch without turning in.

Got in 2 or 3 hours of various kinds of decode & code work. Gunnery department is preparing for NIGHT BATTLE PRACTICE.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Operating Area

31 January, 1941

Plenty of General Quarters and
Emergency Drills today. Fired spotting
practice for night Battle Practice. A
highly interesting practice fired with the
aid of star shells.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Operating Area

1 February, 1941

Acted as reference ship for ST LOUIS
Day Battle Practice. They did some
very good shooting.

Plenty Emergency Drills & General
Quarters.

2 February, 1941

General Quarters and Emergency
Drills all day.

3 February 1941

General Quarters & emergency drills
all day.

Fired NIGHT BATTLE PRACTICE. The
most remarkable firing I have ever
seen or heard of. I was safety & check
observer in the foretop and had a
first hand view of everything.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

4 February, 1941

Calibrated Radio Direction Finder in
AM. General Quarters and Battle
Problem in PM.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

5 February, 1941

1400 Arrived Pearl Harbor. Moored.

6 February, 1941

Making preparations for Admirals
inspection and Annual Military
and Damage Control Inspection.

7 February, 1941

Thorough Field Day in final
preparation for Admirals Inspection.

8 February, 1941

Captain's Inspection. Division looked good except for some men in signal gang who needed haircuts.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

9 February, 1941

hoated all day

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

10 February, 1941

Admiral heery inspected the ship today. My Division and all spaces looked fine. Graded 3.9

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

11 February, 1941

Loafed most of day. Went over to yard and drew some confidential publications. Received a letter from Verona.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

12 February, 1941

Military and Damage Control Inspection today. Abandon ship, fire drill, collision drill, man overboard, General Quarters and Condition A + B made a full day of it. Admiral Heery was aboard all day.

Letter from Edith Adams.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Ops. Area

13 February, 1941

Division tactical exercises and
Radio Operating School. General
Quarters in PM

14 February, 1941

TRENTON fired OBP with us as a target and they appeared to have done some very fine shooting.

Radio Officers Drill on General Quarters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Operating Rm

15 February, 1941

All planes in bombing practice on target towed by us.

Practiced on oscillator in Radio Room. Have been putting in about 2 hours daily in practice. letter from Edith Adams.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

16 February, 1941

RDF calibration all morning.
Plenty code work in afternoon.

17 February, 1941

Filing confidential letters in
AM. Radio Officers drill in PM.

We took the Trenton in tow this morning
for towing practice.

18 February, 1941

Condition III and II all day today
and will last until we arrive in
Pearl Harbor tomorrow.

19 February, 1941

1400 Arrived Pearl Harbor and moored
Received orders from Edith Adams.
Slept most of the day recuperating
from long watches of Condition II III

20 February, 1941

Another day spent in loafing.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

February
21 ~~January~~, 1941

I hate to admit it but there
was nothing doing today

U.S.S. PHOENIX

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

February
22 ~~January~~, 1941

Went ashore in early afternoon and spent balance of day drinking beer. Met an old high school acquaintance Margaret Mathews. Saw her at Moana and had quite a chat. Last time I saw her was about 1922!!!

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

23 February, 1941

Nothing doing today either.
wrote a couple of letters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

24 February, 1941

Signal, radio and Tactical drill, in
Am.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

25 February, 1941

0630 Departed Pearl Harbor for operating area. Various exercises and manoeuvres enroute to our area.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area.

26 February, 1941

Plenty loading drill for crew.
Bombing practise by planes for
Record bombing tomorrow.

27 February, 1941

Radio officers drill at 1330.

All planes of division (about 18) made bombing attacks by single planes on target towed by us. 100 pound bombs were used and it was quite a demonstration. Some direct hits were made.

28 February, 1941

Target ship for Boise & CAP. they made a very poor score.

Plenty work in code room on confidential Mail.

1 March, 1941

Fired LCBP. Secondary Battery made a fine score. Main Battery not so good.

Fired .50 cal machine gun at target steved towed by plane. Very few hits though.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

2 March, 1941

Calibrated Radio Direction Finder
in morning. Went into Fleet Tactical
Problem at noon and had a good
coding board drill in evening.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

3 March, 1941

High speed tactical exercises
all day. Topped off by Radio
exercise using deliberate interference
and deception.

4 March, 1941

Condition II and III in effect all day. Plenty of Tactical Exercises. Most of Fleet is in this formation. Aircraft and submarine attacks all day. Watch and watch all night

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

5 March, 1941

Destroyer & submarine attack at dawn. Manoeuvred with Fleet all day and arrived in Pearl Harbor at dusk.

letter from Edith Adams.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

8 April, 1941

Routine work in Communications.
Just got word that I am to move
up in a fine room on main deck.
It will be near Radio Room but
is really one of the best rooms on
the ship.

Was awakened at midnight to
get some secret mail from
flagship.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

9 April, 1941

Routine work in Communications.
Had 2000-2400 O.O.D. watch.

10 April, 1941

Ship is being stripped of all unnecessary inflammable material. All curtains, rugs, drapes etc from Ward room and officers quarters must be removed. It certainly makes the place look bare and cold.

11 April, 1941

Continued stripping ship. All officers were requested to ship all but essential civilian clothing home.

