

U. S. S. OKLAHOMA CITY (CL91)

CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE
San Francisco, Calif.

Serial: 075
CONFIDENTIAL

12 JUN 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: War Diary for the Month of May 1945.

Reference: (a) PacFlt Conf. Ltr. 1CL-45

1. The War Diary for this vessel, covering the period
1 - 31 May 1945, is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

1 May 1945: U.S.S. OKLAHOMA CITY (CTU 12.9.1) and U.S.S. TOPEKA steaming in company as Task Unit 12.9.1, in accordance with Commander Panama Sea Frontier despatch 201345 of April 1945, routed via VIOLETS in accordance with Commander Panama Sea Frontier despatch 231520 of April 1945. 0530 V Exercised at dawn general quarters. Once during each daylight watch exercised at burst firing practice with TOPEKA. Base course 285°(T) speed 20 knots. 1800 V Changed all clocks to zone time "VW". 2300 VW Changed base course to 270°(T), changed speed to 16 knots. Passing through ALENUIHAHA CHANNEL, T.H.

0800: 21°08', 151°49'; 1200: 21°00', 152°45'15"; 2000: 20°30'25", 155°36'

2 May 1945: 0510 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. In accordance: with CinCPac Pearl despatch 010209 of May 1945, exercised at following training during the day: 1030 VW Fired AA practice at towed sleeve; 1228 VW Held fighter direction exercise; 1434 VW Fired main and secondary battery surface practice. Ammunition expended:

60 rounds 6"/47 projectiles
288 rounds 5"/38 projectiles
221 rounds 40mm
453 rounds 20mm

1723 VW Commenced steaming on various courses at various speeds while approaching swept channel entrance. 1750 VW Passed between anti-submarine net entrance. 1837 VW Moored port side to U.S.S. ALGOR in berth X-ray 20, Middle Loch, Pearl Harbor, T.H. Task Unit 12.9.1 dissolved and OKLAHOMA CITY and TOPEKA reported to Commander Cruisers, Pacific Fleet in OKLAHOMA CITY despatch 030127 of May 1945.

0800: 20°19'09", 158°10'05"; 1200: 20°40'7", 158°10'05"

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CL91/ A12-1

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3 May 1945: Moored as before.

4 May 1945: 0850 VW Underway for training program in Hawaiian Operating Areas with TOPEKA in accordance with Commander Cruisers, Pacific Training Schedule. 1332 VW Fired main battery radar calibration exercise. Ammunition expended:

23 rounds 6"/47 projectiles

1525 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise. Ammunition expended:

103 rounds 5"/38
218 rounds 40mm
100 rounds 20mm

2001 VW Fired night anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

131 rounds 5"/38
168 rounds 40mm

5 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. 0644 VW OKLAHOMA CITY assumed OTC. 0700 VW U.S.S. DULUTH joined formation. 0842 VW Fired anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

65 rounds 5"/38
78 rounds 40mm
65 rounds 20mm

1303 VVI Fired anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

119 rounds 5"/38
638 rounds 40mm
2,782 rounds 20mm

1505 VW Held fighter direction exercise. 2013 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise at drone. Ammunition expended:

121 rounds 5"/38

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6 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. 0825 VW Held anti-aircraft firing exercises during the morning. Ammunition expended:

217 rounds 5"/38
829 rounds 40mm
390 rounds 20mm

1355 VW Commenced firing cruiser qualification shore bombardment practice on KAHOO LAWE ISLAND. Ammunition expended:

49 rounds 6"/47
81 rounds 5"/38
855 rounds 40mm
471 rounds 20mm

2304 VW U.S.S. HANNAH and U.S.S. CROSS took stations as anti-submarine screen in accordance with Commander Cruisers Pacific despatch 060136 of May 1945.

7 May 1945: 0630 VW HANNAH and CROSS proceeded independently. 0738 VW Commenced firing second phase of cruiser qualification shore bombardment exercise. Ammunition expended:

43 rounds 6"/47
146 rounds 5"/38
48 rounds 40mm
161 rounds 20mm

1829 VW Moored to buoy in berth X-ray 19, Middle Loch, Pearl Harbor, T.H.

8 May 1945: 0843 VW Underway for Navy Yard availability in accordance with Commander Service Force, Pacific despatch 070109 of May 1945. 0923 VW Moored port side to pier Baker 15, Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, T.H.

