

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

OCCUPATION

Report... CTG 54.1

- SASEBO
- NAGASAKI
- FUKUOKA SHIMONOSEKI



COM PHIB GROUP

147787

• CONFIDENTIAL •

0742

File No: A16-3(2)/(05)

Serial: 0414

COMMANDER
AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Leh

11 November 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

From: Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, Pacific Fleet.
(CTF 54, Amphibious Forces, and CTG 54.1,
SOUTHERN Occupation Group).

To : The Chief of Naval Operations.

Via : (1) Commander Battleship Squadron ONE.
(2) Commander FIFTH Fleet.
(3) Commander-in-Chief, United States Pacific
Fleet.

Subject: Report of Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and
of FUKUOKA - SHIMONOSEKI Areas.

Reference: (a) PacFlt Conf. ltr. 1CL-45.
(b) ComFIFTH Fleet OpPlan No. 6-45, Annex (N).

Enclosure: (A) Subject Report.

1. In compliance with references, enclosure (A) is
forwarded herewith.

L. F. Reifsnider
L. F. REIFSNIDER.

Advance copies

→ CNO (1)
CinCPac (3)

RECEIVED SC
ROUTE TO:

03
2 DEC 1945

File No. (SC) A16-3(8)

Doc. No. 192238

Copy No. 1 of 6

Reg. No. A-830

A-832.

0742

2

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Action Report - SASEBC, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas.

DISTRIBUTION:

CNO	5	ComUDT 6	1
Cincpac	3	ComUDT 11	1
ComFIFTHFleet	5	ComUDT 13	1
ComTHIRDFleet	1	ComGenFMFPac	1
ComSEVENTHFleet	1	ComGenFIFTHPhibCorps	3
SCAP	1	ComGen 2ndMarDiv	1
ComNorPac	1	ComGen 5thMarDiv	1
ComSoPac	1	ComTransRon 12	1
ComAirPac	1	ComTransRon 18	1
ComPhibsTraPac	1	ComTransRon 22	1
ComCruPac	1	ComTransDiv 39	1
ComSubPac	1	ComTransDiv 60	1
ComBatRonONE	1	ComTransDiv 72	1
ComCruDiv 13	1	ComLSTFlot 23	1
ComCruDiv 12	1	ComLSTFlot 37	1
ComCruDiv 4	1	ComLSTGroup 13	1
ComDesRon 24	1	ComLSTGroup 14	1
ComDesRon 13	1	ComLSTGroup 47	1
ComDesRon 5	1	ComLSTGroup 69	1
ComDesDiv 25	1	ComLSMFlot 5	1
ComDesDiv 10	1	ComLSMFlot 16	1
ComDesDiv 48	1	ComLSMGroup 38	1
ComCortDiv 22	1	ComLSMGroup 45	1
ComFIRSTCarTaskForPac	1	ComLCTFlot 21	1
ComEsCarTaskForPac	1		
ComCarDiv 22	1	ComGenAGF	1
ComGenPOA	1	Army and Navy Staff College	1
ComGenSIXTHArmy	1	CardGS School, Leavenworth	1
ComGenAAFPoa	1	Naval War College	1
ComGen32ndInfDiv	1	Comdt MarCorps	1
ComGen98thInfDiv	1	Comdt MarCorps Schools	1
ComPhibsPac	5	PhibTraBase, Fort Pierce	1
AdComPhibsPac	2		
ComSEVENTHPhibForce	1		
ComPhibGrps 7,8,9,11,13	lea		
ComUDTPhibsPac	1		

AUTHENTICATED:

T. Leonard Mikules
T. LEONARD MIKULES,
Comdr. USNR
Flag Secretary.

SATO

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI,
AND OF FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Distribution List

- Part I BRIEF SUMMARY
- Part II PRELIMINARIES
 LIST OF DIRECTIVES
 A - Task Organization
 B - Operations
 C - Mission, plans, assumptions
 D - Own forces at outset of action - Omitted
 E - Enemy forces encountered - Omitted
- Part III CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT
 A - Narrative
 B - Weather (Covered by III A, Narrative)
 C - Navigation Tracks
- Part IV ORDNANCE - Omitted
- Part V DAMAGE - Omitted
- Part VI SPECIAL COMMENTS AND INFORMATION
 A - Surface Gunnery - Omitted
 B - Air Operations
 (Covered by Report of Air
 Support Control Unit NINE, as
 Part VI,B)
 C - Amphibious Action
 1. Troops and Cargo
 2. Landing Craft
 3. Minesweeping, Underwater Demolition
 4. Landing of troops and cargo
 5. Casualties
 D - Special Comment
 1. Combat Information Center - Omitted
 2. Communications
 3. Smoke, Camouflage, Deception - Omitted
 4. Navigation
 5. Engineering
 6. Supply
 7. Medical
 E - Special features - Omitted
- Part VII PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE AND CASUALTIES

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF
FUKUOKA-SHIMONSEKI AREAS

PART I - BRIEF SUMMARY

1. This report covers the Naval phases of the Amphibious Operations in connection with the mounting, movement, and landing of SIXTH Army troops assigned to occupation of the SASEBO-NAGASAKI, and FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas of JAPAN, following the termination of hostilities. The period covered begins with 1 September 1945, the date of departure of Commander SOUTHERN Occupation Group and Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps from the HAWAIIAN Area, and concludes with the date of the dissolution of the SOUTHERN Occupation Group on 8 November. The operations involved were undertaken in compliance with CTF 54, Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force, dispatch orders of 17 August 1945, which assigned Commander Amphibious Group FOUR the task of planning and conducting the naval phases of the landings in the SASEBO-NAGASAKI and FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas.

2. Task Group 54.1, SOUTHERN Occupation Group, under command of Rear Admiral Reifsnider, Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, was organized for the operation in accordance with CTF 54, Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force, Operation Plan A1501-45. The FIFTH Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Schmidt, USMC, consisted of VAC Headquarters, Corps Troop and the FIFTH Marine Division, the SECOND Marine Division and the 32nd Infantry Division, U. S. Army. These troops were mounted in the HAWAIIAN MARIANAS and PHILIPPINE Areas respectively, and moved progressively as separate groups to the SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area in accordance with movement orders issued by Commander SOUTHERN Occupation Group.

3. CTF 54 Operation Plan designated SASEBO as the first port to be occupied, on 22 September 1945, by the FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarter Corps Troops, and the FIFTH Marine Division. The landing at SASEBO was followed by the occupation of NAGASAKI on 23 September by the SECOND Marine Division. The plan designated the FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Area as the ultimate destination for the 32nd Infantry Division, which was landed at SASEBO beginning 14 October and moved overland to the objective. This last landing completed the oversea movement of troops outlined in this report. No Japanese opposition was encountered during any of the above landings, which were accomplished without serious difficulty, other than delays incident to clearing harbors and approaches of mines, utilizing port facilities where available. Fire support ships and air support units were present and on call to support the landing operations at SASEBO and NAGASAKI but at no time were these forces actively engaged. Following the landing of the 32nd Infantry Division at SASEBO the SOUTHERN Occupation Group was dissolved on 8 November.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part II - Preliminaries
List of Directives

Major Plans and Orders Covering Participation of
Commander SOUTHERN Occupation Group
in the Occupation of SASEBO-NAGASAKI and
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas

- (1) Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas Operation Plan No. 12-45 (Revised), Serial 0005817, of 14 August 1945. (Covering U. S. Pacific Fleet operations in the occupation of the Japanese Empire and Japanese held positions in the Pacific Ocean areas.)
- (2) Commander FIFTH Fleet Operation Plan No. 6-45, Serial 000165, of 27 August 1945. (Covering FIFTH Fleet operations in assisting and supporting the occupation of the Japanese Empire within the FIFTH Fleet zone of responsibility)
- (3) Commander FIFTH Fleet Operation Plan No. 7-45, Serial 00291a, of 2 September 1945. (Covering FIFTH Fleet Operations in landing and establishing ashore, in the Western Japan Area, the V Amphibious Corps and other designated elements of the SIXTH Army)
- (4) Commander FIFTH Fleet Operation Plan No. 9-45, Serial 00301, of 18 September 1945 and despatch 181215 of September 1945. (Covering FIFTH Fleet operations in Japanese waters and at designated locations ashore in conjunction with United States Army Forces)
- (5) Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force Operation Plan No. A1501-45, Serial A0003, of 28 August 1945. (Covering FIFTH Amphibious Force operations within the zone of SIXTH Army responsibility in the occupation of KYUSHU, SHIKOKU, Western HONSHU and adjacent offshore islands)
- (6) CTF 51, Commander Southwestern JAPAN Force Operation Plan No. 7-45, Despatch 191440, of September 1945. (Covering naval operations of TF 51 in area of responsibility assigned FIFTH Fleet)
- (7) CTF 55, Commander Cruiser Division 13 Operation Plan No. 10-45, Serial 0060, of 10 September 1945. (Covering operations of Western Japan Force in landing and establishing ashore, in the Western Japan Area, the FIFTH Amphibious Corps and other designated elements of the SIXTH Army)
- (8) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A411-45, Serial 00270, of 7 September 1945. (Covering operations of SOUTHERN Occupation Group in landing FIFTH Amphibious Corps in SASEBO and NAGASAKI and in SASEBO for FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI, in the occupation and control of those areas).

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part II - Preliminaries -
List of Directives

- (9) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A412-45, Serial 00275, of 15 September 1945. (Covering operations of SOUTHERN Occupation Group in the landing of the SECOND Marine Division in the occupation and control of the SASEBO-NAGASAKI area)
- (10) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, Operation Plan No. A413-45, Serial 00283, of 16 September 1945. (Covering operations of the SOUTHERN Occupation Group in the landing of the 32nd Infantry Division)
- (11) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A411 (Second Alternate) - 45, Despatch 180903, of September 1945. (Covering operations of the SOUTHERN Occupation Group in landing FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops and FIFTH Marine Division at SASEBO)
- (12) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A412 (Second Alternate) - 45, Despatch 181001, of September 1945. (Covering operations of the SOUTHERN Occupation Group in landing SECOND Marine Division at NAGASAKI).
- (13) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Schedule of Entry into SASEBO Harbor and Unloading TG 54.2 SASEBO Group, Serial 00285, of 19 September 1945.
- (14) Commander Amphibious Group FOUR SOPA (Administrative) Instructions for SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area, of 22 September 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part II - Section A
Task Organization

54.1 SOUTHERN Occupation Group - Rear Admiral Reifsnider

(a) Group Flagship - MOUNT MC KINLEY (AGC 7) - Capt. Ganet

(b) 54.1.10 Air Support Control Unit 9 - Comdr. Perkins

(c) 59.1 FIFTH Amphibious Corps - Maj. Gen. Schmidt, USMC

FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops

2nd Marine Division - Maj. Gen. Hunt, USMC

5th Marine Division - Maj. Gen. Bourke, USMC

32nd Infantry Division - Maj. Gen. McBride, USA

(d) 54.2 SASEBO Group - Commodore Jenkins

59.1.1 FIFTH Marine Division - Maj. Gen. Bourke

54.2.1 TransRon 22 (Temp) - Commodore Jenkins

54.2.11 TransDiv 64 (Temp) - Commodore Jenkins

WESTMORELAND (SF), SEVIER, MONTROSE,

KINGSBURY, DAWSON, FOND DU LAC

MERRICK, AURELIA SELINUR

6 APA

3 AKA

54.2.12 TransDiv 72 (Temp) - Capt. McCown

GRAFTON (F), BOWIE, KARNES, FALLON

ALMANCE, SARITA, RENATE, SAPPHO

SAUGUS

4 APA

4 AKA

1 LSV

54.2.13 TransDiv 39 (Temp) - Capt. Maynard

CUSTER (F), QUEENS, CLERMONT,

THOMAS JEFFERSON, HAMBLEN GILLIAM

SHELBY COLUSA

WHEATLAND

8 APA

1 AKA

54.2.2 LSTFlotilla 37 (Temp) - Capt. Riley

Flotilla Flagship - LC(FF) 504

1 LC(FF)

54.2.21 LSTGroup 69 (Temp) - Comdr. Agnew

CONFIDENTIAL

NonPlibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIKONOSEKI Areas - Part (II) -
Section A - Task Organization.