Moved into new room today. Think it will be fine.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

12 April, 1941

Clipper mail today. Letter from Martha. Conducted examinations for RVI3C. 2000 - 2400 O.O.D. watch.

Ship is now completely stripped of all unnecessary inflammable material.

J.S.S. Phoenix

Roan Harbor, T.N.

13 April, 1941

Corrected examination papers
today. wrote a few letters
1600-2000 O.O.D. watch.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

14 April, 1941

Had 0400-0800 o.o.d watch
and after cleaning up spent most
of the day sleeping. Also decoded
several messages. Wrote a few
letters and went to movies.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

15 April, 1941

Routine communication duties today.
Made up plan for communication
organization for next weeks
operations.

16 April, 1941

Two mail ships today but no mail for me.

Finishing touches being made on installation of RDF in searchlight tower. This work done entirely by ship's force and they did fine job.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

17 April, 1941

Several letters today including
one from Pvt. Norman B. Wagoner
Signal Corps U.S. Army. Hello soldier!
2000-2400 O.O.D. Watch.

18 April, 1941

0630 Departed Pearl Harbor for operating area. We have a very busy 10 day program ahead of us.

In afternoon entire Fleet in formation fired at dive and high altitude bombing plane targets.

My radio outfit badly mixed up on account of defective receiver.

General Quarters at night to practice defense against night destroyer attacks. Darken ship.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

19 April, 1941

Entire fleet bombarded coastal defenses, which in turn sent 2 US bombers against us. Communications moved smoothly today. Exercises in changing fleet axis during night.

20 April, 1941

Calibrated RDF all day. New location of RDF much better. Sent planes in to Honolulu for mail and I received fine letter from Maritta.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

21 April, 1941

General Quarters twice and various fleet exercises today. Radio Gang functioning better each day.

All preparations made for firing Day Battle Practice tomorrow.

22 April, 1941

Fired Day Battle Practice with Main Battery. Apparently made good score.

Trenton or Concord fired DBP and
∴ Torpedo practice but fired torpedoes
at wrong ship and DBP was poor.

23 April, 1941

Fired 2 strings of AA at target towed by dive bomber. 5" +.50 all firing at target. First run looked fine. Second run target was shot down before run was completed.

Radio officers radio operating drill. Plenty of decoding now going on.

J. S. S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

24 April, 1941

Fired four runs at horizontal high altitude target this morning. Shot 3 of the target sleeves down so it was very good shooting.

Calibrated RDF all afternoon. Plenty decoding today also. Letter from Lt. Comdr. Lloyd Gray.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Opert Area

25 April, 1941

Fired AA Record Practice today with 5" battery and made most remarkable score. Believe we have the best Gunnery outfit in Fleet.

Trenton fired offset battle practice using us as target. In this practice the guns are aimed directly at a ship but the sights are offset enough to allow the shots to fall astern. It is a remarkable sight to see a ship about 15000-20000 yards away firing at you and then watching the splash of the shots as they fall about 500 yards astern. Trenton shots were good but firing was very slow and deliberate.

Will return to Pearl Harbor tomorrow.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

26 April, 1941

1200 Arrived Pearl Harbor and secured
to Buoy. Slept all afternoon

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

27 April, 1941

Went ashore to a movie then
drank a few beers and returned
to ship. There is absolutely nothing
to do over there except drink. The
town is so crowded that there is
no pleasure in going ashore.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

28 April, 1941

Spent entire day wishing that I
hadn't gone ashore yesterday.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

29 April, 1941

Had duty today. Routine
decoding and communication
duties. No air mail

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

30 April, 1941

0000 - 0400 O. O. D watch.

New executive officer reported
aboard.

Two fine letters in mail. Wrote
several letters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

1 May, 1941

Combatfor conducted comm-
unication drill this afternoon. Phoenix
did very good.

Went over to club in evening for a
few beers before dinner.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

2 May, 1941

RDF drill in AM. Routine communication duties.

1600-2000 O.O.D. watch.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

3 May, 1941

0400-0800 O.O.D watch. Captain's inspection. Hoofed all day. Movies in evening and so to bed.

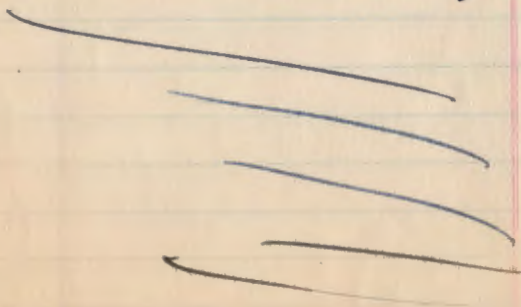
4 May, 1941

Two delightful letters from Martha including one from Vance. Wrote several letters today. Movies in evening. Black out drill for Pearl Harbor.

5 May, 1941

This started out as a routine day
in communication duties. Decoding
messages and routing mail in morning.
Radio Officers drill in PM. Rather a
poor dinner but the day was livened
up with four letters from home. All
very nice letters. Went to movies in
PM and wrote several letters

And then I
got word that
my promotion
came through



6 May, 1941

Signed all papers for my commission as Lieut (jg) today and was sworn in by the captain. Paymaster says that I will receive back pay for this promotion which dates from 7 December, 1940.

