

WAR DIARY

OF

U.S.S. ZEILIN

- 6/1/42 Off Wallis Island with USS HARRIS, USS O'BRIEN & HMS ACHILLES on sub patrol.
- Disembarked troops and baggage as well as cargo.
- Set course for Apia, Upolu Island, Samoa.
- 6/2/42 Arrived Apia Harbor; transferred boats; underway.
- 6/15/42 Arrived Smith Island, San Pedro, Calif; taking on fuel.
- 6/17/42 Underway for San Diego; arrived San Diego.
- 6/18/42 Reported to Commander Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet, for duty. Undergoing overhaul; taking on ammo, equipment, personnel. Receiving naval and marine officer and enlisted.
- 7/8/42 Depart San Diego; joined convoy; enroute to Hawaii.
- 7/13/42 USS PARROTT (DE) dropped 3 depth charges.
- 7/16/42 Arrive Pearl Harbor; begin discharging cargo and loading of field equipment; embarked naval and marine officers and enlisted.
- 7/21/42 Depart Pearl Harbor; joined convoy with USS SAN FRANCISCO, USS BETELGUESE, and others; enroute to Suva, Fiji Islands.
- 7/30/42 USS SAN FRANCISCO left formation to rescue one of her aircraft & then rejoined convoy.
- 8/1/42 USS SAN FRANCISCO proceeding to north end of Koro Island; returned and ZEILIN proceeds independently to Suva Harbor, Fiji Islands; transferred some personnel; underway and rejoined convoy
- 8/4/42 Transferred ENS. B M Bell to USS LITTLE, ENS. R N Adrian to USS GREGORY, ENS. J A Naylor to USS CALHOUN, ENS. W G Olson to USS MCKEAN.
- 8/5/42 Transferred 25 officers and enlisted to various ships of TF 62.
- 8/7/42 Sighted west end of Guadalcanal Island; hove to off Vatururu point, Florida Island and commenced landing ops.
- Planes of TF 61 continue bombing of Gavutu Island, Tenabogo and various objectives in the Tulagi area.
- Report of radar contact with a/c; screening group firing AA guns; ZEILIN commenced firing; one enemy plane down over Guadalcanal; USN Graumann made forced landing near transport area.
- Enemy a/c dropping bombs on Guadalcanal.

Moved to off transport area, Tulagi Island; underway; anchor off Bungana Island; several fires on Gavutu, Tanambogo, Tulagi during the night; intermittent MG fire.

8/8/42 Carrier planes resumed intermittent bombing of Tanambogo and Tulagi.

Received warning enemy a/c approaching; underway and forming circle formation; estimated 21 Japanese twin engine torpedo planes rounded Mandoliana Island approaching vessels of TF 62 at very low altitude; USN vessels fire low angle AA fire; at least 7 a/c down and several more damaged; US transport on fire; attack over.

Carrier planes dive-bomb Tulagi; destroyers resume shelling; anchored off Tulagi.

8/9/42 Heavy gun fire; 3 ships in flames.

Discharging cargo; false enemy a/c alarm; all marines disembarked; Marine Jack Clark brought to ship as found unconscious from head wounds on beach.

Underway in column formation.

8/10/42 Torpedo sighted by USS SAN JUAN; Clark succumbed to wounds.

8/13/42 Anchored in Dumbia Bay, Nomea, New Caladonia; transferring provisions to USS SELFRIDGE AND PERSONNEL TO USS ARGONNE and BARNETT and discharging equipment/supplies; refueled.

8/24/42 Underway in convoy.

8/26/42 Sighted Efate Island and active volcano on Ambrim Island; anchored in Segond Channel, Espritu Santos Island, New Hebrides.

Discharging equipment and on-loading stores.