9-11 May 1945: Moored in Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, T.H., for navy yard availability.

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12 May 1945: 0813 VW Underway for training program in Hawaiian Operating Areas with TOPEKA in accordance with Commander Cruisers, Pacific Training Schedule. 1050 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise. Ammunition expended:

164 rounds 5"/38
60 rounds 40mm
173 rounds 20mm

1445 VW Fired Day Battle Practice. Ammunition expended:

22 rounds 6"/47

2014 VW Fired night anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

14 rounds 5"/38
266 rounds 40mm

13 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. 1107 VW Fired TDD exercise. Ammunition expended:

1 round 5"/38
354 rounds 40mm
697 rounds 20mm

1405 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise at drone. Ammunition expended:

83 rounds 5"/38

1930 VW Exercised at repelling coordinated day and night air attacks.

14 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. 0917 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise at drones. Ammunition expended:

166 rounds 5"/38

1311 VW Fired shore bombardment practice on KAHOOLAWA ISLAND. Ammunition expended:

27 rounds 6"/47"
104 rounds 5"/38
264 rounds 40mm

2000 VW Exercised at repelling simulated motor torpedo boat attack.

U. S. S. OKLAHOMA CITY (CL91)

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12 JUN 1945

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15 May 1945: 0447 VW Exercised at general quarters repelling simulated night air attack. 1127 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise. Ammunition expended:

97 rounds 5"/38
44 rounds 40mm
228 rounds 20mm

1512 VW In accordance with Commander Cruisers, Pacific despatch 131936 of May 1945, moored port side to berths W1 and W2, Naval Ammunition Depot, West Lock, Pearl Harbor, T.H. 1559 VW Commenced handling ammunition and completed at 2235 VW.

16 May 1945: Moored as before.

17 May 1945: 0823 VW Underway for training in Hawaiian Operating A in accordance with Commander Cruisers, Pacific Training Schedule. 1041 VW Fired anti-aircraft exercise. Ammunition expended:

108 rounds 5"/38
720 rounds 40mm
639 rounds 20mm

1306 VW One SC-1 aircraft crashed while attempting "Charlie" recovery. Pilot recovered uninjured and plane sunk by 40mm gunfire. 1448 VW Fired main battery battle practice. Ammunition expended:

39 rounds 6"/47

1619 VW Held fighter direction exercises. 1626 VW Joined up with TOPEKA taking position 1,000 yards astern of her. 2008 VW Fired night anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

88 rounds 5"/38
727 rounds 40mm

18 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters and held tracking exercise with TOPEKA. 1007 VW Exercised at TDD firing. Three drones expended. Ammunition expended:

1526 rounds 40mm
1357 rounds 20mm

CL91/ A12-1

U. S. S. OKLAHOMA CITY (CL91)

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Serial: 075
CONFIDENTIAL

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1510 VW Fired anti-aircraft at drone. Ammunition expended:
46 rounds 5"/38

1930 VW Exercised at simulating repelling of air attack.

19 May 1945: 0525 VW Exercised at dawn general quarters. 0810 VW Fired anti-aircraft practice. Ammunition expended:

2,041 rounds 40mm
2,568 rounds 20mm

1035 VW Held visual fighter direction exercise. 1231 WI Fired anti-aircraft at TDD. Two drones expended. Ammunition expended:

730 rounds 40mm
676 rounds 20mm

1533 VW Moored port side to U.S.S. AMSTERDAM in berth X-ray 19, Middle Loch, Pearl Harbor, T.H.

20 May 1945: 0732 VW AMSTERDAM got underway and stood out of the harbor. 1820 VW U.S.S. COLUMBIA moored alongside to starboard.