Went over to club for a few beers. Back to the ship for dinner and the movies. Wrote several letters and so to bed.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

7 May, 1941

Paymaster fixed me up with
\$424 back pay on my commission!!!
1200-1600 O.O.D watch.

Plenty decoding and mail routing
today.

wrote several letters.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

8 May, 1941

Hard day of work today so went ashore and had a few drinks.

9 May 1941

Routine communication duties.
Went ashore and bought some
clothes and trinkets. Had dinner,
and a wonderful dinner with Lt (jg)
Derickson and Ens. Sorenson.

U.S.S Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.,

10 May, 1941

Captains inspection. 1600-2000
O.O.D watch. Have duty over
entire week end.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

11 May, 1941

1200 - 1600 O.O.D watch.

Complete Blackout drill for Pearl Harbor Tonight.

Ensign Sonenshein was married tonight. He will leave shortly for Boston Navy yard.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

12 May, 1941

0800-1200 o.o.o watch. A long hard watch with plenty of work.

Went ashore for dinner in evening and back to the ship early.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.,

13 May, 1941

Had radio drill this morning
using authenticators and generators.
Very slow but practical.

Made up complete setup for
communications during our coming
exercises.

Received two lovely letters
from Martha and wrote one.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

14 May, 1941

0630 Underway. Departed for Operating Area. About 1130 detached from main body for separate bombardment problem.

Turned in early because General Quarters will be held at 0300

15 May, 1941

Had General Quarters this morning at 0300.

Routine communication duties through day. Communication plan is working smoothly so far.

General Quarters again at 1900 and lasted for 2.5 hours.

16 May, 1941

Plenty of decoding work today.
Started at 0100.

General Quarters in evening.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

17 May, 1941

Today we fueled three destroyers. It was a fine piece of seamanship. Each destroyer came alongside while we were making about 12 knots and took on their fuel without a hitch.

18 May, 1941

Calibrated RDF all day. Received a confidential message last night allotting candidates for 6 months RADAR school in Maine. The only thing that prevented me from going was my new commission. Only ensigns were eligible.

Received a nice letter from Martha today.

Took a few star sights.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

19 May 1941

Morning star sights and regular
sights all day long.

General Quarters for long time in
evening.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

20 May 1941

Routine communication duties during day. Night destroyer attack and General Quarters for 2 hours at night.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

21 May, 1941

Plenty code work today.
Night destroyer attacks with
3 hours general quarters.

22 May, 1941

Fine work out for Radio gang today also plenty work in decoding. Rather strenuous exercises all day including damage control battle problems. However everything was quiet by dark.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

23 May, 1941

Arrived Pearl Harbor about 0930.
Mail ho! Received several nice
letters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

24 May, 1941

Captain's inspection this morning. Division looked very good. Went ashore in the afternoon and bought some shoes, shirts and ties etc. Had dinner down town but it was no good.

Heard news flashes of the sinking of A.M.S. Hood in Northern Atlantic.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

25 May, 1941

loafed and slept most of the day.
Went over to Officers Club for a
couple of drinks before dinner.
Received a couple of letters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

26 May, 1941

Began painting ship dark grey color. RDF tracking drill in AM. Movies in evening and so to bed.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.,

27 May, 1941

Radio Officers drill at 1300.

Listened to President Roosevelt's speech
in which he declared an unlimited
national emergency.

28 May, 1941

Had 0000-0400 O.O.D. watch.

Ship is now painted dark grey, almost black color. Certainly changes the appearance of it.

Went ashore for dinner with Jack Young. Had a nice time.

Letters from Martha and Hugh. Wrote two letters

Saw CRM Reeves ashore tonight. Last saw him on TEXAS in 1927. He was the CRM on SEATTLE + TEXAS while I served on those vessels.

Note:- Dec. 12, 1946

The Tom Reeves mentioned above received posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic work on TALEN 1941. I spent about an hour with him in a bar on the night of 6 Dec. He was killed by a bomb hit on the U.S.S. California while directing some ammunition handlers.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

29 MAY, 1941

RDF Tracking drill in AM.
hoisted all afternoon. Letter from
Mary and Bill. Movies + bed.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

30 May, 1941

Routine communication duties in
AM. 1200 - 1600 O.O.D. watch.
Got confidential msg from USS
ST LOUIS which I couldn't break
down. looks as if it were sent in
wrong setup.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

31 May, 1941

0400-0800 O.O.D. watch. No
Captains inspection. S.S. PANK SHOU
arrived here today so I went over
and visited with Charlie Gray an
old ship mate of mine. Had
dinner down town and came back
to the ship early.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

1 June, 1941

Slept until 1130 today. Two nice letters from Martha. Made up Communication Organizations for exercises 2-10 June.

Movies, wrote a few letters to get out on tonight's mail and to bed early.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

2 June, 1941

0630 Departed Pearl Harbor for Operating Area. Aircraft attacks during day. Night destroyer attacks after dark and General Quarters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper Area

3 June, 1941

Assimilated attacks from carrier based planes this morning. Took fuel while underway from U.S.S. PHATTE in afternoon. Night destroyer attacks. Radio gang functioning very good.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

4 JUNE, 1941

Surprise attack at 0500. Things were humming in Radio for a while but all went well. General Drills in afternoon. Plane mail received 3 letters.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Op. Area

5 JUNE, 1941

RDF Tracking Exercise in AM.
AAMG Practice in afternoon.
Damage control practice in pm.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

6 June, 1941

Fired all 6" Turrets in SRBP
local control for benefit of
Gunnery School now being held
on PHOENIX. Homing & Lost plane
procedure for all planes. General
Quarters for night attacks.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area.