LST 222 (F), 218, 488, 600, 608,
634, 685, 704, 845, 1009,
1039, 1053, 1074, 1076, 1077,
1082, 1122 17 LST

54.2.22 LST Group 14 (Temp) - Comdr. DeForest

LST 486 (F), 23, 41, 117, 390,
450, 652, 671, 715, 771,
828, 870, 882, 883, 1022,
1043, 1087 17 LST

LST 48 (Post Office) 1 LST

54.2.23 LST Group 47 (Temp) - Lt. Cdr. Leslie

LST 918 (F), 726, 800, 811,
830, 888, 950, 1048, 835,
946, 1033 11 LST

54.2.3 LSM Flotilla 5 (Temp) - Comdr. Carpenter

Flotilla Flagship - LC(FF) 628 1 LC(FF)

54.2.31 LSM Group 45 (Temp) - Lt. Cdr. McCoy

LSM 474 (F), 76, 80, 111, 112,
283, 343, 344, 366, 387,
440, 467, 476, 478, 499 15 LSM

54.2.4 LCT Flotilla 21 (Temp) - Lt. Cdr. Gillette

Flotilla Flagship - LC(FF) 399 1 LC(FF)

LCT 955, 954, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 972,
973, 974, 975, 976, 1064, 977, 978, 979,
980, 981, 893, 894, 668, 1063, 1065,
1066, 784, 672, 673, 675, 676, 677, 678,
679, 716, 717, 718, 895, 894, 853, 1211,
1214, 1247, 1249, 1250, 1283, 1285, 1380,
1219, 1220, 1221, 1230 50 LCT

54.2.5 TransRon 22 Control Party - Capt. Vensel

54.2.51 TransDiv 64 Control Officer - Lt. Coppins

54.2.52 TransDiv 72 Control Officer - Lt. Cochrane

54.2.53 TransDiv 39 Control Officer - Lt. Young

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (II)
Section A - Task Organization.

54.2.6 TransRon 22 Beach Party - Lt. Cdr. Edwards

54.2.61 TransDiv 64 Beach Party - Lt. Adams

54.2.62 TransDiv 72 Beach Party - Lt. Thompson

54.2.63 TransDiv 39 Beach Party - Lt. Covington

(e) 54.3 NAGASAKI Group - Commodore Knowles

59.1.2 SECOND Marine Division - Maj. Gen. Hunt, USMC

54.3.1 TransRon 12 (Temp) - Commodore Knowles

54.3.11 TransDiv 34 (Temp) - Commodore Knowles

CAMBRIA (SF), LENARD, APPLING,
FREESTONE, LYCOMING
ANDROMEDA, CAPRICORNUS

5 AF
2 AK

54.3.12 TransDiv 60 (Temp) - Capt. Moen

GRUES (F), MERIWETHER, BELLETTE,
BRAXTON, LANIER
WAUKESHA, TYRRELL

5 AF
2 AK

54.3.13 TransDiv 13 (Temp) - Capt. Cooper

WAYNE (F), MENIFEE, GAGE,
AUDRAIN, MC INTYRE
AQUARIUS, OTTAWA

5 AF
2 AK

54.3.2 LST Flotilla 23 (Temp) - Capt. Weeden

Flotilla Flagship - LC(FF) 790

1 LC(FF)

54.3.21 LST Group 13 (Temp) - Comdr. Lea

LST 481 (F), 166, 571, 734, 785,
788, 817, 829, 871, 887, 953,
975, 1073, 1123, 1140

15 LS

54.3.3 LSI Flotilla 16 (Temp) - Comdr. McKee

54.3.31 LSI Unit ONE - Comdr. McKee

LSI 498 (FF), 307, 309, 439, 441,
94, 170, 78, 253, 227

10 LS

CONFIDENTIAL

Vol Phib Grp 4

ction Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (II) -
Section A - Task Organization.

54.3.32 LSM Unit TWO - Lt. Cdr. Lane

LSM 450 (F), 448, 465, 263, 462
452, 122, 466, 103, 286

10 LSM

54.3.5 TransRon 12 Control Party - Lt. Stone

54.3.51 TransDiv 34 Control Officer -

54.3.52 TransDiv 60 Control Officer -

54.3.53 TransDiv 13 Control Officer -

54.3.6 TransRon 12 Beach Party - Lt. Cdr. Cook

54.3.61 TransDiv 34 Beach Party -

54.3.62 TransDiv 60 Beach Party -

54.3.63 TransDiv 13 Beach Party -

f) 54.4 SHIMONOSEKI Group - Capt. Cohen

59.1.3 32nd Infantry Division - Maj. Gen. McBride, USA

54.4.1 TransRon 22 (Temp) less FALLOM, COLUSA - Capt. Cohen

54.4.11 TransDiv 64 (Temp) - Capt. Cohen

WESTMORELAND (SF), SEVIER, KINGSBURY,
MONTROSE, FOUND DU LAC, DAWSON
MERRICK, AURELIA, SELINUR

6 APA
3 AKA

54.4.12 TransDiv 72 (Temp) - Capt. Emory

GRAFTON, BOWIE, KARNES
ALAMANCE, SARITA, RENATE, SAPPHO
SAUGUS

3 APA
4 AKA
1 LSV

54.4.13 TransDiv 39 (Temp) - Capt. Maynard

CUSTER, QUEENS, CLERMONT, SHELBY,
THOMAS JEFFERSON, HAMBLEN, GILLIAM
WHEATLAND

7 APA
1 AKA

54.4.2 LST Flotilla 37 (Temp) - Capt. Riley

Flotilla Flagship - LC(FF) 504

1 LC(FF)

CONFIDENTIAL

Co. PhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (II) -
Section A, - Task Organization.

54.4.21 LST Group 69 (Temp) - Comdr. Agnew

LST 222 (F), 600, 654, 685, 704,
845, 1009, 1053, 587, 768,
952, 1091, 1134

13 LST

(g) 55.3 Support Group - Rear Admiral Reifsnider

Fire Support Ships -

BEALE, ANTHONY, DALY, VAN VALKENBURGH,
MIRRELL, RALPH TALBOT, BALDWIN, LAMSON

8 DD

55.3.3 Escort Carriers - Rear Admiral Saiple

SUWANNEE (F)

1 CVE

STRAUSS

1 DE

COGHIAN

1 DD

(h) 54.1.2 SOUTHERN UDT Unit - Comdr. Hull

(Underwater Demolition Group 5, Unit ABLE)
BURDO (F) with UDT 13, Lt. Faine, embarked
SCHLITZ with UDT 6, Lt. Hagensen, embarked
KLINE with UDT 11, Lt. (jg) Wells, embarked

3 APD

(i) 54.1.3 SOUTHERN Pontoon Unit - Lt. Jacobs

3 Pontoon Causeway Sets (2 x 60)

8 Pontoon Barges (3 x 12)

5 Pontoon Causeway Sets (2 x 60)**

12 Pontoon Barges (3 x 12)**

(j) 54.1.4 SOUTHERN Service Unit -

CONSERVER

1 ARS

CAHULLA

1 ATF

VAGA

1 YTB

ATR 13

1 ATR

(k) 54.1.5 SOUTHERN Control Party - Comdr. Sylvester

CONFIDENTIAL

Col.PhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIKONOSEKI Areas - Part (II) -
Section A - Task Organization.

PC(C) 803, 1080, 1231, 1260 4 PC(C)

PC 1171, 1210 2 PC

(l) 54.1.6 SOUTHERN Beach Party - Lt. Cdr. Nelson

(n) 54.1.7 SOUTHERN Escort and Screening Vessels - Capt. Benson

DesDiv 25 (Temp) - Capt. Benson

WOOLSEY (F), GLEAVES, WIBLACK (FD),
EDISON (FD), ERICSSON 5 DD

CortDiv 22 (Temp) - Lt. Cdr. Bakanas

KIRKPATRICK (F), HARVESON, JOYCE 3 DE

CortDiv 53 (Temp)** -

SLYDER (F), ROBERTS, TILLS 3 DE

(n) 54.1.17 Port Director Units -

Port Director, SASEBO - Comdr. Winter

LCI 813 (Station Ship) 1 LCI

Port Director, NAGASAKI

LCI 813 (Station Ship)

(o) 54.1.18 Garrison Beach Parties -

(p) 54.1.19 Garrison Boat Pools -

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part II

Section (B) - Operations

1. The task assigned to Commander Task Group 54.1 SOUTHERN Occupation Group (Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, Rear Admiral Reifsnider, USN), in connection with the occupation of JAPAN, was to plan and conduct the naval phases for the occupation of the SASEBO-NAGASAKI and FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas by the FIFTH Amphibious Corps (Major General Schmidt, USMC), consisting of the FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops, SECOND and FIFTH Marine Divisions, and the 32nd Infantry Division U.S. Army.

2. At the time of receipt of the directive ordering the movement of the FIFTH Amphibious Corps, the distribution of the various corps elements was as follows:

HAWAIIAN Area - FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops and FIFTH Marine Division - later referred to as the SASEBO Group.

MARIANAS Area - SECOND Marine Division - later referred to as the NAGASAKI Group.

PHILIPPINE Area - 32nd Infantry Division - later referred to as the FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Group.

This scattered distribution of forces required three separate movements of troops from widely separated points in the Pacific Area over a relatively short space of time. Adequate shipping was not available at the time to permit simultaneous movement of all three units to the objectives. Plans were made to move the SASEBO and NAGASAKI Groups first and bring up the 32nd Infantry Division at a later date using turn-around shipping.

3. Two temporary transport squadrons were formed, one in the HAWAIIAN Area and another in the MARIANAS Area. Transport Squadron 22 (Temporary), Commodore JENKINS, formed at PEARL HARBOR, mounted the FIFTH Amphibious Corps elements in the HAWAIIAN Area, 20 August to 1 September 1945. Transport Squadron 12 (Temporary), Commodore KNOWLES, formed at SAIPAN, mounted the SECOND Marine Division in the MARIANAS Area 10 to 17 September. After debarking the FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops and the FIFTH Marine Division at SASEBO, 22-26 September, the ships of Transport Squadron 22, less 2 APAs, were routed to the PHILIPPINE Area to mount the 32nd Infantry Division.

4. The movement of the SASEBO Group from the HAWAIIAN Area involved two echelons of LSTs and one echelon of LSMs in addition to the Transport Squadron.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Report of Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Area, Part II, Section (B) - Operations.

LST Group 69 (Temp) with ComLST Flotilla 37, and LST Group 14 (Temp) were sailed direct to SASEBO to arrive on ABLE Day, 22 September, the date established for the SASEBO landing, and ABLE plus 3 Day respectively. LSM Flotilla FIVE (Temp) was routed via SAIPAN to join with LST Group 47 (Temp), loaded with FIFTH Amphibious Corps elements from GUAM. The transports were also routed via SAIPAN. Due to the time element and necessary movements involved, there was no opportunity to conduct amphibious training or formal dress rehearsal for the landing prior to departure from the HAWAIIAN Area. While at SAIPAN all units were furnished with necessary logistics before proceeding to SASEBO. Prior to departure of the SASEBO Group, an **advance reconnaissance** party, consisting of VAC representatives, a beachmaster group and language officers, was embarked on 3 LFDs, with attached Underwater Demolition Teams, and sailed to arrive at SASEBO on 20 September. The following tabulation describes the movements for the SASEBO Group:

CONFIDENTIAL

ConPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Report of Occupation of SASEBO and MAGASAKI, and of
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas, Part II, Section (B)-Operations

Movement No.	T.U. No.	Composition	Departed PEARL	Arrived SAIPAN	Departed SAIPAN	Arrived SASEBO
1.	54.23.1	15 LSM 1 LC (FF) 1 DE 2 PC	<u>W. Long.</u> 28 Aug.	<u>East Longitude Dates</u> 11 Sept.		See Movement No. 2
2.	54.23	15 LSM 1 LC (FF) 8 LST 1 DE 2 PC			14 Sept.	22 Sept.
3.	54.22.1	17 LST 1 LC (FF) 1 DE 2 PC	29 Aug.	-----	-----	22 Sept.
4.	54.22.2	18 LST 1 DE	3 Sept.	-----	-----	24 Sept.
5.	54.21	18 APA 8 AKA 1 LSV 1 AGC 5 DD 3 APD	1 Sept.	13 Sept.		See Movement No. 6
6.	54.21	18 APA 8 AKA 1 LSV 1 AGC 3 DD			16 Sept.	22 Sept.
7.	54.21.1	3 APD			15 Sept.	20 Sept.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Report of Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas, Part II, Section (B) -
Operations.

While enroute to SASEBO it was necessary to traverse a swept channel 4.0 miles long and 4,000 yards wide through former Japanese and allied mine fields. This channel was negotiated at night by all ships in the SASEBO Group, without casualty.

5. Upon arrival off SASEBO at daybreak on 22 September, the Transport Squadron was met by Japanese pilots, who assisted in entering the harbor. Various units of the United States Fleet, and Force Commanders, were present inside the harbor, including Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force (CTF 54) (Vice Admiral Hill) SOPA, in AUBURN (AGC-10), and Commander Cruiser Division 13 (CTF 55) (Rear Admiral Deyo) Commander WESTERN JAPAN Force, in SANTA FE (CL 60). Air Support Units were also present in the area. In accordance with CTF 55 Operation Plan No. 10-45, ComPhibGrpFOUR assumed the duties of SOPA (Admin.) upon arrival at SASEBO and retained that duty until departure on 27 September. All units of the SASEBO Group, except LST Group 14, entered SASEBO KO on 22 September.