21 May 1945: Moored as before.

22 May 1945: 1353 VW Underway in accordance with CinCPac Pearl despatch 210050 of May 1945, which formed Task Unit 12.5.2 consisting of TOPEKA and OKLAHOMA CITY, Commander Task Unit 12.5.2 being Commander Cruiser Division 18 (Rear Admiral Holden) in TOPEKA, and in accordance with Commander Cruiser Division 18 Maneuvering Order 1-45. En route Pearl Harbor to Ulithi. Exercised at anti-aircraft training exercises throughout afternoon and evening. Ammunition expended:

304 rounds 5"/38
1,440 rounds 40mm
866 rounds 20mm

2312 VW Base course set at 258°(T), speed 20, OKLAHOMA CITY 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA.

2000: 20°59', 159°03'

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23-31 May 1945: Exercised at dawn general quarters each morning with radar tracking drill taking place at that time. Tactical maneuvering drill was held each afternoon for one hour or more.

23 May 1945: 0107 VW Opened out from TOPEKA in order to check Mark 12 radar. 0218 VW Resumed station. 1538 VW Changed course to 260°(T), speed 18 and assumed guide, the TOPEKA in position bearing 060°(T) at 2,000 yards. 1700 VW Set all clocks back to zone time "WX". 1830 WX Set all clock back to zone time "X". 2220 X Changed course to 240°(T) to avoid interfering with night aircraft recovery by U.S.S. BON HOMME RICHARD (CTU 12.5.1), U.S.S. MOALE, and U.S.S. RINGGOLD. 2240 X Changed course to 260°(T), speed 18 knots.

0800: 20°16', 163°27'; 120: 19°58' 164°22'; 2000: 18°17', 167°03'

24 May 1945: 1011 X Fired anti-aircraft TDD exercise. Ammunition expended:

1,703 rounds 40mm
3,189 rounds 20mm

1700 X Set all clocks back to zone time "Y". 2040 Y Changed base course to 258°(T), speed 21 knots.

0800: 18°49', 171°11'; 1200: 18°42', 171°56'; 2000: 18°06', 174°22'

25 May 1945: 0845 Y Fired main battery offset practice with TOPEKA. Ammunition expended:

12 rounds 6"/47

0935 Y Held radar tracking exercise. 1022 Y Resumed station 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA. 1715 Y Changed base course to 256°(T). 2400 Y Set all clocks back to zone time "L".

0800: 17°17', 178°34'; 1200: 16°54', 179°47' 2000: 16°18', 178°01'

26 May 1945: Omitted upon crossing the international date line.

CL91/ A12-1

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27 May 1945: 0751 L Catapulted two aircraft. 0832 L Fired offset
battle practice with TOPEKA. Ammunition expended:

40 rounds 6"/47

0955 L Completed recovery of aircraft. 1532 L Fired anti-aircraft TDD
exercise. Ammunition expended:

63 rounds 5"/38
577 rounds 40mm
1,156 rounds 20mm

1822 L Changed base course to 253°(T).

0800: 15°13', 173°52'; 1200: 15°04', 173°08'; 2000: 14°29', 170°42'

28 May 1945: 0910 L Fired anti-aircraft TDD exercise. Ammunition
expended:

34 rounds 5"/38
235 rounds 40mm
466 rounds 20mm

1700 L set all clocks back to zone time "K".

0800: 13°17', 166°42'; 1200: 12°57', 165°36'; 2000: 12°13', 163°29'

29 May 1945: 0923 K Fired anti-aircraft TDD exercise. Ammunition
expended:

5 rounds 5"/38
197 rounds 40mm
360 rounds 20mm

1453 K Changed base course to 2800(T).

0800: 11°44', 159°38'; 1200: 12°05', 158°38'; 2000: 12°08', 156°43'

CL91/ A12-1

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30 May 1945: 0948 K Changed base course to 250 (T). 0950 K Maneuvered independently while exercising at streaming and recovering paravanes. 1132 K Took station 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA. 1335 K Fired anti-aircraft TDD exercise. Ammunition expended:

506 rounds 40mm
926 rounds 20mm

1700 K Set all clocks back to zone time "J".

0800: 13°05', 152°26'; 1200: 12°51', 151°42'; 2000: 12°08', 149°25'

31 May 1245: 2035 J Changed base course to 261°(T).

C. B. HUNT.

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