7 June, 1941

Fleet shifted to emergency tactical organization during lunch hour.

General Quarters at night.

Emergency drills in afternoon.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

8 JUNE, 1941

Aviation navigation flights and
mail plane trip to Pearl Harbor.
Received notice that certain units
of the fleet will go back to mainland
for leave and recreation.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

9 June, 1941

Very little radio work today.
Calibrated Rangefinder using shore
based field set for Communications
Fired 3" anti aircraft but score
not very good. Shot sleep down
on first run though.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

10 JUNE, 1941

1100 Arrived Pearl Harbor. Tied to buoy.
Slept all PM and went to movies.
No mail.

11 JUNE, 1941

Mail ho! Two letters from Martha.
Went ashore in evening for a few
beers and dinner.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

12 JUNE, 1941

Tactical school for officers in
AM.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

13 JUNE, 1941

Another rather blank day. Making preparations for Admiral's inspection tomorrow.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

14 JUNE, 1941

Admiral Leary inspected ship this morning. He especially commented on the fine appearance of my division.

Went ashore for dinner in evening and came back early.

15 JUNE, 1941

loafed most of morning. Made up examinations for RN13C & RM2C in afternoon.

Clipper air mail today. Received nice cards from my boys and Martha also letter from Edith Adams.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

16 JUNE, 1944

Blank day. Had 2000-0000 watch

Conducting examinations for
Radio men

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

17 JUNE, 1941

Received plenty mail today from
everyone.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

18 JUNE, 1941

Final word today that we will arrive in Long Beach on the 10th of July. What joyous news for all of us

Went ashore and bought a few trinkets for souvenirs. Had dinner at FELIX, very poor service and meals there.

19 JUNE, 1941

Everyone is excited and talking about our visit to the main land. It certainly will be great to get back.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

20 JUNE, 1941

Slow day. Nothing much doing
except talking about going home.
next month.

21 JUNE, 1941

Preliminary arrangements being made for the crew to take leave upon our arrival in Long Beach. Went ashore in afternoon to buy a few things and returned to the ship for dinner.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

22 JUNE, 1941

What a lazy day. Wrote a couple
of letters and slept all
day.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

23 JUNE, 1941

Damage control school for all
officers. Went ashore in afternoon.
Bought some crabs, squid, and spaghetti.
Took it out to Ens. Reichert's home
and cooked up an Italian dinner.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T. H.

24 JUNE, 1941

Making all preparations for getting underway in morning. We will manoeuvre with Fleet until 3 July and will then leave directly for the main land without returning to Pearl Harbor. Had 1600 - 2000 O. O. D watch today.

25 June, 1941

0700 Underway. Departed Pearl Harbor for Operating Area. Heavy down pour of rain as we left. I guess it is nature's way of washing the soil of Hawaii from our decks.

General Quarters for 3 hours tonight.
Rehearsal runs for Night Battle Practice.

26 JUNE, 1941

Making runs for Gunnery School exercises.

One of our planes broke a wing tip & float in landing this morning and before it could be recovered it was swamped by a heavy sea. The plane turned over but was finally recovered.

General Quarters for 3 hours.

28 JUNE, 1941

Fired Experimental DAP at High Speed target towed by destroyer. Rough seas + wind damaged targets.

General Quarters in evening for three hours. Plenty decoding up until after midnight. Picked up loose target and began towing it to Pearl Harbor.

29 JUNE, 1941

↓
Jd at Maui Range & transferred
ammunition to ST LOUIS. Made runs
most of day on Maui Range to
calibrate De-Gaussing coils.

30 June, 1941

Joined up with fleet and held various exercises. Three ships of fleet have RADARS going all of the time to locate enemy planes. Bearing and distance of planes (enemy) is broadcast continuously and fleet is maneuvered to either avoid planes or to show the best AA fire.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Oper. Area

1 July, 1941

General Quarters at 0430.

Radar searching in AM and PM.
AA Fire from entire fleet
against sleeve targets.

General Quarters at night.

2 July, 1941

Fleet attacked fortified channel against submarine protection in AM. High speed hit and run attacks.

Made out leave request today.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Enroute Hong Beach

3 July, 1941

Was up all night coding and decoding messages. We left the Fleet at 0530 and organized into a task force for our return to the mainland. Received mail from a destroyer early this afternoon. Emergency drills in afternoon and General Quarters at night.

4 July, 1941

Holiday routine today. Decoded few messages but slept most of day. Tonight was the first night since last December that we have been underway with lights on and our purts open. It certainly is a relief.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Enroute Long Beach

5 July, 1941

0400-0800 O.O.D. watch. Trying to qualify as top O.O.D. So volunteered for these watches hoisted and slept all day. Shifted to blue uniforms this evening.

6 July, 1941

0600-0800 O.O.D. watch.