6. Debarcation of troops, and cargo unloading operations, commenced immediately after entering the harbor. A total of 10,000 troops were debarked prior to 1800 on 22 September. The FIFTH Marine Division completed unloading of troops and Commanding General FIFTH Marine Division assumed control of troops ashore at 1330 on 23 September. Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps moved to headquarters ashore and assumed control of FIFTH Amphibious Corps ashore at 1600 on 23 September. The Commanding General SIXTH Army assumed command of forces ashore in FIFTH Amphibious Corps Zone of Responsibility at 1000 on 24 September. SASEBO dock facilities, including dry docks, were utilized to great advantage to expedite unloading of cargo. The transports completed unloading and were sailed in two echelons to the PHILIPPINES on 25 and 26 September, respectively. LSH Flotilla 5 and LST Flotilla 37 completed unloading and were sailed on 24 and 25 September respectively. LST Group 14 sailed for the PHILIPPINES on 28 September 1945. This completed the turn-around of Transport Squadron 22 shipping for the movement of the 32nd Infantry Division. Commander SOUTHERN Occupation Group departed SASEBO on 27 September for WAKAYAMA, JAPAN, to assume the duties of CTF 54 pursuant to orders for changes in higher echelon of command.

7. The scheduled landing date for the NAGASAKI Group was 23 September. Transport Squadron 12 (Temp) shipping, with SECOND Marine Division embarked, moved from SAIPAN direct to NAGASAKI in four echelons, under movement orders issued by Commander Transport Squadron 12, commencing 17 September, in accordance with the following schedule:

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Report of Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas, Part II, Section (B) - Operations.

Movement No.	T.U. No.	Composition	Departed SAIPAN	Arrived NAGASAKI
1	54.19.2	14 LST 1 LC (FF)	17 Sept.	24 Sept.
2	54.19.3	20 LSM	17 Sept.	24 Sept.
3	54.19.1	15 APA 6 AKA 1 DD 1 DE	18 Sept.	23 Sept.
4	54.19.4	1 LST 2 DE	20 Sept.	26 Sept.

Further details covering this landing will be found in the report of Commander Transport Squadron 12 on the operation.

8. An interval of three weeks elapsed from the date of the SASEBO landing until the FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Group reached JAPAN. Transport Squadron 22 (Temp) (Captain COHEN), with the 32nd Infantry Division embarked, moved from the PHILIPPINES in two echelons, under movement orders issued by Commander Amphibious Group 14 at MANILA, commencing 9 October, in accordance with the following schedule:

Movement No.	T.U. No.	Composition	Departed PHILIPPINES	Arrived SASEBO
1	Not Assigned	16 APA 8 AKA 1 LSV 2 DD 2 DE	9 Oct.	14 Oct.
2	54.15.4	1 LC (FF) 13 LST 1 DE	12 Oct.	19 Oct.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - Report of Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas, Part II, Section (B)-Operations

Upon arrival of Transport Squadron 22 at SASEBO 14 October, troops were disembarked and cargo unloaded, as in the previous landing, for further movement overland to FUKUOKA and SHIMONOSEKI. T.U. 54.15.4 unloaded some equipment at SASEBO commencing 19 October, and awaited the clearance of a swept channel into FUKUOKA harbor to complete unloading of such cargo as could not be trans-shipped from SASEBO by rail.

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part II - Preliminaries
Section (C) - Mission and Plans

1. The tasks assigned TG 54.1 SOUTHERN Occupation Group - Rear Admiral Reifsnider (Commander Amphibious Group FOUR), commencing on 22 September 1945 (ABLE Day), were to:

- (a) Land troops, supplies and equipment of FIFTH Amphibious Corps in SASEBO and NAGASAKI and in SASEBO for FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI area
- (b) Support troop operations;
- (c) Control naval gunfire and air support as made available by ComFIFTH Fleet;
- (d) Conduct harbor and beach clearance as required to assure safe landing and to facilitate unloading;
- (e) Establish anti-suicide security measures and safeguard shipping at objectives;
- (f) Establish Port Director Units and boat pools as required;
- (g) Initially route and control amphibious and troop supply shipping outward from, and in own objective area as directed by CTF 54 Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force - Vice Admiral Hill;
- (h) Evacuate personnel as directed;

in order to assist in the occupation and control of the SASEBO-NAGASAKI and the FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI areas.

2. The basic plan, Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No A411-45, provided for the occupation of the SASEBO-NAGASAKI area by the SOUTHERN Occupation Group with FIFTH Amphibious Corps.

The FIFTH Amphibious Corps Headquarters and Corps Troops and the FIFTH Marine Division were made available for the initial landings at SASEBO, scheduled tentatively for 22 September (ABLE Day), Preferred or Alternate Plan, as ordered. Troops, equipment and supplies were to be landed from shipping assigned TG 54.2 SASEBO Group - Commodore Jenkins (Commander Transport Squadron 22). The Preferred Plan was based on the assumption that reconnaissance would not have been made by an advance force and initial landings would be made from ships outside the harbor entrance. The Alternate Plan was based on the assumption that the Japanese would have been required to immobilize defense installations and naval weapons and to clear the approaches to landing beaches, sea-plane ramps and docks prior to the arrival of the SOUTHERN Occupation

CONFIDENTIAL

Col. PhibGp 4

Action Report - Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI areas - Part II - Preliminaries -
Section (C) - Mission and Plans.

Group, allowing the ships to enter the harbor prior to making the initial landing.

The SECOND Marine Division was made available for landing in the NAGASAKI Harbor Area, if practicable (Preferred Plan), otherwise in the SASEBO Area (Alternate Plan), in accordance with Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A412-45, which was supplementary to Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A411-45. This plan provided for the landing of embarked troops, equipment and supplies from shipping assigned TG 54.3 NAGASAKI Group - Commodore Knowles (Commander Transport Squadron 12) and was scheduled tentatively for 25 September (ABLE plus FOUR Day).

The occupation of the SHIMONOSEKI-FUKUOKA area was scheduled to be accomplished by SOUTHERN Occupation Group with FIFTH Amphibious Corps, following the initial landings at SASEBO and NAGASAKI. The 52nd Infantry Division was made available for this landing, in the SASEBO-NAGASAKI area, scheduled tentatively for 15 October (CHARLIE Day) in accordance with Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A413-45, which was supplementary to Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A411-45. This Plan provided for the landing of troops, supplies and equipment from shipping assigned to 54.4 SHIMONOSEKI Group - Commodore Jenkins (Commander Transport Squadron 22), on turn-around shipping, after completion of the SASEBO landing.

On 15 September, upon receipt of information from advance reconnaissance groups, it was decided that the situation clearly indicated that no opposition was to be expected at either SASEBO or NAGASAKI, and that the landings should be made without a show of force.

The following day the Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps notified the Commanding General SIXTH Army that the situation indicated that the FIFTH Marine Division could proceed directly into the harbor for the landing at SASEBO and that it appeared desirable and feasible to echelon units of the SECOND Marine Division into NAGASAKI beginning on 23 September. This was approved by the Commanding General SIXTH Army and by Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force, and Commander Amphibious Group FOUR was authorized to move shipping accordingly. On 17 September alternate landing plans were issued, by despatch, by the FIFTH Amphibious Corps to cover the landing of the FIFTH Marine Division at SASEBO on 22 September and the SECOND Marine Division at NAGASAKI by echelon arrival beginning 23 September, based on the assumption that the entrance and harbor facilities at SASEBO and at NAGASAKI would be secure for an unimpeded landing.

Based on the above estimate of the situation Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan A411 (Second Alternate)-45 was issued, by despatch, on 18 September, providing for an unopposed entry into SASEBO Harbor beginning about sunrise on 22 September. Commander Amphibious

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report: - Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of FUKUOKA-SHI-MONOSEKI areas - Part II - Preliminaries - Section (C) - Mission and Plans.

Group FOUR Operation Plan A412 (Second Alternate)-45 was also issued, by despatch, on 18 September, providing for an unopposed landing at NAGASAKI commencing on 23 September. This advanced the landing at NAGASAKI three days ahead of the date originally scheduled.

The initial landings of the FIFTH Marine Division at SASEBO on 22 September and the SECOND Marine Division at NAGASAKI on 23 September were carried out according to plan and the Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps assumed control of the forces ashore in the SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area at 1600 ITEM on 23 September, at which time Commander Amphibious Group FOUR relinquished control.

On 26 September Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force directed Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, when relieved of SOPA functions, to proceed in MOUNT McKINLEY to WAKAYAMA and report to Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force.

Commander Amphibious Group FOUR was released from duty as CTG 55. SOPA Administrative SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area, effective 1200 ITEM 27 September, in accordance with orders from CTF 55 who continued as Area Commander and SOPA Actual SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area. On orders from CTF 55, Commander Unit ABLE Service Division 103, assumed duty as SOPA Administrative SASEBO Area with designation CTU 55.8.1, effective 1200 ITEM 27 September. CTF 55 directed Port Director NAGASAKI - Commander Blaine to assume duty as SOPA Administrative NAGASAKI with designation CTU 55.8.3, on departure Commander Transport Squadron 12 - Commodore KNOWLES.

Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, in MOUNT McKINLEY, departed SASEBO at 1200 ITEM 27 September and reported to Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force at WAKAYAMA on 29 September. At 0800 ITEM on 4 October Commander Amphibious Group FOUR relieved Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force as CTF 54 and assumed all duties assigned that command in connection with the occupation of JAPAN.

In the meantime it had become apparent that the opening of the ports of FUKUOKA and SHI-MONOSEKI to shipping would be delayed but in view of the desirability of occupying FUKUOKA without delay, prior to the arrival of the 32nd Infantry Division, the FIFTH Amphibious Corps executed "CHARLIE" Day on 30 September, by sending an advance echelon to FUKUOKA by overland transportation.

On 6 October CTF 54 ordered Commander Transport Squadron 22 to move units of TG 54.4 SHI-MONOSEKI Group to SASEBO in accordance with Commander Amphibious Group FOUR Operation Plan No. A413-45 and on 8 October CTF 54 advised Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps that it was planned to move the 32nd Infantry Division, less LST echelon, to arrive SASEBO 13 October. This plan was concurred in by FIFTH

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGp 4

Action Report - Occupation of SASEBO and NAGASAKI, and of FUKUOKA-
SHIMONOSEKI areas - Part II - Preliminaries -
Section (C) - Mission and Plans.

Amphibious Corps.

On the morning of 14 October Commander Transport Squadron 22 began unloading elements of the 32nd Infantry Division at SASEBO, in accordance with instructions from Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps, for overland echelon movement to FUKUOKA by motor transport and rail beginning 15 October. Only such heavy equipment as could not be moved overland was to be retained in the SASEBO Area to be trans-shipped to FUKUOKA as soon as that harbor was opened to LST's. It was anticipated that FUKUOKA might be ready for use by LST and smaller craft about 15 November according to a previous estimate by CTF 52 Commander Mine Force, Rear Admiral Struble. Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps, on 16 October, anticipated that the movement of elements transportable by road or rail could be completed early in November.

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

PART III - Chronology Of The Operation

ALL TIMES USED HEREIN ARE LOCAL.

On 17 August, ComPhibGroupFOUR received the following paraphrased dispatch from ComFIFTHPhibFor: "THE TASK OF PLANNING FOR AND EXECUTING THE NAVAL PHASES OF THE OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI IS ASSIGNED TO YOU X FOR MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE LOADING OF THE 98TH DIVISION YOU WILL ACT AS MY REPRESENTATIVE X YOU ARE ALSO TENTATIVELY ASSIGNED TASK OF PLANNING AND CONDUCTING THE NAVAL PHASES OF THE OCCUPATION OF FUKUOKA SHIMONOSEKI AREAS." This dispatch was followed by receipt of ComFIFTH PhibFor Operation Plan A1501-45 on 28 August.

TransRon 22 plus assigned LSTs and LSMs was to lift the FIFTH Amphibious Corps and the FIFTH Marine Division. The 98th Division was to be loaded in ships of TransRon 18 plus assigned LSTs and LSMs. ComLSMFlot FIVE, ComLSMGroup 45 and LSMs under their command, loaded with VAC and FIFTH Marine Division elements departed the HAWAIIAN Area on 28 August enroute to SAIPAN. Movements of the ships were in accordance with routing instructions received from ComFIFTHPhibFor. On 29 August ComLSTFlot 37, ComLSTGroup 69 plus assigned LSTs departed the HAWAIIAN Area enroute to the objective on the great circle route.

