

WAR DIARY  
OF  
U.S.S. ROBINSON

- 1/31/44 USS ROBINSON placed in commission in Seattle, Washington.
- 2/18/44 Underway IAW ComTaskFor 14.5 secret movement order, enroute to San Diego, Calif., to report to COTCPac for shakedown.
- 2/21/44 Arrived San Diego. Moored.
- 2/23/44 Commenced operations and training at sea.
- 2/25/44 Proceeded to San Diego for emergency repairs to port and starboard main throttle valves and one main lube oil pump.
- War Diary for period 3/1/44-3/31/44 missing.
- 4/1/44 Undergoing post-shakedown availability at Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Washington.
- 4/11/44 Underway for San Francisco.
- 4/15/44 Arrived San Francisco. Moored.
- 4/16/44 Underway for Pearl Harbor.
- 4/18/44 Picked up echo ranging contact and dropped eleven depth charges. Result: One large dead fish.
- 4/21/44 Arrived Pearl Harbor. Moored.
- 4/22/44 Underway to conduct sub search for contact previously made by USS NORMAN SCOTT.
- 4/23/44 Returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 4/24/44-4/29/44 Underway conducting various training exercises and as part of Task Unit 19.1.4 (USS YARNELL and ROBINSON), serving as anti-sub screen and plane guard for USS WASP.
- 4/30/44 Returned to Pearl Harbor.
- 5/29/44 Underway in company with Task Unit 52.12.1, acting as outer anti-submarine screen.
- 6/8/44 Arrived Eniwetok, M. I. for refueling and provisions.
- 6/11/44 Departed Eniwetok, M. I.; screening for Task Group 51.18 west of Saipan. (Task Group 51.18 subsequently redesignated 52.15.)
- 6/22/44 Departed Task Group 52.15 in company with USS MCNAIR, ELLIOTT and BELLATRIX to join Task Unit 51.18.18, enroute to Eniwetok.  
USS MORGAN (CG)

- 6/26/44 Arrived Eniwetok. Anchored.
- 7/1/44 Departed Eniwetok in company with USS GRANT and DEEDE as screen for Task Unit 57.18.5 enroute to Saipan. *USS LONE VICTORY (CTU)*
- 7/6/44 Arrived Saipan and reported to Commander Task Unit 52.12 for duty. Commenced anti-sub patrol northwest of Saipan.  
Several air attacks occurring over Saipan. One plane taken under fire by this vessel with negative results.
- 7/7/44 Launched motor whale boats to rescue troops from north reef of Tanapag Harbor. Troops had been cut off from their own support during a Japanese attack which over ran their positions. Few had survived the attack and many wounded remained on the beach. Enemy air activity over Saipan continues. *USS LEESVILLE*
- 7/10/44 Conducting anti-sub patrol northwest of Maniagassa Island. About 4 miles from Maniagassa Island observed approximately 150 bodies of Japanese troops in various stages of decomposition. *USS SHARPLEY, SHAW, PHILLIPS*
- 7/11/44 Provided illumination fire over Marpi Point. *USS ROYAL*
- 7/12/44 Proceeded to transport area to effect emergency repairs. Anchored. Underway to return to anti-sub patrol duty. *USS BEAUMONT*
- 7/17/44 Disembarked CO and gunnery officers for inspection of results of naval gunfire on Saipan targets. Inspection revealed naval gunfire had been very effective. *USS TOWN OF BRISTOL*
- 7/22/44 Commenced harassing fire mission on Tinian. Concluded fire and returned to anti-sub patrol duties. *USS BRADY*
- 7/25/44 Made underwater sound contact. Expended 10 depth charges on what was believed to be a false sound contact. *USS STONE*
- 7/26/44 Proceeded to Saipan anchorage to effect emergency engine repairs.
- 7/27/44 Underway conducting anti-sub patrol. *USS CONY*
- 7/29/44 Delivered call fire on Tinian. Supported minesweeping ops in Asiga Bay. Returned to anti-sub patrol. *USS MUSTARD*
- 7/30/44 Proceeded to transport area at Tanapag Harbor for mail pick-up. Continued problems in receiving mail is effecting morale. *USS*
- 7/31/44 Screening for Task Unit 51.18.7 enroute for Eniwetok. *USS WALLER*
- 8/3/44 Arrived Eniwetok. *USS*
- 8/6/44 Departed Eniwetok enroute for Guadalcanal. Crossed equator and held appropriate ceremonies.
- 8/7/44 Altered destination to Noumea, New Caledonia.
- 8/9/44 Arrived at Noumea to undergo routine overhaul.