Ship handling drill in AM in which I made a miserable showing. Need plenty of practice on this.

Our time in Long Beach has been extended for four days and a lot of time was spent in revising the leave list for the men.

7 July, 1941

We had a 4 hour full power run this morning. Ran for 4 hours at about 32 knots or about 38.5 miles per hour. 4 hour smoke prevention run at the conclusion of full power run.

After revising leave list we just received word today that our 4 day extension in Hong Beach will probably be cancelled.

Darken ship again tonight for a Destroyer attack.

8 July, 1941

0400-0800 O.C.D. watch. We calibrated Radio Direction Finders all day but I worked on coding and fitting all morning, slept most of the afternoon. It has been overcast & quite cool for the past few days

U.S.S. Phoenix.

Enroute Long Beach

9 July, 1941

Ship handling exercise in AM. Am getting more used to handling ship on turns etc but still have plenty trouble and need practice. Had c 400-0800 O.O.D watch.

10 July, 1941

- 0400 Arrived off San Clemente or Santa Catalina Island and layed to in light fog. We are supposed to bombard some army fortifications before we go in.
- 1023 I^d Long Beach. I had \$24 in I pool and missed \$40 pool by 1 minute. However I won \$10.00 for second prize.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Enroute Hawaii

24 July, 1941

1230 Departed Long Beach for Hawaiian Area after a delightful stay at home

ASTORIA - PHOENIX + DESRON ONE

U.S.S. Phoenix

Enroute Hawaii

25 July, 1941

Routine ship's work.

26 July, 1941

Captain's inspection. Everyone needed a haircut including the Captain so we got off easy.

Ship handling drill for officers in PM. Am getting along better on this now.

27 July, 1941

RDF calibration in AM. Tactical school for officers in PM.

Darken ship at night.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Enroute Hawaii

28 July, 1941

Battle problems all day. Went into organization for exercise with Fleet from Pearl Harbor.

29 July, 1941

General Quarters and Damage Control problem in morning. Damage control school in after noon. Condition III watches.

On this problem we represent a convoy of munition ships escorted by 2 cruisers & several destroyers. We are to attempt to get to Pearl Harbor unobserved or if observed we are to overcome the attacking force.

30 July, 1941

0415 General Quarters.

Condition II all day. We were attacked by high altitude bombers several times today (12,000 to 15,000) and they made remarkable hits on our towed target from that alt. Condition II watches throughout the night.

1 August, 1941

1100 Arrived Pearl Harbor. Our entry was opposed by submarines and fast army dive bombers and it was quite a spectacular attack. Army has some very fast planes.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

2 August, 1941

Damage control problem in morning. Went ashore for dinner and a few drinks

3 August, 1941 .

O.O.D watches over the week
end. A.M.S. Warspite came in for
repairs. Many officers and sailors
went aboard to visit.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

4 August, 1941

Radio officer radio drill in morning. Damage control problems in afternoon.

Made up Com. Plan for exercises next week.

U. S. S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor

5 August, 1941

Went ashore to look for place to live. Had dinner and returned to ship early for movies. Weather has been very hot here since our return.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

6 August, 1941

0700 Departed for operating area. Had practice for lookouts on submarine periscopes, wake etc.

Big fleet battle at night. We were placed out of action early in battle.

7 August, 1941

Fleet attacked by planes all day.
Used RADAR for searching and
tracking.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

8 August, 1941

Maneuvered with fleet to repel aircraft. Horizontal bombers attacked us from 12000-15000 feet and made remarkable scores on target towed behind us.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

9 August, 1941

left Fleet to operate with
CruDiv 9. Rehearsed SRP all day.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

10 August, 1941

Calibrated Range finders today. Using
A ships in a line of bearing with
plane flying along line of bearing
at 9000 feet. All ships taking sextant
angles. Angles will be plotted
against RF ranges.

U.S.S. PHOENIX

HAWAIIAN AREA

11 August, 1941

Sure have a lobster sunburn today from staying out in the sun yesterday calibrating range finders.

Gunnery school exercises and firing most of the day.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Area

12 August, 1941

More Gunnery school firing
in AM. Rehearsed for night
battle practise in evening.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Hawaiian Tree

13 August, 1941

Practiced all morning for NBP.
Made 2 runs of NBP after dark.
Each run lasted about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour
during which time all guns were
firing.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

14 August, 1941

1200 Arrived Pearl Harbor.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

15 August, 1941

1430 Moved alongside Vestal for
overhaul period.

16 August, 1941

Captain's inspection in morning.
He commented very favorably on
the appearance of my divisions.

Went ashore in afternoon. Met
some very congenial people, friends
of Ens. Woods, had dinner and
returned to ship

U.S.S. Phoenix

Roll Horden, T.H.

17 August, 1941

loofed and slept all day.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.,

18 August, 1941

Gave instructions to Prize Crew
in morning. Ashore for dinner
in evening.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

19 August, 1941

Instructed Prize Crew in
morning. O.O.D watch at 2000

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

20 August, 1941

Emergency drills in morning.
Coated all afternoon. Mail
from Martha

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

21 August, 1941

Radio officers conference on Flag -
ships in morning. Went ashore in
evening and had a huge meal.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

22 August, 1941.

Moved away from Vestal to allow
Chester to come along side, after
which we returned to buoy along side
Chester.