ComPhibGroup FOUR embarked in the USS MOUNT MCKINLEY (AGC 7) on 31 August and departed PEARL HARBOR for MAUI.

1 September

Enroute MAUI.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Scattered light showers. Good visibility. Winds east 14-16 knots.

0713 - Moored KAHULUI HARBOR, MAUI.

0958 - Commanding General FIFTH Amphibious Corps, Major General Harry Schmidt, USMC, and staff embarked in MOUNT MCKINLEY at KAHULUI, MAUI, for movement to the objective.

1400 - Transport Group ABLE, CTG 54.21, departed PEARL for SAIPAN.

1810 - Departed KAHULUI, MAUI to join Task Group 54.21 enroute to SAIPAN.

2 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Scattered light showers. Good visibility. Winds east 14-16 knots.

3 September

Enroute SAIPAN

Weather: Partly cloudy skies and scattered rain showers. Good visibility. Winds east-northeast 18-20 knots.

0320 - ComFIFTHFleet assigned ComCarDiv 22 in SUWANE with CHENANGO, CAPE GLOUCESTER, and KASAMAN Bay for support of SASEBO landing.

1600 - ComLSTGrp 14 departed PEARL HARBOR for SASEBO.

KINGMAN (APB 47) assigned ComPhibGroup FOUR by ComFIFTHPhibFor for use at SASEBO.

4 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy in morning, became overcast in afternoon. Visibility 10 miles. Winds east 10-15 knots.

0330 - Made contact with Transport Group ABLE, (TG 54.21), bearing 278°, distance 17,740 yards. This group had departed PEARL HARBOR at 1400 1 September.

0913 - MOUNT MCKINLEY arrived on assigned station with Task Group 54.21, Formation course 265°, standard speed 12 knots. Steaming at 13.5 knots. OTC ComTransRon 22 in WESTMORELAND.

5-6 September

Enroute SAIPAN

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Scattered showers. Good visibility. Winds east 15 knots.

1508 - CincPac dispatch substituted 32nd Inf. Div. for THIRD MarDiv in FIFTHPhibCorps occupation troops.

7 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Low cloud bases 2500 feet. Visibility 12 miles. Winds east-southeast 12-15 knots.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
Chronology.

0600 - GRAFTON (APA 109), SHELBY (APA 105), QUEENS (APA 103), and BURDO (APD 133), SCHMITT (APD 76) and KLINE (APD 120) commenced taking fueling stations.

0953 - All fueling completed and ships resumed normal stations.

1235 - ComGen SIXTH Army dispatch advised approximate date of entry into SASEBO would be 22 September and into NAGASAKI 26 September.

8 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Cloudy skies, scattered showers. Visibility 8 miles, reduced in rain. Winds east in the morning veering to east-southeast in afternoon. Velocity 15 knots.

1432 - EDISON (DD 439) closed MOUNT MCKINLEY to receive mail for delivery to WESTMORELAND and SAUGUS, and cleared at 1445.

1600 - EDISON closed MOUNT MCKINLEY to deliver mail, and cleared flagship at 1610.

1617 - Commander Amphibious Group FOUR (CTG 54.21) assumed tactical command of Task Group 54.21. Guide remained in WESTMORELAND.

9 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Broken to overcast skies all day. Showers and light squall throughout the day. Wind easterly shifting to northeast in afternoon.

1000 - NIBLACK alongside MOUNT MCKINLEY to receive mail for delivery to ComTransRon 22, ComTransDiv 39 and ComTransDiv 72, and cleared flagship at 1017.

1120 - NIBLACK closed flagship to deliver mail from TransRon 22 and cast off at 1127.

10 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology

Weather: Overcast skies with frequent showers. Visibility 12 miles in the morning reduced to 8 miles in afternoon. Winds east 15 knots.

0800 - GLEAVES closed MOUNT MCKINLEY to receive officers and mail prior to departing for SAIPAN (Assistant Logistics Officer to make arrangements for logistics at SAIPAN, and Assistant Gunnery Officer to expedite mail to MANILA for ComFIFTHPhib For, and to depart SAIPAN for OKINAWA to effect delivery of ComPhibGroup FOUR Operation Plan A411-45 to ComCruDiv 13 and fire support ships). GLEAVES cleared MOUNT MCKINLEY at 0835.

1021 - WOOLSEY, NIBLACK, EDISON and ERICKSON closed MOUNT MCKINLEY in succession to receive ComPhibGroup FOUR Operation Plan A411-45, including First Alternate, for distribution to all ships in Task Group 54.21. Delivery of Operation Plans effected by 1603 and destroyers back on assigned stations.

11 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Overcast with intermittent light rain all day. Visibility 6 miles reduced at times to one mile. Winds easterly 15 knots.

12 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Overcast skies with light intermittent, becoming light continuous rain. Wind east-northeast 20-25 knots, increasing to 25-30 knots late in period. Synoptic analysis showed a developing tropical storm to the South.

Received CTG 55.7 dispatch giving description of situation at NAGASAKI - remaining docks occupied, railroads good, people frightened, but peaceable and cooperative.

13 September

Enroute SAIPAN.

Weather: Overcast skies with frequent showers and rain squalls. Wind southeast backing to east-southeast 15-20 knots.

ComFIFTHFlt dispatch set date for landing at SASEBO as 22 September and at NAGASAKI for 25 September.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA.-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

13 September (contd.)

ComLSTGroup 13 ordered to load elements of SECONDMarDiv by ComFIFTH PhibFor.

ComFIFTHPhibFor ordered ComTransRon 12 to report to ComPhibGroup FOUR for loading of SECONDMarDiv at SAIPAN.

0535 - Turned over tactical command of Task Group 54.21 to ComTrans Ron 22, MOUNT MCKINLEY proceeding independently.

0641 - MOUNT MCKINLEY anchored SAIPAN and ComPhibGroup FOUR assumed duties of SOPA.

1400 - Received Commander FIFTH Fleet Operation Plans 6-45, 7-45, and 8-45.

14 September

Anchored TANAPAG Harbor, SAIPAN.

Weather: Equatorial front over station all day. Overcast skies with showers all day. Visibility 6 to 10 miles. Wind southerly with velocity varying from 5 to 25 knots throughout the day. Heavy swells from southwest.

Col. E. A. Barlow, Chief of Staff and Maj. G. D. Gray, Signal Officer, 32nd Infantry Division boarded MOUNT MCKINLEY for conference with ComPhibGroup FOUR and ComGen FIFTH Amphibious Corps.

ComGen SIXTH Army, Lieut. General Krueger, embarked in AUBURN at MANILA and with ComFIFTHPhibFor departed for SASEBO.

Received CTF 55, ComCruDiv 13, Operation Plan 10-45. ComPhibGroup FOUR designated Administrative SOPA, SASEBO-NAGASAKI Areas.

1400 - ComLSMFlot FIVE and ComLSTGroup 47 plus assigned LSMs and LSTs departed SAIPAN for SASEBO.

15 September

Anchored TANAPAG Harbor, SAIPAN

Weather: Broken to overcast skies in the morning gave way rapidly to partly cloudy conditions. Winds east-northeast 5-10 knots. Continuing heavy swells from southwest.

Requested ComFIFTHPhibFor sail DORCHESTER (APB 46), KINGMAN (APB 47).

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III) -
Chronology.

and VANDENBURG (APB 48) carrying CUB 18 boat pool personnel and equipment to SASEBO earliest practicable after arrival GUAM.

1745 - BURDO, SCHMITT and KLINE underway for SASEBO to report to CTF 54 in accordance with previous instructions from ComPhibGroup FOUR; UDTs 6, 11, 13, FIFTH Amphibious Corps advance reconnaissance party plus beach party personnel and interpreters from ComPhib Group FOUR embarked in APDs.

16 September

Anchored TANAPAG Harbor, SAIPAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Good visibility. Light easterly winds. Continuing heavy swells from southwest.

ComGen SIXTH Army approved VAC (V Amphibious Corps) plan for landing SECONDMarDiv at NAGASAKI commencing 23 September.

ComFIFTHPhibFor requested nomination 1 APD for special independent mission departing SASEBO 23 September. SCHMITT with UDT 6 embarked was designated.

1600 - Task Group 54.21 less MOUNT MCKINLEY underway for movement to SASEBO. OTC in ESTMORELAND.

1745 - MOUNT MCKINLEY underway from TANAPAG Harbor enroute to join units of Task Group 54.21. Joined formation at 2155.

17 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Partly cloudy with few scattered showers. Visibility excellent. Winds east 5-10 knots.

CTF 55 forwarded information on harbor conditions SASEBO. Harbor being cleared of ships, larger naval vessels going to EBISU TAN, smaller ships to OMURA TAN. Dry dock area and repair basin to be cleared. Excellent mooring buoys in inner harbor. Eight tugs operational and four pilots available. No obstacles or obstructions in harbor. Seaplane Area recommended in southeast section of bay.

VAC advance inspection party reported that restricted landing areas NAGASAKI may necessitate debarkation in echelons direct from transports.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

TAKAKONI (ATF 114), PRESERVER (ARS 8), POTOMATOMI (ATF 109) and ATR 13 ordered to SASEBO by CTF 51 to fill tug requirements of ComPhibGroup FOUR.

18 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Partly cloudy with occasional showers. Winds southeast 12 knots.

0003 - Issued OpPlan A411 (Second Alternate)-45 by dispatch. Berthing and unloading to be primary consideration, assuming an unopposed entry into SASEBO.

0010 - Issued OpPlan A412 (Second Alternate)-45 by dispatch for landing SECOND MarDiv at NAGASAKI.

1700 - ComTransRon 12 with SECOND MarDiv embarked departed SAIPAN for NAGASAKI.

19 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Partly cloudy. Winds southeast in the morning, backed to northeast in the afternoon.

1045 - NIBLACK, WOOLSEY and EDISON closed MOUNT MCKINLEY in succession to receive mail for delivery to ships in company. Destroyers returned to screening stations at 1500.

20 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Cloudy to overcast skies with frequent showers. Visibility 5-12 miles. Winds east-southeast 15 knots.

1300 - Commenced reforming formation into three divisions in order to pass through swept channel, divisions in line of division columns, and completed at 1430.

1700 - ComFIFTHPhibFor and ComGen SIXTH Army in AUBURN (AGC 10) arrived SASEBO for pre - ABLE Day inspection.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

21 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Cloudy skies and frequent showers. Winds southerly 15 knots.

1015 - Commenced interchanging stations of TransDivs 72 and 64, completing maneuvers at 1115.

22 September

Enroute SASEBO.

Weather: Overcast with light intermittent rain throughout the day. Visibility reduced to 2-4 miles by rain. Winds southeast 5-10 knots.

0249 - Instructed all ships to maintain fleet axis 000° during passage through swept channels.

0625 - Proceeded into SASEBO KO and moored to buoy 17 at 0757. Task Group 54.21 dissolved. Assumed designation CTG 54.1 and CTG 55.8 SOPA (Admin), SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area.

0750 - Ordered execution of OpPlan A411 (Second Alternate)-45, in accordance with which ships of TransRon 22, LST Flot 37 (LST Group 69), and LSM Flot FIVE entered harbor, proceeded to berths and commenced discharge of troops and cargo as directed. Fire support ships and control group vessels of escort proceeded to stations within the harbor.

0800 - Vice Admiral Abe and Maj. Gen. Koeto, Maj. Negro, Rear Admiral Ishii and Capt. Toboheishi came aboard for conference. Japanese officers departed 0930.

1009 - Ordered Task Group 54.1 to reduce naval personnel going ashore to minimum because of unsanitary conditions.

1055 - YOSEMITE, with ComServDiv 103 Unit ABLE embarked, requested berthing assignment for originator and ELK (IX 115), NUMITOR (ARL 17) and LCI 606.

1117 - Directed by ComFIFTHPhibFor to assume responsibility for weather forecasting.

1130 - Issued SOPA Instructions SASEBO - NAGASAKI.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology.

- 1150 - Advised Task Group 54.1 that small boat basin is reserved for Japanese small craft and not to be used for landing.
- 1201 - ComTransRon 22 reported all regular beach parties and shore parties established ashore and ready to receive ships at any time.
- 2020 - Reported to CTF 54 and CTF 55 that there were 10,000 troops ashore by 1800.

Sanitary conditions very unsatisfactory. General unloading commenced with adequate facilities. Seven large ships docked by dark. Had assumed duties of Administrative SOPA.

- 2311 - Authorized ComFIFTHPhibFor to sail ships of TransRon 22 per instructions received, in two groups in order to avoid unnecessary delay resulting from holding unloaded ships to await completion of unloading of certain units.

23 September

Moored SASEBO KO.

Weather: Overcast first of period with some light rain. Clearing took place in the morning and afternoon. Winds east backing to west-northwest 5-10 knots.