- 8/22/44 Departed Noumea, New Caledonia enroute to Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides.
- 8/23/44 Arrived at Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides and reported to Commander Task Unit 32.19.1 for duty.
- 8/24/44 Departed Espiritu Santo enroute to Purvis Bay, Florida Island, British Solomon Islands.
- 8/26/44 Arrived at Purvis Bay and reported to Commander Task Group 32.19.
- 9/6/44 Underway in company with Task Group 32.5 enroute to Palau. Providing anti-sub screen.
- 9/12/44 Approaching Peleliu Island, Palau Island Group. Formed screen for bombardment group. Manned battle stations for close fire support of UDTs on southwestern beaches of Peleliu. Supported operations through 9/16/44.
- 9/17/44 Commenced patrol to seaward.
- 9/19/44-9/30/44 Supported operations on Peleliu and Angaur.
- 10/1/44 Enroute to Manus, Admiralty Islands. Moored.
- 10/12/44 Underway to sortie with Task Group 77.2 enroute to Leyte. Providing anti-sub screen.
- 10/17/44 Passed through Surigao Strait and commenced bombardment on Dinagat Island, Phillipine Islands.
- 10/18/44 Supporting minesweeping ops in Leyte Gulf.
- 10/19/44 USS ROSS struck 2 mines causing extensive damage. Providing screen for battleships and cruisers on bombardment missions.
- 10/20/44 Commenced bombardment on eastern beach area of Leyte and on town of Rizal. Took enemy torpedo bomber under fire with negative results. Provided illumination fire on Leyte.
- 10/22/44 Patrolling off eastern shore of Leyte. Rescued fighter pilot who crashed about 1000 yards ahead.
- 10/24/44 Supporting ops on Leyte. Task Group 77.2 now being maneuvered into position to intercept Japanese Task Force reported to be steaming up Surigao Strait south for Leyte Gulf.
- 10/25/44 Contact made with Japanese Task Force and attack on enemy battleline was commenced. US ships organized in 3 attack sections with USS ROBINSON leading 2d section on attack directed on the leading heavy ship of the Japanese column. Maneuvered to within 8300 yards and fired 5 torpedoes with one, possibly two, hits. Retired to northwest and proceeded toward prearranged rendezvous with 3d attack section. Joined remainder of light forces in pursuit of damaged enemy who was now retiring southward. USS GRANT

suffered heavy damage. Large group of Japanese survivors sighted in water but attempts to rescue unsuccessful due to unwillingness of Japanese to accept assistance. One survivor willingly surrendered. Several Japanese ships observed burning were subsequently sunk by our cruiser fire. Retired from Surigao Strait into Leyte Gulf. Two air attacks with negative results. Task Group 77.2 remained at battle stations throughout the night in anticipation of encountering enemy surface and air units which had been in action with Task Group 77.4 off the east coast of Samar during the day.