Received sudden orders to go to
dry dock tomorrow.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

23 August, 1941

left the ship at day light in motor
launch to go fishing up the coast.
Went about 12-15 miles trolling but no
fish. Got a beautiful sonburn!!

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor, T.H.

24 August, 1941

Slow day. Working in dry dock and
the heat is terrific.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor

25 August, 1941

hoofed most of day. Went ashore
for dinner then to Reicherts for
a few beers and back to ship.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Pearl Harbor

26 August, 1941

Moved out of dry dock this morning. Worked on conf. mail in AM. Damage control school in PM.

27 August, 1941

0630 Departed for Operating Area. Had torpedo plane attack from smoke screen. Very good work on part of attacking force.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Operating Area

28 August, 1941

Fleet exercises all day. Fleet as a whole shot at target towed by plane. General Quarters and Cond II all night.

U.S.S. Phoenix

Operating Area

29 August, 1941

Condition II watches were too
much for me — slept until noon.
Routine communication duties.

30 August, 1941

Ship made practice runs for Short Range Battle Practice all day.

Fleet was placed in emergency organization. Communication department functioned splendidly.

31 August, 1941

We were suddenly ordered back to Pearl Harbor where we tied to buoy at 1400



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

MRS. R. W. MUMFORD

9612 ALEXANDER ST.

SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA

U.S.A.

 A. T. R. W. MUMFORD, U.S.A.

(Sender's name)

 U.S. AIRMAILS

(Sender's address)

1/2 P.M. SAN FRANCISCO

 DECEMBER 20, 1942

(Date)

Sweetheart,

Just received the wonderful picture of you and the boys. It is the best possible gift you could have sent to me. When I look at it I feel so happy and proud of you. You are more beautiful than ever I hear and the boys look grand. This picture is the nearest thing I have of you and it is going to be a great blessing to me.

Tell the boys that I said they look grand and that Daddy is so proud of them. They are the best guys in the world.

I feel closer to you all now and love you more and more every day. All my love to you Sweetheart.

Daddy



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

TO: Mrs. R.W. MURPHY,
9612 ALEXANDER ST.,
SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA,
U.S.A.

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

FROM

Lt. Cmdr. R.W. MURPHY,
U.S. PHOENIX 1/2 FLEET P.O.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

(Sender's complete address above)

March 23, 1944

Sweet heart:
your first letter arrived today, a month since the boy was born. Of course I hear I am delighted with our new son and think you gave him a grand name. We do have a grand family now and I am so much in love with you and proud of you. A more recent letter from Ruth says that you had your appendix removed. I'm so sorry to hear that you had to go through with all of that but now you are in better health. I sent several checks in an air mail letter the other day. So, by all means give Ruth and Hugs something for their kind assistance. Tell me more about Jon Carl in your next letter. Send me some snapshots of all of you as soon as you can.
All my love to you. Dear
Dick

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY
V-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?



Don't show this to ~~no~~ one
it's terrible of me. I must
had been ready to smack
Paul.

TASK FORCE 75

OFFICERS' CLUB

\$10.00 ORGANIZATION FEE

RECEIVED FROM :

Lt. Com. R. W. Mindte

April 4, 1944

B. F. Fairless
B. F. Fairless
Rep. USS Phoenix

USS PHOENIX

Mess Bill

Month 5/44

Amt. 25⁰⁰/₁₀₀

No. 43

Received Payment

George W. Cofferty
MESS TREASURER

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To MRS. R. W. MINDTE,
9612 ALEXANDER ST.,
SOUTHGATE, CALIFORNIA,
U.S.A.

From

LECOMBE, R. W. MINDTE
(Sender's name)
USS ALBATRAZ FLEET P.O.
(Sender's address)
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 16, 1948
(Date)

March 24/48:

Received your V mail letter and a letter from Dick written shortly after. I wrote to Mr. Slide to let him know that any arrangement you made with him would be satisfactory with me. Dick's letter was awfully sweet. I wish he would write more often and also Vance. He should write to me too.

You said that some of my letters are not worth answering and I suppose that is true. Our letters are necessarily dull because of censorship regulations. However, when I send two letters with checks in them I expect an answer or receipt even from my tailor or the Gas and Light Company.

I have received a total of four letters from the entire family since last September, I can stand it though.

My love to you and the boys.