- 0600 - ComFIFTHPhibFor in AUBURN departed for NAGASAKI and WAKAYAMA
- 0730 - CTG 54.3 ComTransRon 12, arrived at NAGASAKI with NAGASAKI Group.
- 1105 - Granted permission to land personnel of Garrison Beach Battalion in order to expedite unloading of small boats.
- 1217 - ComTransRon 12 reported QUEEN HOUR for landing at NAGASAKI will be 1300. Troops landing in accordance ComGen SECOND MarDiv OpPlan No. 15. Preliminary survey indicated unloading would be slow.
- 1337 - ComGen FIFTH MarDiv assumed command ashore in assigned zone of responsibility.
- 1446 - Directed ComLSMFlot FIVE with ComLSMGroup 45 and designated LSMS to depart SASEBO 1000/24 and proceed OKINAWA for loading X Corps units.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

- 1600 - ComGen VAC assumed command ashore.
- 1757 - Directed ComLSTGroup 14 to detach LSTs 390, 828, 870 and 1022 from Task Unit 54.22.2 and divert these ships to NAGASAKI to report to ComTransRon 12.
- 2026 - Report on NAGASAKI landing from ComTransRon 12; began landing troops 1300 with approximately 7000 troops ashore by 2000. Nine ships moved to inner harbor, berthed and docked.

24 September

Moored SASEBO KO.

Weather: Partly cloudy to cloudy skies with light haze and smoke reducing visibility to 3-5 miles in the early morning. Winds light northeast.

0815 - ComPhibGroup FOUR and ComGen VAC embarked in EDISON departed for NAGASAKI.

1000 - ComLSMFlot FIVE, ComLSMGroup 45 with attached LSMs departed for OKINAWA.

ComGen SIXTH Army assumed command of forces ashore in VAC zone of responsibility.

1432 - ComTransRon 12 assumed duties SOPA NAGASAKI.

1545 - Received routing and sailing instructions for ships of Task Groups 54.2 and 54.3 from ComFIFTHPhibFor.

1557 - ComPhibGroup FOUR and ComGen VAC returned from NAGASAKI.

1805 - Issued orders for ComLSTFlot 37, ComLSTGroup 69 plus assigned LSTs escorted by KIRKPATRICK to depart SASEBO 1200/25 September, proceed LINGAYEN.

1807 - Directed ComLSTGroup 47 with assigned LSTs and escorted by JOYCE depart SASEBO 0700/25 September, proceed LEYTE.

2234 - Formed Task Unit 54.21.2 ComTransDiv 39 in CUSTER OTC, with ComTransDiv 72 in GRAFTON plus CLERMONT, QUEENS, KARNES, BO'IE KINGSBURY, SEVIER, SHELBY, THOMAS JEFFERSON, WEAVER, HAMELEN and GILLIAM escorted by NIELACK and EDISON. Task Unit to depart SASEBO 1000/25 September, proceed SUBIC BAY.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhilGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

25 September

Moored SASEBO KO.

Weather: Mostly clear skies with few scattered low clouds. Visibility reduced by haze in the early morning. Winds light and variable.

0900 - ComGen SECOND MarDiv assumed command ashore NAGASAKI. ComGen VAC and staff left MOUNT MCKINLEY and established VAC Headquarters ashore.

1107 - ComFIFTHPhibFor dispatch requested ComPhibGroup FOUR join him at WAKAYAMA (HONSHU) by 29 September.

1147 - Directed ComTransRon 12 route and sail ships of Task Group 54.3 as follows: Transport types plus 7 LSTs to LEYTE, 5 LSTs to MARIANAS, 15 LSMs to OKINAWA, 3 LSTs to SASEBO to report to ComLSTGroup 14.

1200 - LST Group 14 arrived SASEBO.

1748 - Advance reconnaissance party from VAC reported excellent facilities for unloading LSTs at seaplane base north of FUKUOKA. Ships of not more than 17 foot draft may enter FUKUOKA Harbor. Sweeping of harbor continuing with channel six hundred meters wide completed. Pilot with thorough knowledge of harbor available. Preliminary surveys indicate it will be very difficult to move and support any large force from SASEBO to FUKUOKA.

1750 - LCI 813 with Harbor Master embarked reported for duty.

1959 - Changed destination of TransRon 12 from LEYTE to MANILA.

2042 - Issued orders for BURDO and KLINE with UDTs 13 and 11 embarked to depart SASEBO-NAGASAKI area 1200/26 September proceed GUAM for onward routing to SAN DIEGO via PEARL HARBOR.

2355 - Advised ComFIFTHPhibFor could meet him WAKAYAMA but relief required as Administrative SOPA. Recommended ComServDiv 103 Unit ABLE be assigned as Administrative SOPA SASEBO.

26 September

Moored SASEBO KO.

Weather: Overcast with light rain throughout the day. Winds east 5-10 knots.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

- 0800 - ComLCTFlot 21 and 50 LCTs arrived SASEBO.
- 0950 - ComFIFTHPhibFor directed ComPhibGroup FOUR proceed WAKAYAMA when relieved SOPA functions at SASEBO.
- 1300 - Task Unit 54.21.3 ComTransRon 22 in WESTMORELAND with MONTROSE, DAWSON, FOND du LAC, MERRICK, AURELIA, SELINUR, ALAMANCE, SARITA, RENATE, SAPPHO and SAUGUS escorted by ComDesRon 13 in WOOLSEY and ERICKSON departed for LINGAYEN.
- 1543 - Directed ComTransRon 12 establish boat pool of 6 LCMs, 14 LCVPs and 6 LCPLs at NAGASAKI.
- 1927 - CTF 51 approved recommendation that ComServDiv 103 Unit ABLE take over SOPA Administrative duties at SASEBO.
- 2053 - ComGen VAC announced preparedness to resume responsibility for unloading at SASEBO and NAGASAKI.
- 2336 - Directed ComLCTFlot 21 to report to Port Director SASEBO for duty. Port Director SASEBO to sail group LCTs to NAGASAKI for duty as required by Port Director that area.

27 September

Moored SASEBO KO.

Weather: Overcast with light to moderate rain throughout the day. wind shifting from northeast in morning to southeast in afternoon. Average velocity 20-25 knots with gusts. Visibility 2-5 miles in rain.

- 0800 - Port Director established ashore SASEBO.
- 1049 - Formed Task Unit 54.18.4 ComLSTGroup 14 with LSTs assigned escorted by PC 1210. Task Unit to depart SASEBO 1200/28 September for LINGAYEN.
- 1151 - CTF 55 directed ComServDiv 103 Unit ABLE relieve ComPhib Group FOUR as CTG 55.8 Administrative SOPA SASEBO-NAGASAKI Area. Port Director NAGASAKI to assume duties SOPA NAGASAKI upon departure of ComTransRon 12.
- 1200 - ComPhibGroup FOUR embarked in MOUNT MCKINLEY escorted by HARVESON (DE 316) departed SASEBO for WAKAYAMA.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part (III)
- Chronology

- 1425 - Directed ComTransRons 12 and 22 divert units from prescribed route as necessary to avoid probable storm track. Also directed CTU 54.18.12 to take similar precautions requesting further routing from ComPhilSeaFron.
- 1625 - ComLSTFlot 23 and assigned LSTs sailed to MARIANAS for loading of VAC elements.
- 1550 - Received by dispatch ComBatRonONE Operation Order 01-45 for KURE covering force.
- 1759 - HARVESON sank floating mine.
- 2330 - ComFIFTHPhibFor requested information concerning LCI types and hull numbers under operational control ComPhibGroup FOUR and prospective date services of craft not required.

28 September

Enroute WAKAYAMA.

Weather: Overcast with breaks in the afternoon. Light rain in the morning. Winds east-northeast 20-25 knots, decreasing in the afternoon.

0618 - CTF 51 proposed to CTF 52 that date for entry of transports into HIRO WAN be October 3.

1330 - ComTransRon 12 in CAMBRIA with FREESTON, MENARD LYCOMING, APPLING, ANDROMEDA, CAPRICORNUS, WAUKESHA, TYRELL, and OTTAWA escorted by TILLS departed NAGASAKI for MANILA.

29 September

Enroute WAKAYAMA.

Weather: Mostly clear with scattered low clouds. Winds north 15-20 knots.

0848 - Reported to ComFIFTHPhibFor for duty.

0929 - Anchored WAKANOURA WAN, WAKAYAMA, HONSHU.

1801 - ComTransRon 12 reported deviating from prescribed route to MARIANAS in order to avoid typhoon.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComFhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

30 September

Anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy with haze along coast in the early morning.
Winds light and variable.

1120 - ComTransRon 12 directed by ComFIFTHPhibFor to turn over
command TransRon 12 to next senior, return to NAGASAKI
immediately and report to ComCruDivFOUR.

1502 - ComTransRon 12 reported ETA NAGASAKI 1100 1 October.

1 October

Anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy with haze along coast in the early morning.
Winds light and variable.

2 October

Anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy to cloudy skies. Wind veered to south early
in the morning and increased to 20-25 knots.

0025 - ComFIFTHPhibFor advised ComFIFTHFlt that ComPhibGroup 12
would relieve Vice Admiral HILL as ComFIFTHPhibFor at 1200,
3 October. ComPhibGroupFOUR would take over command of
Task Force 54 at 0800, 4 October and assume all operational
functions of the amphibious forces of western JAPAN.

2105 - ComFIFTHPhibFor advised ComPhibGroupFOUR that PCs 1080,
1231, 1260, 1171, 1210, and 803 released from duty and
should be directed to report to CinCPac for further orders.

1219 - ComPhibGroup 12 Rear Admiral HALL in HANSFORD (APA-106)
anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

3 October

Anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

Weather: Broken to overcast skies with frequent showers throughout
the day. Visibility 4-8 miles. Wind southerly 30-35 knots. Cold
front passage at 1500. Wind shifted to northwest at that time and
velocity dropped to 10-15 knots.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

2205 - Requested CNOB SASEBO advise number of boats required in SASEBO Garrison Boat Pool with due consideration for requirements of FUKUOKA and SHIMONOSEKI areas. Boats to be left by TransRon 22 on second visit. CNOB SASEBO recommended 25 LCM, 40 LCVP, 7 LCPL.

4 October

Anchored WAKANOURA WAN.

Weather: Overcast with rain all day. Winds were northeast to north and averaged 18 knots until noon then increased to 30-35 knots. A typhoon which had developed in the vicinity of 15°N - 145°E had recurved sharply northward toward JAPAN.

0800 - Assumed command of Task Force 54.

0910 - MOUNT McKINLEY escorted by HARVESON departed WAKANOURA for HIRO WAN.

1003 - Directed CTG 54.28 and CTU 54.8.2 report position and weather every four hours.

1431 - Advised Commander KURE Covering Unit of intentions to have transports ride out storm south of BUNGO if typhoon failed to recurve. Covering Unit to proceed at discretion of ComCruDiv 12.

1737 - CTG 54.28 reported ordering gunboats into Inland Sea for protections against storm.

5 October

Enroute HIRO WAN

Weather: Typhoon passed about 200 miles southeast at 0300 Item. Overcast with showers in the morning. Clearing was rapid during the afternoon. "Funnel effect" caused by mountains caused winds to increase to 50-60 knots while passing through BUNGO SUIDO.

0928 - HARVESON sank mine.

1000 - CTG 52.7 reported Guinea Pigs made run through channel at 12 knots, with TAKASAGU MARU making run at fifteen knots. Recommended speed of 12 knots with speed not less than 10 knots through tide rips in KUDAKA SUIDO.

1145 - HARVESON directed to destroy floating mines.

1621 - Anchored IYO NADA.

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

1730 - Japanese pilot and interpreter boarded MOUNT MCKINLEY.

5 October

Anchored IYO NADA.

Weather: Broken skies becoming overcast in the afternoon. Visibility 8-12 miles. Wind northeast 10-15 knots.

0607 - Underway for HIRO WAN.

0825 - Anchored HIRO WAN.

0900 - Vice Admiral MASSO KANAZAWA, Commandant KURE Naval District and Navy Yard, with several members of his staff, reported to CTF 54 (Rear Admiral REIFSNIDER) aboard USS MOUNT MCKINLEY for formal meeting with him and CTU 51.3.3, Commander KURE Covering Unit (Rear Admiral RIGGS).

1415 - Directed ComTransRon 22 move units of Task Group 54.4 to arrive SASEBO on CHARLIE Day. Requested ComTransRon 22 give best estimate of date.

7 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with showers and light rain throughout the day. Visibility 8-12 miles. Wind northeast 10-15 knots.

0936 - CTG 54.11 reported intention of establishing boat pool of 50 LCVPs. ComTransRon 16 requested permission retain one LST to house boat pool personnel until arrival of VANDENBURG; permission granted.

1100 - ComGen 41st Division assumed command ashore at HIRO.