- 10/26/44 Secured from battle stations. Transferred POW. Took enemy aircraft under fire with negative results. Operating as a covering force for friendly shipping in and near Leyte Gulf and denying enemy entry to Gulf via Surigao Strait.
- 11/1/44 Operating with Task Group 77.1 (USS MISSISSIPPI, CALIFORNIA, PENNSYLVANIA, NASHVILLE, BOISE, PHOENIX, HMAS SHROPSHIRE, Destroyer Squadron 56 less ROSS and GRANT plus additional DDs). Enemy dive and torpedo bombers mounted determined attack. Suicide attacks made on AMMEN, CLAXTON and ABNER READ. ABNER READ was sunk and three other ships heavily damaged. Presence of US fighter cover might have prevented such damage.
- 11/4/44 Conducting anti-sub patrol in Surigao Strait.
- 11/7/44 Relieved of patrol duty and joined Task Group 77.1 to provide anti-sub screen.
- 11/16/44 Commenced fire on enemy aircraft. Destroyed one plane. Departed Leyte Gulf enroute to Manus, Admiralty Islands with Task Group 77.1.
- 11/21/44 Anchored at Seeadler Harbor, Manus, Admiralty Islands.
- 11/28/44 Departed Admiralty Islands enroute to Leyte Gulf with Task Group 77.1.5.
- 12/2/44 Joined Task Group 77.2. Enroute to Kossol Passage, Palau Island Group.
- 12/4/44 Anchored at Kossol Passage. Became part of Task Unit 77.12.1.
- 12/10/44 Underway enroute to Sulu Sea as supporting group for amphibious assault on Mindoro, Phillipine Islands.
- 12/13/44 Air attack. USS HARADEN hit by suicide dive bomber and retired to Leyte.
- 12/14/44 Air attacks continue althe none made on ROBINSON.
- 12/15/44 Air attacks continue. ROBINSON participates.
- 12/17/44 Enroute Kossol Passage, Palau Island Group.
- 12/19/44 Arrived Kossol Passage.

R-AR-11

- 12/20/44 Departed Kossol Passage enroute to Manus, Admiralty Islands with Task Group 77.12. USS *REPUBLICAN*
- 12/23/44 Arrived Seeadler Harbor, Manus, Admiralty Islands.
- 12/31/44 Underway enroute to Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Phillipine Islands. with Task Unit 79.11.1 in the screen of transport group ABLE of Task Group 79.1. USS *ADRIAN*, *ACKIN*, *LOMBARD*, *HARRIS*, *BENVENUE*, *SCHUYLKILL*
- 1/6/45 Air attack. Enemy plane shot down by US fighters 1000 yards astern of ROBINSON. Sighted life raft. Found bodies of two Japanese pilots.
- 1/8/45 Air attack. Results negative.
- 1/9/45 Approaching landing areas of Lingayen Gulf. Several attempts made by enemy aircraft to attack formation but they were successfully driven off. Anchored 3 miles from Point Easy, Lingayen Gulf, Luzon.
- 1/10/45 Small Japanese boat came along port side and set off explosive charge under water close aboard. Minor damage. Underway. Took Japanese boat under fire with negative result. Other small boat attacks sunk one LST and seriously damaged USS WARHAWK. Air attack. Negative results. USS *MT ALBATROSS*
- 1/12/45 Air attack. Negative results. Departed Lingayen Gulf.
- 1/13/45 Air attack. Japanese dive bomber observed diving into USS ZEILIN. USS *APPALACHIAN*, *ZEILIN*
- 1/16/45 Entered San Pedro Bay, Leyte.
- 1/18/45 Departed Leyte Gulf enroute to Hollandia, New Guinea in company with USS COMET.
- R-ARR-5  
R-ARR-4  
1/23/45 Entered Humboldt Bay, Hollandia, New Guinea.
- 1/30/45 Departed Hollandia enroute to Leyte. USS *WINDWARD*, *TELEGRAPH*
- 2/3/45 Arrived San Pedro Bay, Leyte.
- 2/8/45 Departed Leyte Gulf via Surigao Straits in company with Task Unit 78.12.10. Stood into Lingayen Gulf. Task Unit dissolved. USS *BLAKE RIDGE*, *UNDERWOOD*, *STRIPED*, *HARDY*, *BLACKWOOD*, *CHEMICAL*, *ROSE*, *DRAYTON*, *MEADE*
- 2/20/45 Reported to CTU 78.11.12. Enroute to Subic Bay, Luzon. *PHILIP*
- 2/21/45 Arrived Subic Bay. Anchored. Underway enroute to Mangarin Bay, Mindoro, Phillipine Islands. USS *STEADFAST*
- 2/23/45 Entered Mangarin Bay. Enroute to San Pedro Bay.
- 2/26/45 Arrived San Pedro Bay. Underway enroute to Mangarin Bay. *THAS*, *EM*
- 3/1/45 Arrived Mangarin Bay.
- 3/8/45 Underway enroute to Zamboanga, Mindanao, P. I.