Nick

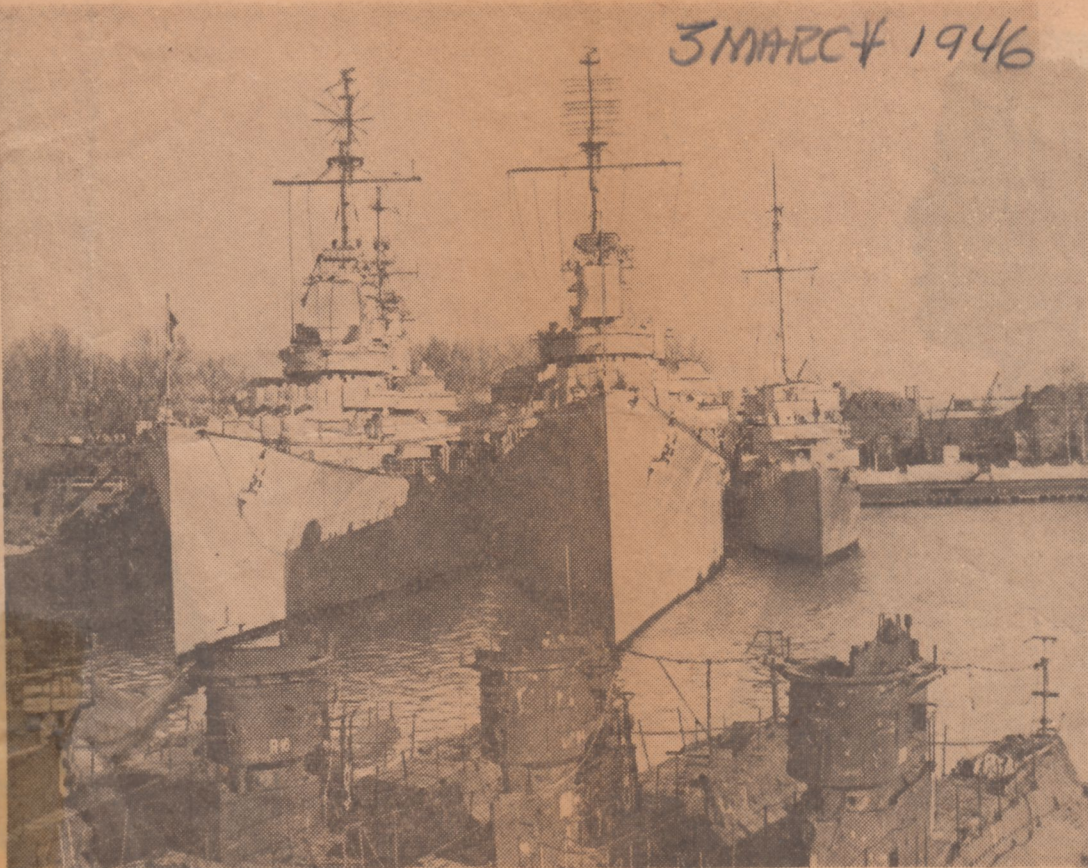
V - MAIL



Message of cessation
of hostilities off
coast of Japan
U. S. S. Klayton
1945

ASSIGNED TO OUR INACTIVE SIXTEENTH FLEET

3 MARCH 1946



The light cruisers Brooklyn (left) and the Phoenix (second from left), moored in the reserve basin at the Navy Yard in Philadelphia, are the first major combat vessels completely preserved and attached to the idle fleet. At right of the cruisers is the H. M. S. Stockham, a destroyer escort that was lend-leased to England. In the foreground are United States submarines, stripped of armament and ready for scrapping.

Associated Press

U.S. OFFERS TO SELL SIX CRUISERS TO THREE ALLIES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—The United States today offered to sell two light cruisers to each of three South American nations—Argentina, Brazil and Chile—for hemisphere defense. The State Department announced the offer. It said that if it is accepted, arrangements will be made for rehabilitating the ships and training crews of the three countries. There is no question but that all three nations will accept.

The sales would be made under the Mutual Defense Act of 1949. That law permits sale of surplus war material for 10% of the gross cost plus expenses for rehabilitation.

Government officials said the United States has offered to sell the Phoenix and the Boise to Argentina, the Brooklyn and the Nashville to Chile, and the St. Louis and the Philadelphia to Brazil.

The State Department said these World War II vessels have been determined to be "in excess of the mobilization reserve requirements of this country."

Mexico to Curb Luxury Imports

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 4 (AP)—The government soon will order almost prohibitive duties on imports of luxury goods, reliable sources close to the Treasury Ministry said today.

Automobiles, for example, will be taxed at from 30% to 40% in addition to a nominal fixed levy, it was said. Mexico recently relaxed sweeping restrictions on imports.

Mexico Orders Prices Frozen

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 4 (U.P.)—The government froze prices today on food, clothing, construction materials, automobiles and scores of other articles.

President Aleman ordered the price freeze, saying it is in "the collective interest" to halt inflation.

The decree freezes the prices of "low-priced automobiles," including Ford, Chevrolet, Plymouth, Dodge, Nash Studebaker and Willys.

Truck prices are also included in the decree.

Admiral Plans Tour

LONDON, Jan. 4 (U.P.)—Adm. Robert B. Carney, Commander in Chief of U.S. naval forces in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, will leave Tuesday on a 16-day tour of Turkey, Greece, Saudi Arabia and Malta, the Navy announced today.

THE EVENING STAR, Washington, D. C. X
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1951

U. S. Presenting First of 2 Ships To Government of Argentine

By the Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 17.—The United States turns over to Argentina today the first of two ships going to the South American country under provisions of the mutual defense assistance program.

A colorful ceremony has been arranged for the Philadelphia naval base for the commissioning of "17 De Octubre," which will be the new name of the light cruiser Phoenix.