1239 - Detached ComLSTFlotFIVE from assignment to report to CNOB, OKINAWA as CTF 54 representative to assist in loading and moving of LSTs and LSMs that area.

8 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with light rain all day. Visibility 1-6 miles. Wind northeast 5-10 knots.

9 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with light rain throughout the day. Visibility 1-6 miles. Wind northeast, increasing from 2 knots in morning to 20 knots in late afternoon. Typhoon passed OKINAWA at 1500, expected to affect HIRO WAN area by the 10th.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

- 1130 - Requested ComCruDiv 12 direct appropriate personnel conduct inspection of Jap vessels scheduled to sail RYUKYUS for repatriation of Japanese.
- 1250 - ComServDiv 103, Unit DOG, arrived HIRO WAN in VULCAN (AR-5).
- 1606 - ComGen SIXTH Army set date for landing in NAGOYA Area as 15 October.
- 1741 - Requested CTF 51 set date for landing at MATSUYAMA, as shipping could meet date of 22 October provided minesweeping permitted.
- 1745 - Advised CTF 51 that CinCKURE Naval Station had requested permission to commence sweeping KANMON STRAIT between SHIMONOSEKI and MOJI in order to facilitate occupation by our forces, repatriation of Japanese, and improvement of communications and industry.
- 2100 - Set Typhoon Condition ONE.

10 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with rain and light showers. Visibility 2-8 miles. Wind northeast 15-20 knots, increasing to 35-40 knots at 1900.

0611 - Set Typhoon Condition TWO.

0935 - Directed ComTransRon 22 leave 15 LCM, 45 LCVP and 6 LCPL at SASEBO for Navy boat pool.

1119 - Requested ComPhibGrp 14 direct TransRon 12 less 3 APAs and 4 AKAs, report to ComServFac for Magic Carpet duty.

2007 - CTF 51 announced that landings on MIKE Day would be at NAGOYA and not YOKKAICHI.

11 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy with few scattered rain showers. Visibility averaged 10 miles. Wind northwest 15-20 knots. Sea slight.

0013 - Secured from Typhoon Condition TWO, typhoon having directly passed over the area but without serious effect.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

2154 - CTF 51 cancelled MIKE Day of 15 October. Firm date to be set by dispatch.

12 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Mostly clear skies in the morning gave way to partly cloudy skies in the afternoon. Few rain showers. Visibility 12 miles. Wind west to northwest 10 knots.

13 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Mostly clear. Visibility 8-10 miles. Wind light and variable.

1535 - ComGenFIFTHPhibCorps issued landing instructions for 32nd Infantry Division to ComTransRon 22. Movement to be overland from SASEBO.

14 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Clear skies in the morning were followed by few scattered cumulus clouds in the afternoon. Wind was light and variable throughout the day with a slight sea breeze effect in the afternoon.

0855 - Directed ComTransRon 22 less TransDiv 39, report to ComServPac for Magic Carpet duty.

15 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies throughout most of the day, becoming overcast in the late afternoon. Visibility 10 miles. Wind east to northeast 4-6 knots in the morning increasing to 10-15 knots in the afternoon.

1004 - ComGen VAC stated that plans were for TransDiv 39 to lift RCT of FIFTH MarDiv to PALAUS.

16 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Mostly clear skies throughout the day. Visibility 10-12 miles. Wind east 10-15 knots.

1101 - ComPhibGroupEIGHT advised that date for NAGOYA landing postponed until

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

27 October, and requested shipping be delayed accordingly.

ComGenTENTHCorps and ComPhibGroup 11 inspected MATSUYAMA Area
prior to landing of 24th division.

17 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy in the morning, overcast in the afternoon.
Visibility 8 miles. Wind east 10 knots.

0100 - ComGen SIXTH Army stated day for landing at NAGOYA delayed
because of minesweeping.

0150 - ComGen SIXTH Army advised ComGenTENTHCorps that landing at
MATSUYAMA would be advanced to 22 October.

1627 - Designated ComLSTFlot 37 CTF 54 representative in NAGASAKI-
SASEBO-FUKUOKA area to facilitate loading, unloading and
movements of Task Force 54 shipping that area.

18 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast skies with light rain most of the day. Visibility
reduced occasionally to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile but averaging 5 miles. Wind north-
east 10-15 knots.

ComPhibGroup 11 and ComGenTENTHCorps departed KURE-HIRO area to
inspect landing beaches at OKAYAMA, returning 19 October.

1249 - CTF 51 set 22 October as date for landing at MATSUYAMA.

19 October.

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast skies with light rain in the morning. Visibility
averaged 6 miles in the morning but improved to 10 miles in the
afternoon. Wind light and variable.

20 October.

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast skies throughout the day with light rain in the
afternoon. Visibility 10 miles in the morning but decreased to
7 miles after 1400. Wind east-northeast 8 knots.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report * SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Area * Part
(III) - Chronology.

2200 - ComTransDiv 39 in CUSTER with CLERMONT departed for PELELIU.
SHELBY departed following day.

21 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with rain showers. Visibility 8 miles. Wind easterly 12 knots.

1015 - ComPhibGroup 11 and ConGenTENTHCorps in CALVERT departed HIRO WAN for MATSUYAMA.

22 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Broken skies during the morning becoming overcast in the afternoon with showers after 1600. Wind northeast 10 knots.

1330 - ConGen 24th Infantry Division assumed command ashore in MATSUYAMA.

1459 - Directed ComPhibGroupEIGHT order APAs of TransRon 20 report to ComServFac for Magic Carpet upon completion of unloading. AKAs of same squadron to report to CinCPac for further orders.

23 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Broken to overcast skies with showers throughout the day. Visibility 8-10 miles. Wind north 12 knots.

0730 - ConGen 21st Infantry Division assumed command ashore at OKAYAMA.

1317 - CTF 51 designated 26 October as date for landing at NAGOYA.

1453 - CTG 54.11 recommended boat pool of 15 LCVP for MATSUYAMA-MITSUHAMA area. Approval given.

24 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy with good visibility. Wind light and variable.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

0938 - ComBatRonONE in APPALACHIAN (AGC-1) arrived HIRO WAN.

1549 - ComPhibGroupEIGHT recommended NAGOYA boat pool consist of
12 LCVP and 2 LCMs from TransRon 20. Approved.

25 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Mostly clear skies throughout the day. Visibility 12
miles. Wind east 15-18 knots.

26 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast in the morning becoming partly cloudy in the
afternoon. Visibility 10 miles in the morning, reduced to 6-8
miles by light haze in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.

1100 - NAGOYA Occupation Group arrived at objective. ComPhibGroup
EIGHT later reported 6 APAs and 1 AKA docked prior darkness,
7 LSTs, 5 LSMs and 12 LCTs completed unloading. Harbor
well marked and docks in satisfactory condition.

1200 - ComBatRonONE arrived HIRO WAN.

1309 - Gave permission to Inland Sea Ship Company (Japanese) to
reestablish ferry service between KAKINOURA and HIROSHIMA,
HOJO and NAGAHAMA, HIROSHIMA and MITSUHAMA, ONOMICHI and
TADOTSU, KURE and BEPFU, NISHAMA and HIROSHIMA, ONOMICHI
and IMAHARU. 8 ships of less than 220 gross tons to be
used.

27 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Clear skies in the morning with few scattered low clouds
in the afternoon. Visibility 10 miles. Wind east 10-15 knots.

0947 - CTF 52 reported FUKUOKA open to APDs, LSTs and smaller
vessels at restricted speeds upon completion sweeping
15 November.

1447 - Directed ComPhibGroupEIGHT detach LCTFlot 39 when no longer
needed and LCTs.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

28 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Clear skies throughout the day. Visibility 10 miles. Wind east 15 knots.

0000 - ComCruDiv 12 assumed duties of area commander HIRO-MATSUYAMA group.

0900 - ComGen 24th Division assumed command ashore in NAGOYA area.

1440 - ComServDiv 103, Unit DOG, designated SOFA Admin. HIRO-KURE Area.

29 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Visibility 8-10 miles. Wind north-east 10 knots.

0900 - ComPhibGroupFOUR attended recommissioning of DD-224 (Ex USS STEWART) by ComBatRonONE.

1100 - CTF 51 departed APPALACHIAN by air for KYOTO.

1521 - Requested permission from ComFIFTHFlt to proceed TOKYO BAY for conference. Approval given at 1010/31.

30 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Overcast with rain showers throughout the day. Visibility 4-6 miles occasionally reduced to 2 miles in rain. Wind northeast 10 knots.

1600 - CTF 51 returned to APPALACHIAN.

2225 - ComFIFTHFlt detached ComPhibGroupEIGHT and ordered him to report to ComSEVENTHFlt for duty.

31 October

Anchored HIRO WAN.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Visibility 12 miles. Wind north 10

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) - Chronology.

knots, in the morning increasing to 15-20 knots in the afternoon.

0630 - ComPhibGroup FOUR in MOUNT McKINLEY with ComPhibGroup 11 in CALVERT and HARVESON departed HIRO WAN for YOKOHAMA.

1 November

Enroute YOKOHAMA

Weather: Mostly clear with few scattered low clouds in the afternoon. Visibility 12 miles. Wind northwest to north 14 knots.

2 November

Enroute YOKOHAMA

Weather: Partly cloudy skies. Visibility restricted by haze and smoke to 3-6 miles. Wind light and variable.

1353 - Directed ComPhibGroup 14 release Task Force 54 LSTs, LSMs with Flotilla and Group Commanders to AdComPhibsFac, PHILLIPINES when services no longer required.

3 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Partly cloudy skies throughout the day. Visibility 5 mile in the morning improving to 10 miles in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.

4 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Mostly clear skies throughout the day. Visibility 5 miles in the morning improving to 10 miles in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.

0843 - Advised ComPhibGrp 14 that his duties as CTF 54 representative in PHILLIPINES would be completed about 15 November.

5 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Clear skies throughout the day. Visibility reduced to 2-4 miles by haze in the early morning improving to 10 miles in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(III) Chronology.

6 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Clear skies all day. Visibility 1 mile in the morning improving to 8 miles by 1400. Wind light and variable in the morning but increased to 18 knots in the late afternoon.

7 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Clear skies in the morning becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon and mostly clear after 2000. Visibility reduced by haze to 1 mile in the morning but improved slowly to 8 miles in the afternoon. Wind light and variable in the morning but increased to 18 knots in the afternoon.

0000 - ComPhibGroup 11, Rear Admiral HODGINS, relieved
ComTHIRDPhibForce, Vice Admiral WILKINSON as CTF 32.

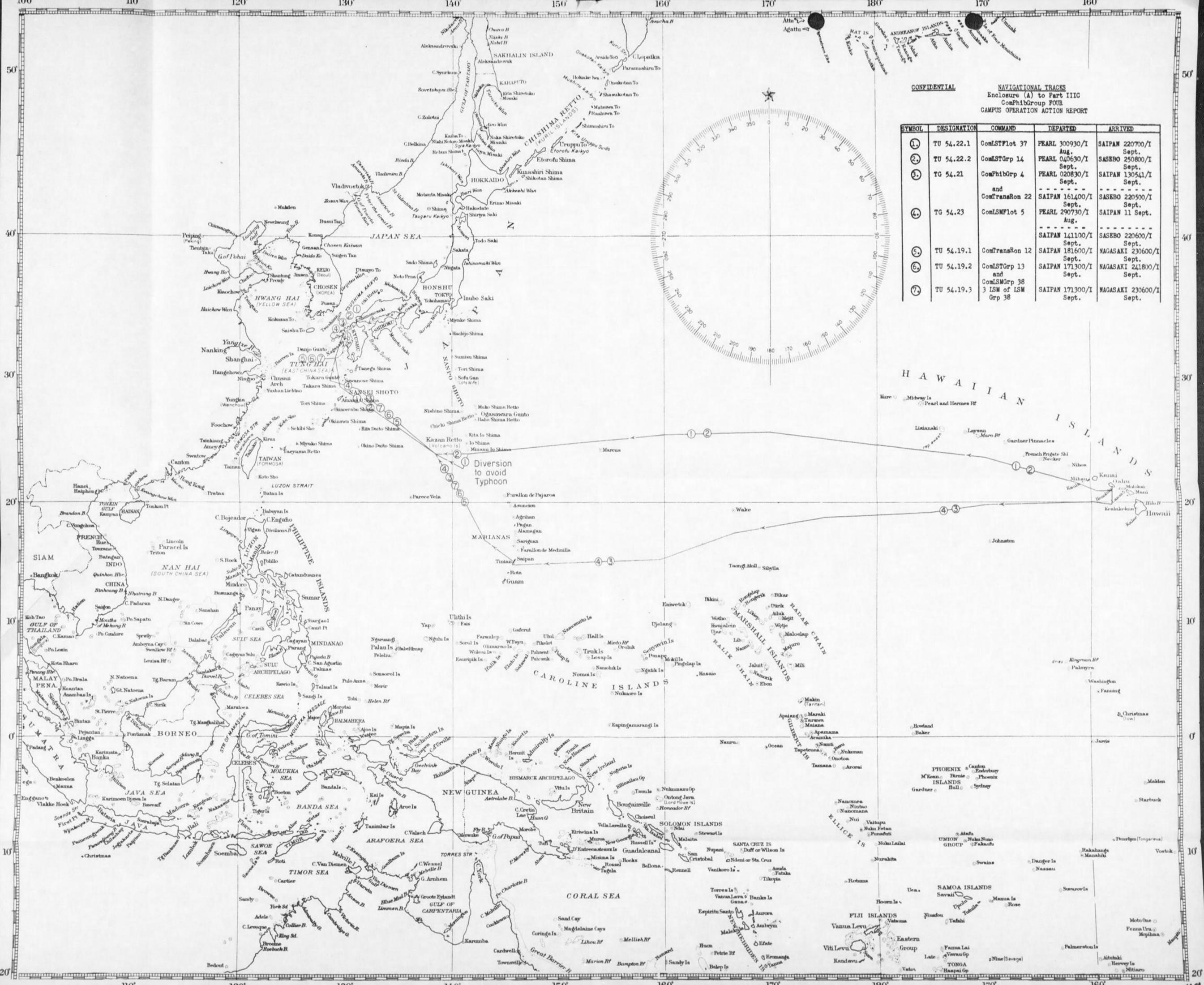
1629 - Directed ComLSMFlot 5 to release Task Force 54 LSTs, LSMs with
Flotilla and Group Commanders to AdComPhibsPac, PHILLIPINES
when services no longer required.