- 3/10/45 Left formation for station off Caldera Point, Zamboanga Peninsula and subsequent fire support. *USS SERRANO, MEDALLA, WALKER, SAUNDERS*
- 3/16/45 Bombarding Isabela, Basilan Island, P. I.
- 3/17/45 CDR Ray E. MALPASS reported aboard to relieve CDR. Elonzo B. GRANTHAM, Jr. as CO, USS ROBINSON. Patrolling 7 miles west of Santa Cruz Bank.
- 3/18/45 Firing on targets in Gumularang Island and Malamaui Island. Continued anti-sub patrol.
- 3/20/45 Anchored at Santa Cruz Bank. Change of command occurs.
- 3/25/45 Underway enroute to San Pedro Bay.
- 3/27/45 Anchored at San Pedro Bay. Undergoing repairs by tender.
- 4/9/45 Enroute to Mangarin Bay, Mindoro, P. I.
- 4/10/45 Arrived Mangarin Bay. *USS MEDALLA*
- 4/14/45 Underway. Commenced anti-sub patrol. Colors lowered to half-mast for 30 days in mourning for Pres. Roosevelt. Enroute to Malabang-Parang-Catabato area, Mindanao, P. I.
- 4/16/45 Rescued two marines from aircraft. Patrolling Polloc Harbor. *USS LISA T-11*
- 4/21/45 Enroute Mangarin Bay. *USS AUSBURNE*
- 4/25/45 Arrive Mangarin Bay. Depart for Polloc Harbor. *JS WATHAMER, INDEWELL, EDWARDS*
- 4/28/45 Arrive Polloc Harbor. Depart for Tawi Tawi Bay, Sulu Archipelago, P. I.
- 4/30/45 Anchored Tawi Tawi Bay.
- 5/1/45 Depart for Muara Batagao, Tarakan, Borneo with USS WINOOSKI.
- 5/2/45 Anchored at Muara Batagao. *USS WINOOSKI, BRANTON*
- 5/4/45 Conducted shore bombardment of Tarakan Island. Anchored at Muara Batagao.
- 5/5/45 Underway for sortie with TU 78.1.96, composed of empty assault shipping, retiring to Morotai, Netherlands East Indies. *USS WALLER, FORMER*
- 5/11/45 Anchored at Morotai.
- 6/4/45 Departed Morotai, Netherlands East Indies in company with Task Group 78.1 enroute to Brunei Bay, British Northwest Borneo to conduct amphibious assault. *USS BRANTON, HOWEY, EDWARDS, BRANTON, GRANT, KELLEN*
- \* 2-1  
6/10/45 Entered Brunei Bay and commenced assault. Provided anti-sub screen. *USS LEVY, BARBERS, HOWEY, HOWEY, CLEVELAND, NASHVILLE*
- 6/19/45 Entered Tawi Tawi Anchorage. Departed enroute for Morotai. Anchored *USS PHILLIP*

6/23/45 Began rehearsal for amphibious assault against Balikpapan, Borneo. *USS WASHINGTON, CHAFFIN*

6/26/45 Underway in company with Task Group 78.2 enroute to Balikpapan, Borneo to conduct an amphibious assault.

7/1/45 Commenced patrolling as anti-submarine screen off Balikpapan, Borneo. *USS NEWMAN*

7/9/45 Two British Liaison Teams reported on board for temporary duty. *USS KEY*

7/10/45 Anchored at Signal Hill, Balikpapan, Borneo and transferred British Liaison Team to USS NEWMAN and one to USS CHEPACHET. Resumed anti-sub patrol. *USS THOMAS, FROELICH*

7/11/45 Rescued sailor who fell overboard from USS SAUFLEY. *USS SAUFLEY*

7/14/45 Ceased patrolling and proceeded to rendezvous with Task Unit 78.2.71 to act as escort. Escorted to anchorage and returned to anti-sub patrol.