Dr. Hipolitia J. Paz, Argentine Ambassador of the United States, will speak. So will Archibald R. Randolph, chief of the State Department's Bureau of Inter-American Affairs. A dozen Argen-

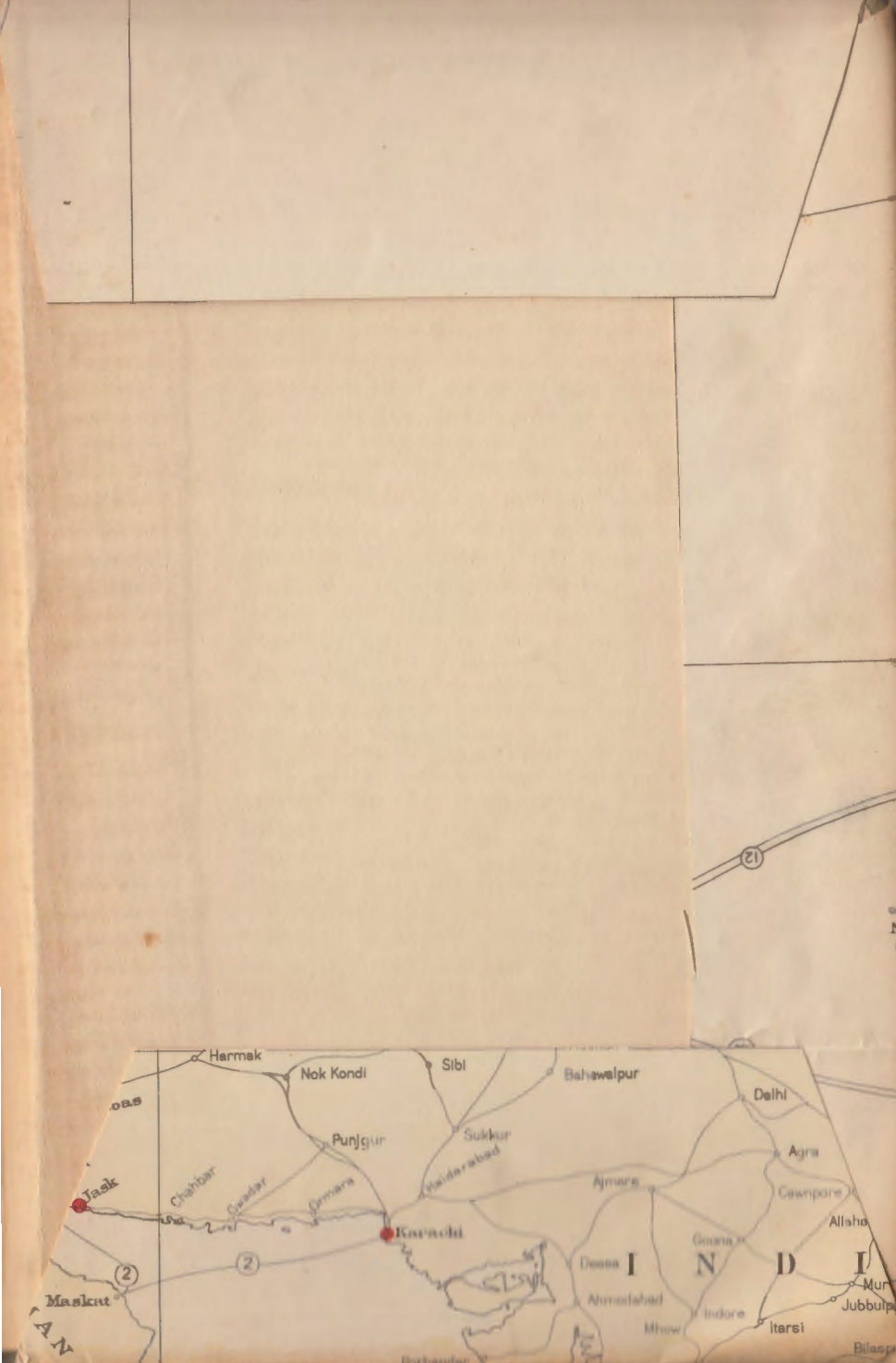
tine military officials will attend.

The United States will later turn over to Argentina, the light cruiser Boise, which will be known as "9 De Julio."

On October 17, 1945, Juan Peron emerged as a leader of Argentine, promulgating "the ending of economic, social and political domination" of Argentina "by interests foreign to the ideals of the country."

The exact price of the Phoenix to the Argentine government is not known, but terms of the assistance program were that the cost would be 10 per cent of the original price. This would make the sale price somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2 million.

19 51



12

Harmak

Nok Kondi

Sibi

Bahawalpur

Delhi

obs

Punjabur

Sukkur

Agra

Taak

Chahbar

Qambar

Dimana

Chandrarabad

Ajmere

Cawnpore

(2)

(2)

Karnachi

Gonna

Allaha

Masrut

Deesa

Indore

Mur

Jubbulp

AN

Amrohad

Mhow

Indore

Itarsi

Bilasp

Barkand

Bilasp



ANGLO

EGYPTIAN

SUDAN

ETHIOPIA
(Abyssinia)

UGANDA

KENYA

TANGANYIKA

TANGANYIKA
TERRITORY

BRITISH
SOMALILAND

ITALIAN SOMALILAND

LAKE
NYASSA

LAKE
NYANZA

LAKE
TANGANYIKA

WIDE
FERTILE
PLAINS

MAJUNGA

10°

0°

10°

10°

14

13

13

13

17