8 November

Moored YOKOHAMA Harbor

Weather: Clear skies. Wind north 15-20 knots. Visibility unrestricted.
Choppy seas.

0800 - ComPhibGroup 11 relieved ComPhibGroup 4 as CTF 54. Task Groups
54.1, 54.5 and 54.11 dissolved.



CONFIDENTIAL
NAVIGATIONAL TRACKS
 Enclosure (A) to Part IIIC
 ComPhibGroup FOUR
 CAMPUS OPERATION ACTION REPORT

SYMBOL	DESIGNATION	COMMAND	DEPARTED	ARRIVED
①	TU 54.22.1	ComLSTFlot 37	PEARL 300930/I Aug.	SAIPAN 220700/I Sept.
②	TU 54.22.2	ComLSTGrp 14	PEARL 040630/I Sept.	SASEBO 250800/I Sept.
③	TG 54.21	ComPhibGrp 4 and ComTransRon 22	PEARL 020830/I Sept.	SAIPAN 130541/I Sept.
④	TG 54.23	ComLSMFlot 5	PEARL 290730/I Aug.	SAIPAN 11 Sept. SAIPAN 141100/I Sept.
⑤	TU 54.19.1	ComTransRon 12	SAIPAN 181600/I Sept.	SASEBO 220600/I Sept.
⑥	TU 54.19.2	ComLSTGrp 13 and ComLSMGrp 38	SAIPAN 171300/I Sept.	NAGASAKI 230600/I Sept.
⑦	TU 54.19.3	3 LSM of LSM Grp 38	SAIPAN 171300/I Sept.	NAGASAKI 230600/I Sept.

Diversion to avoid Typhoon

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section B - Air Operations

1. Report of Air Support Control Unit NINE, Amphibious Group FOUR;
 - (a) Enroute to the objective;
 - (1) Appropriate Air Support Nets were guarded.
 - (2) Communications tests with airborne aircraft were made while at SAIPAN to calibrate newly installed transmitters and receivers.
 - (3) Training exercises simulating conditions of opposition, and non-opposition, were conducted for the Air Support Control Unit personnel.
 - (b) Objective area;
 - (1) Air Support nets were fully manned to support the landings in the event opposition developed.
 - (2) Normal administrative functions were executed to attain a condition of instant readiness.
 - (3) Liaison with Fleet Air Wing ONE and the Marine Air Group, OMURA, were established and maintained.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section C - Amphibious Action

(1) Troops and Cargo.

(a) Troops and Cargo of the FIFTH Amphibious Corps and the FIFTH Marine Division were loaded in the HAWAIIAN Area, with certain additional Corps elements loaded in the MARIANAS. Loading commenced on 20 August and was completed on 1 September.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Lifted</u>	<u>Shipping</u>
<u>TransRon 22 (Temp)</u>		18 APA
Personnel	- 22,490	8 AKA
Vehicles	- 1,993	1 LSV
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 20,473.1	
<u>LSM Group 45 (Temp)</u>		15 LSM
Personnel	- 601	
Vehicles	- 227	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 3,648.6	
<u>LST Group 69 (Temp)</u>		17 LST
Personnel	- 3,401	
Vehicles	- 848	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 6,503.8	
<u>LST Group 14 (Temp)</u>		17 LST
Personnel	- 3,301	
Vehicles	- 1,169	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 6,667.0	
<u>Total Troops and Cargo, HAWAIIAN Area:</u>		18 APA
Personnel	- 29,793	8 AKA
Vehicles	- 4,237	1 LSV
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 37,292.5	34 LST 15 LSM

Loaded in MARIANAS Area: 8 September to 14 September.

<u>LST Group 47 (Temp)</u>		8 LST
Personnel	- 1,201	

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas -
Part (VI) - Special Comments and Information -
C(1)- Troops and Cargo

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Lifted</u>	<u>Shipping</u>
Vehicles	- 370	
Cargo (Long Tons) *	<u>3,618.2</u>	

Total Troops and Cargo loaded for SASEBO Group:

Personnel	- 30,994	
Vehicles	- 4,607	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 40,910.7	

Troops and cargo of the SECOND Marine Division were loaded in the MARIANAS Area. Loading commenced on 10 September and was completed on 17 September.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Lifted</u>	<u>Shipping</u>
<u>TransRon 12 (Temp)</u>		
Personnel	- 15,982	15 APA
Vehicles	- 1,892	6 AKA
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 19,101.6	
<u>LSM Group 38 (Temp)</u>		
		19 LSM
Personnel	- 735	
Vehicles	- 355	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 3,490.1	
<u>LST Group 13 (Temp)</u>		
		15 LST
Personnel	- 3,239	
Vehicles	- 791	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- <u>6,220.1</u>	

Total Troops and Cargo loaded for NAGASAKI Group:

Personnel	- 19,956	
Vehicles	- 3,038	
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 28,811.8	

GRAND TOTAL - SASEBO-NAGASAKI:

		33 APA
Personnel	- 50,950	14 AKA
Vehicles	- 7,645	1 LSV
Cargo (Long Tons)	- 69,722.5	57 LST
		34 LSM

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas -
Part (VI) - Special Comments and Information -
C(2) - Landing Craft.

(2) Landing Craft.

(a) Types and number:

1. 46 LCTs
2. 474 LCVPs
3. 73 LCMs
4. 29 LCP(L)s
5. 20 ICP(R)s

In addition, after discharging their original loads, LSMs were used for lighterage between transport and unloading areas at beaches and docks.

(b) Launching, loading and operation.

1. Immediately after the arrival of transports in the transport area on ABLE Day (22 September) the LCVPs, LCMs and wave guides were launched in preparation for the troop landings on GREEN Beaches at 0930.
2. The LCTs arrived at the target on 26 September, having sailed under their own power from OKINAWA, with full load.
3. The harbor at SASEBO is well protected and weather conditions permitted uninterrupted launching and loading of all other landing craft on 22 September.
4. The dock area (see Area HOW Dock Leg, Enclosure (A)) is not particularly suited to the use of landing craft. However, four large seaplane ramps are located at the Seaplane Base and aircraft factory (see Areas Sugar and Victor, Enclosure (1)). These areas are ideally suited to the beaching and unloading of all types of landing craft.
5. The first phase of the operation included the landing of troops and supplies over these ramps. It was carried out expeditiously and with a minimum of confusion. This area continued to be used for the unloading of supplies from all types of landing craft and proved to be highly satisfactory.

(c) Control.

On ABLE Day (22 September) control vessels were stationed off the Dock Areas in the inner harbor as well as off the GREEN Beaches. On 23 September, the control vessel off the Dock Areas was secured, and control functions then were performed by TransRon 22 Control Officer from an LCS(L) in the Supply Basin.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas -
Part (VI) - Special Comments and Information -
C(3) - Minesweeping, underwater demolition.

(3) Minesweeping, Underwater Demolition.

(a) Minesweeping was performed by TG 52.3 SASEBO Sweep Group, as directed by CTF 55. Requests for minesweeping from Commander SO THERN Occupation Group were directed to ComFIFTHPhibFor who in turn forwarded these request to CTF 55. In addition, CTG 52.3 furnished information by dispatch relative to areas swept.

The SASEBO Sweep Group conducted minesweeping operations in the SASEBO Area in accordance with Commander Mine Craft, Pacific Operation Order 15-45. A channel 4000 yards wide was swept, beginning at 32° 30' N and 129° 30' E, and extending to SASEBO Harbor. The area surrounding the entrance to SASEBO KO, and the area between GOTO RETTO and the islands immediately off the shore-line of western KYUSHU were also swept.

(b) Underwater Demolition Teams assigned to the SOUTHERN Occupation Group were specifically directed not to use any explosives in the performance of their duties, without permission first being obtained from higher authority. No demolition work was required during the operation. The Underwater Demolition Teams assisted the Group Beachmaster by post-occupation reconnaissances. Further soundings were taken in various areas and new landing craft slots discovered. Pre- and post occupation reconnaissance reports were complete and reliable.

(4) Landing Troops and Cargo.

(a) General unloading of troops and cargo at SASEBO commenced on 22 September. Troops of the 27th RCT landed at the seaplane ramps at GREEN Beach. The remaining troops of the FIFTH Marine Division and the FIFTH Amphibious Corps were landed at the docks at SASEBO, both from ships' boats and directly onto the docks from ships alongside. General unloading of cargo began immediately after the troops were debarked. Three ships at a time were able to dock in Area EASY. The egress road here being too narrow, cargo was unloaded into ships' boats, with some later assistance from LSMs, and landed at various places along the water front. Seven ships were able to dock in the Repair Basin, and unloaded directly onto the docks using ships' booms. Three ships at a time were able to dock in the dry docks, and unloaded directly onto the docks using both ships' booms and dock cranes.

Initially, one LST at a time was able to unload in the Boat Basin; later two unloading spots were available. Nine unloading spots were available at the seaplane ramps at the Air Station and three at the Aircraft Factory. LSMs were unloaded both at the ramps and at the Boat Basin. LCTs used only the ramps. These seaplane ramps provided excellent unloading spots.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGrp 4

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas -
Part (VI) - Special Comments and Information -
C(4) - Landing Troops and Cargo.

Unloading started slowly the first day due to the new conditions. All hands quickly adapted themselves, however, and the unloading thenceforward proceeded smoothly and expeditiously. Unloading, except for resupply, was finished on 28 September.

(b) Unloading of both troops and cargo from APAs and AKAs at NAGASAKI was done directly over docks. LSTs and LSMs unloaded directly onto the beach.

Fewer docks and unloading places were available at NAGASAKI than at SASEBO. Unloading time was the same, however, due to the smaller amount of troops and cargo to be landed. Unloading commenced on 23 September and was completed on 28 September.

(c) Unloading of the 32nd Infantry Division, scheduled for 14 October, 1945, will be covered in the action report of ComTrans-Ron 22.

Enclosure (A) - Chart of SASEBO Harbor.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF
FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section C (5) Casualties

(5) Casualties.

(a) Provisions were made initially for the care of casualties in the event of opposed landings and during landings without opposition. Subsequent developments during the planning phase and during the period enroute to the occupation areas disclosed that the only casualties to be expected were those due to illness and accidental injury. THOMAS JEFFERSON (APA-30) had been fitted and equipped to provide hospital care for casualties during the initial occupation. With the expected incidence of casualties due to illness and accidental injury the organization of individual ships and units offered adequate medical facilities for medical care of naval personnel and personnel of the landing forces, without evacuation to rear bases. The landing forces provided hospital facilities ashore for the forces ashore within three to five days of the landings which further reduced the amount of medical care to be provided by naval activities. A 60-day evacuation policy was established for the forces ashore. Patients of the landing forces on ships were transferred to hospital facilities ashore, as appropriate. Ships and naval units provided the medical care for their own personnel.

(b) The incidence of casualties among personnel was well within the number of those normally to be expected.