7/15/45 Departed Balikpapan, Borneo enroute to Morotai, Netherlands East Indies. *USS COMBAT*

7/19/45 Anchored at Morotai.

7/22/45 Underway with Task Unit 76.13.15 enroute to Leyte Gulf, P. I. CTU 76.13.15 is Capt. R. H. Smith (ComDesRon 22). *USS MANNING, WALLER*

7/25/45 Anchored at San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, P. I. *USS DEELEY, MARINE*

8/4/45 Underway enroute to Guiuan, Samar, P. I. Anchored.

8/5/45 Underway with USS PHILIP and SAUFLEY to San Pedro Bay. Anchored. Underway enroute to Ulithi Group, Caroline Islands in company with USS CONY, SAUFLEY and PHILIP.

8/7/45 Anchored at Ulithi, Caroline Islands. *USS BENTLEY, FRANKS*

8/10/45 Underway. Patrolling Phillipine Sea off of Ulithi Atoll.

8/13/45 Relieved by USS MAYO. Anchored at Ulithi, Caroline Islands.

8/14/45 Capt. R. L. Campbell, Jr., arrived on board and hoisted his pennant as ComDesRon 22 and ComDesDiv 43.

8/16/45 Underway with USS ADMIRAL BENSON enroute to Leyte Gulf.

8/18/45 Anchored at San Pedro Bay.

8/19/45 Underway enroute to Subic Bay.

8/21/45 Anchored at Subic Bay. *USS SAUFLEY*

9/3/45 Underway enroute to Okinawa independently.

9/5/45 Anchored at Buckner Bay, Okinawa, Gunto. Departed Philippine Sea and entered East China Sea.

9/6/45 Steaming in East China Sea enroute to Shanghai, China in company with Task Group 73.2.

9/8/45 Anchored off entrance to Yangtze Kiang. Underway, proceeding independently for nightly retirement.

9/9/45 Anchored off Barren Island. Underway. Anchored off lower Yangtze Kiang. "At 1345, boarding party, consisting of 5 officers and 11 enlisted men departed in charge of Lieutenant Elmo R. ZUMWALT, USN., to board surrendered JAPANESE landing craft transport #144." Underway.

9/10/45 Anchored off Yangtze Kiang.

9/11/45 Anchored, supporting mine sweeping ops off the approaches of Shanghai, China. Other units of the U.S. fleet are present as well as 5 surrendered Japanese vessels. "At 1533, Lieutenant Elmo R. ZUMWALT, USN and prize crew of the surrendered JAPANESE landing ship transport #144 returned aboard."

9/14/45 Underway enroute to mine sweeping area SE of Saddle Islands. Arrived in vicinity of USS SAUFLEY. Anchored in North Yangtze Kiang.

9/15/45 "The JAPANESE Gunboat ATAKA, with USS ROBINSON prize crew, returned to anchorage."

9/16/45 Underway, standing into Yangtze River. Anchored in Middle Ground, Yangtze River. Japanese cargo ship, TONE MAN, struck a mine at a distance of about 3 miles and sank.

9/18/45 Underway, standing down Yangtze River. Anchored in North Fork, Yangtze River.

9/12/45 Underway. Rendezvous off Barren Island with USS NASHVILLE (CL 43) to receive prize crew for boarding Japanese surrendered ships. Received prize crew of 4 officers and 12 enlisted men via breeches buoy from USS NASHVILLE. Anchored off Yangtze Kiang.

9/23/45 Underway enroute to Shanghai, China. Anchored in Whangpoo River, Shanghai, China. Liberty granted to one-half of the crew.

9/29/45 ComDesRon 22 departed for Shanghai in USS CONY.

10/6/45 Underway with USS SAUFLEY enroute for inspection of Bonham Straits and Chusan Archipelago by CTG 73.2, having been relieved as Harbor Entrance Control vessel by USS CONY. Anchored. Underway.

10/9/45 Anchored at Quarantine Anchorage. USS WALLER struck a mine.

10/17/45 Underway for Shanghai to go alongside USS DIXIE for upkeep.

10/24/45 Underway. Anchored at Quarantine Anchorage, Entrance Buoy, Yangtze River.