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Written diary events U.S.S. Sproston DD 577

1943

Oct.18 Left New York (Bayone Drydock)  
Oct.21 Left Portland Maine

Nov.02 Panamal Canal  
Nov.12-13 San Francisco (Took on passengers)  
Nov.18 Pearl Harbor ( rough sea )  
Nov.26 Left Pearl Harbor for Adak

Dec. 01 Arrived Adak  
Dec.06 Rescued Russian Cargo ship.  
Out to sea 4 days (rough)  
Dec.10-11 Back to Adak  
Dec.11-20 Manuvers with Cruisers, Richmond, Detroit, Reliegh  
Dec.20 Shifted flag to Pickings  
Left for Dutch Harbor  
beer party and recreation

1944

Jan.01 Still at Dutch Harbor  
Jan.02 Underway for Adak and Sandbay  
Jan.3-30 Manuvers & mockraids in prep for Paramushiro  
Jan.30-31 Could not enter Massacre Bay Storm (1800)

Feb.01 Under way for Paramushiro  
Feb.03 General Quarters (2030)  
Feb.04 (0200) Chemical Alarm  
(0230) Commence Firing entered harbor at 15 knots Continuous fire for +5

minutes

9th Fleet Paramushiro—left Attu—heavy seas Full moon—formed a battle  
line @0300  
slowed down to 15 knots—still not detected @0400 commenced firing –some  
fire  
returned. Started large fires on the beach—destroyed airstrip—hangers—and  
barracks  
@0500 at 30 knots headed out to sea for home-- Attu

Feb.07 Attu-refueled ship  
Feb.08 Could not enter Sweepers Cove- Storm-  
Feb.09 Entered Cold Bay and Sweepers Cove  
Adak-1600-refueled ship  
Commence-repair work-

Feb.15-20 Tender period-continued repairs  
Feb.27 Strip ship left for Attu  
Feb.28 Storm- could not enter Massacre Bay

Mar.01 Entered Massacre Bay at 0900  
Refueled ship- (Ammunition, didn't have time)  
Underway for Paramushiro at 1800- Bright night

Mar.02 At sea- Calm-large swells, 15 knots-(1500) strong wind water breaking over director

Main deck unsafe to walk aft  
Scuttlebutt we are headed south of Paramushiro to intercept a Jap convoy and

two

Destroyers--sunk them  
Then continue North to bombard Paramushiro. (We shall know Sat. morn)

Mar.03 Seas calmed quite a bit since last night—closer to our destination.

Mar.04 Approached Shimushiro Island at approx 0100--went south of it into OKHOTSK sea

In search of Jap convoy-Cruiser and four other cans remained in Pacific  
At 0230 split to hunt convoy at 0330 formed scouting line—no luck—  
Sea began to get rough 0930 approaching Paramushiro—Heavy blow—

Turned south to

hunt convoy—Later to bombard Paramushiro.

At 1930 all exercises were cancelled once again---Searching for convoy again in Pacific of Kiril Island—returned North to Paramushiro to bombard---One hour to go before

Bombardment-Paramushiro about 20 miles away again a heavy blow—sea very rough

So exercises called off at 1930. Fuel going low. So once again back to Attu. Racks all set back for normal sleeping.

Mar.05 (0400) regular steaming with and ships routine. 15 knots  
Although we did not do any damage to the enemy this time, the trip itself was worth our Discomfort. We were again the first task force (squadron 49 of T.F.94) to cruise around

North of Tojo's back yard (from Shimushiro approx 300 mi South of Paramushiro to

Paramushiro—no doubt we will be back.

Apr.20 Komodoshi ?

May ?? no records found

June 13 9th fleet Matswa during a heavy fog 9 destroyers of Squad 49 and 3

cruisers of T.F. 98

Bombarded Matswa at 0300. This operation was held as a diversionary raid while the

T.F. 58 & 5th fleet invaded Saipan.

June 26 Paramushiro Once again we at dawn. They seemed to have been expecting us because

Immediately after bombardment we were attacked by Jap P.T.'s we sunk two and were

Narrowly missed by two torpedos.

July 29 arrived Attu orders given to underway for sweep of the area from Komchatka(?) to Para

and destroy picket line. Underway at 0930 set course to the West. Heavy fog no surface

visibility.

July 30 At 1300 special radar intercepted Jap radar—Jap radar tracking us. At 1500 we came out

of the fog 40 mi off Komchatka(?) approx 100 mi from Para. And into a bright sun fog

behind to disappear. The sea is very calm. I hope the Hell we turn back the Japs would

have a holiday with us. Still heading South at 1630 Snuffy ordered course change

U.S.S. Pickings to head NE at 25 knots. Re-entered fog at 1800 course due East for

home.

Aug.2-3 Paramushiro, Left Attu 1300 Aug 1 headed West. Sea & weather with us. Slight fog but

but good surface visibility. Run into occasional fog bank. At 1500 Aug.2 general alarm

U.S.S. Wickes sighted and fired upon a "Betty" (Jap plane) 100 to 125mi off Paramushiro

Aug.2-3 1944 continued

Changed course 30 knots toward home (Attu) At 0200 Aug.3 changed course back

Toward Paramushiro 20 knots. Aug.3 Heavy overcast good surface visibility.

General alarm at 1100 another plane contact. Plane dogging our course at 29 knots