ENCLOSURE (A) TO PART VI (C) OF
 COM PHIB GROUP FOUR
**REPORT OF OCCUPATION
 OF WESTERN KYUSHU**
 (SASEBO - NAGASAKI-
 FUKUOKA - SHIMONOSEKI)
 CONFIDENTIAL

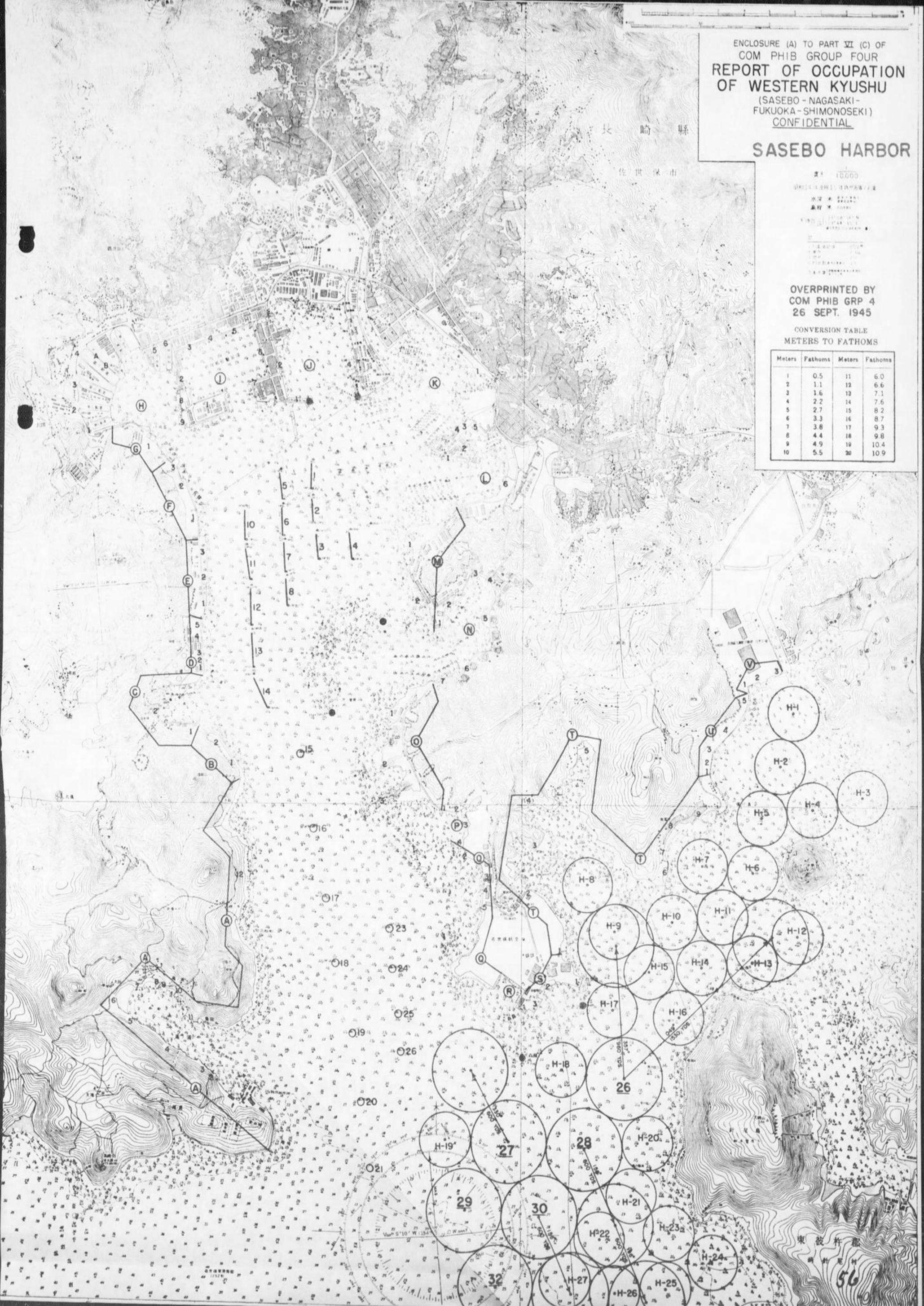
SASEBO HARBOR

Scale: 1:10000
 Date: 26 SEPT 1945
 Author: [illegible]
 Title: [illegible]

OVERPRINTED BY
 COM PHIB GRP 4
 26 SEPT. 1945

CONVERSION TABLE
 METERS TO FATHOMS

Meters	Fathoms	Meters	Fathoms
1	0.5	11	6.0
2	1.1	12	6.6
3	1.6	13	7.1
4	2.2	14	7.6
5	2.7	15	8.2
6	3.3	16	8.7
7	3.8	17	9.3
8	4.4	18	9.8
9	4.9	19	10.4
10	5.5	20	10.9



東彼杵郡
 56

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments And Information

D.(2) Communications

1. Since the landings made during the occupation of Southern JAPAN were without opposition, communications were all of an administrative and uneventful nature. The Operation Plan Communication Annex provided for all necessary assault frequencies in the event opposition had been encountered. The general procedure was to guard these assault frequencies on "D" day and check in the circuits so that all hands would be prepared to put into effect the necessary measures to overcome resistance. After troops were landed and the situation considered entirely peaceful, these circuits were secured.

2. The transition from wartime to peacetime communications, and the resultant relaxation of restrictions on radio silence was the outstanding feature of this period. Most final plans for the occupation were promulgated by dispatch, and every ship and command found it necessary to employ rapid communications to an extent never permitted under wartime restrictions. The rapid reduction in classified messages in favor of plain language made it much easier to handle the increased volume of traffic, but the inability of operators to correctly copy plain language furnished a new problem for harassed CWO's and Communication Officers.

3. VHF Radio Teletype again proved its worth at SASEBO where a very efficient circuit was maintained between ComPhibGroup 4 afloat and ComGen VAC ashore. Duplex operation was employed and a large volume of traffic handled during the short stay of this Command in the SASEBO area.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

R E P O R T O F O C C U P A T I O N O F S A S E B O A N D N A G A S A K I , A N D O F

F U K U O K A - S H I M O N O S E K I A R E A S

Part VI - Special Comments And Information

Section D(4) - Navigation

1. Navigational tracks are shown in Part III-C of this report. The scheduled route through the RYUKYUS was modified to avoid a minefield south of TAKU SHIMA.

2. The approach to SASEBO was made via a 4000 yard swept channel through minefields. This channel was 40 miles long and was traversed at night, Transport Group ABLE arriving off the entrance to SASEBO Harbor at dawn on 22 September 1945. The swept channel was buoyed and two destroyers were stationed, one at the entrance to the channel, and the other ten miles farther north in the channel, to facilitate the navigation of ships entering. All ships negotiated the channel without incident. Japanese navigational lights were burning, but visibility was poor during rain squalls, and navigation was largely dependent on radar fixes.

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP FOUR

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section D(5) - Engineering

1. Repairs.

(a) The SASEBO Group, including Transport Squadron TWENTY-TWO, mounted at PEARL HARBOR and, except for the IST Groups, which proceeded direct to the objective, staged through SAIPAN. Hull and engine repairs were expedited by officers from the Staff, Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, Pacific Fleet, and completed prior to sailing.

(b) The many repairs accomplished at the mounting and staging areas, and emergency engineering jobs performed enroute, were completed without delay in the schedules of the Southern Occupation Group.

2. Casualties.

(a) The casualties experienced enroute are listed as typical of those which may occur in a transport squadron at sea under normal conditions.

5 September

0135 - SELINUR (AKA 41) slowed to two knots, due to casualty to fuel supply for boiler, and at 0710 resumed normal cruising position.

1007 - CLERMONT (APA 143) reported a casualty to steering gear.

1544 - SELINUR dropped out of formation to make boiler repairs, and rejoined formation at 1923 on the 7th.

1839 - CUSTER (APA 70) fell out of position, reporting loss of steam, and regained station at 1850.

9 September

1140 - SELINUR (AKA 41) fell out of formation to effect engineering repairs.

1150 - RENATE (APA 36) fell out of formation to effect engineering repairs. EDISON (DD 439) designated as escort for RENATE; NIELACK (DD 424) to escort SELINUR.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGroup FOUR

Action Report - SASEBO, NAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas -
Part (VI) Section (5) - Engineering.

1415 - RENATE (AKA 36) and EDISON rejoined disposition in former stations.

11 September

0518 - DAWSON (APA 79) had boiler casualty necessitating twelve hours repair while maintaining eleven knots speed. EDISON designated to stand by until DAWSON rejoins formation.

2100 - DAWSON and EDISON approximately twenty-six miles astern of formation.

17 September

1515 - KARNES (AKA 175) lost all power and dropped out of formation. EDISON detailed to drop back with KARNES.

1610 - KARNES (AKA 175) underway making speed 3 knots. Regained position at 2055.

1940 - WESTMORELAND (APA 104) had Gyro failure, GRAFTON (APA 109) made guide. Repairs made and WESTMORELAND again designated guide at 2020.

21 September

0850 - SAPPHO (AKA 38) had steering casualty and dropped out of column but rejoined formation at 0900.

0905 - CUSTER (APA 40) had steering casualty and dropped out of column. By 0930 CUSTER had rejoined column.

The number of casualties is not considered excessive when the size of the formation, 28 large ships, is taken into account. They are not believed to be due to lack of time for overhaul in the ships involved, but rather to lack of experienced personnel incident to the release of many experienced men at this time and their replacement by less qualified ratings.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section D(6) - Supply

1. TransRon 22 and LSM Flotilla 5 mounted at PEARL HARBOR and staged through SAIPAN, LST Group 69 and LST Group 14 mounted at PEARL HARBOR but proceeded directly to the objective with ComLSTFlot 37. TransRon 12, LST Flotilla 23, LST Group 47 and LSM Group 38 mounted at the MARIANAS, proceeding thence to their objectives. TransRon 22 on turn-around, mounted at LINGAYEN, obtaining logistics at MANILA.

2. The various supply activities at PEARL HARBOR responsible for supplying the ships assigned to this operation were contacted personally by officers of the staff, with particular reference to the smaller ships, in the interest of insuring an adequate supply of fuel, provisions and material. Estimates of expected logistic requirements for ships staging through SAIPAN were obtained and both ServDiv 103 and CNOB, SAIPAN, were notified by letter and dispatch of these estimates. A Logistics Officer, from Staff, Commander Amphibious Group FOUR, Pacific Fleet, also preceded TransRon 22 to SAIPAN to insure that arrangements had been made to furnish logistics there.

3. At SAIPAN it was found that heavy swells in the outer harbor, where the transports were berthed, precluded fueling in that area as planned, and it became necessary to fuel them in the inner harbor. This was done in rotation, four or five ships at a time, at berths alongside vessels of TransRon 12, then loading at the piers, and at the one small tanker then available, anchored in the channel. Fueling was completed in time to meet the scheduled sailing hour.

4. No serious difficulty was experienced in the delivery of provisions and other supplies. That extensive requirements and tight schedules were met was due to the vigorous cooperation of the local commands.

5. Original directives called for procuring type BAKEF, Military yen for use of personnel going ashore in JAPAN, but it was later directed that only Bank of Japan notes were to be used. There was none of this currency available prior to arrival at the objective. This situation was clarified, prior to arrival, by a dispatch from Com5thFleet to Com5thPhibFor, stating that a supply would be made available at each anchorage through the Funding Officer, Military Government Section, AFPAC. The disbursing officers of Group Flagships were designated to handle the distribution, and credits to their accounts were obtained at banks in the various ports.

CONFIDENTIAL

ComPhibGroup 4

Action Report - SASEBO, HAGASAKI, FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI Areas - Part
(VI) - Special Comments and Information, (D - Special
Comment, (6) Supply.)

6. At the objective area, essential fuel, water, and provisions for the smaller ships were furnished initially by the transports. Upon arrival of ServDiv 103, Unit ABLE, these requirements were supplied directly by logistic ships of that command.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

R E P O R T O F O C C U P A T I O N O F S A S E B O A N D N A G A S A K I , A N D O F

F U K U O K A - S H I M O N O S E K I A R E A S

Part VI - Special Comments and Information

Section D(7) - Medical

1. Inspections of occupation areas disclosed that public health conditions in those areas offered a definite hazard to the health of personnel of the occupation forces. Diseases usually present in the area were common. Particular precautions were taken to protect personnel against the unusual prevalence of typhoid fever, bacillary dysentery, and epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis which occurred in certain areas in epidemic form. The normal Japanese public health measures had ceased to function as usual because of lack of personnel and facilities.

CONFIDENTIAL

C O M M A N D E R A M P H I B I O U S G R O U P F O U R

REPORT OF OCCUPATION OF SASEBO AND NAGASAKI, AND OF

FUKUOKA-SHIMONOSEKI AREAS

Part VII - Personnel Performance and Casualties

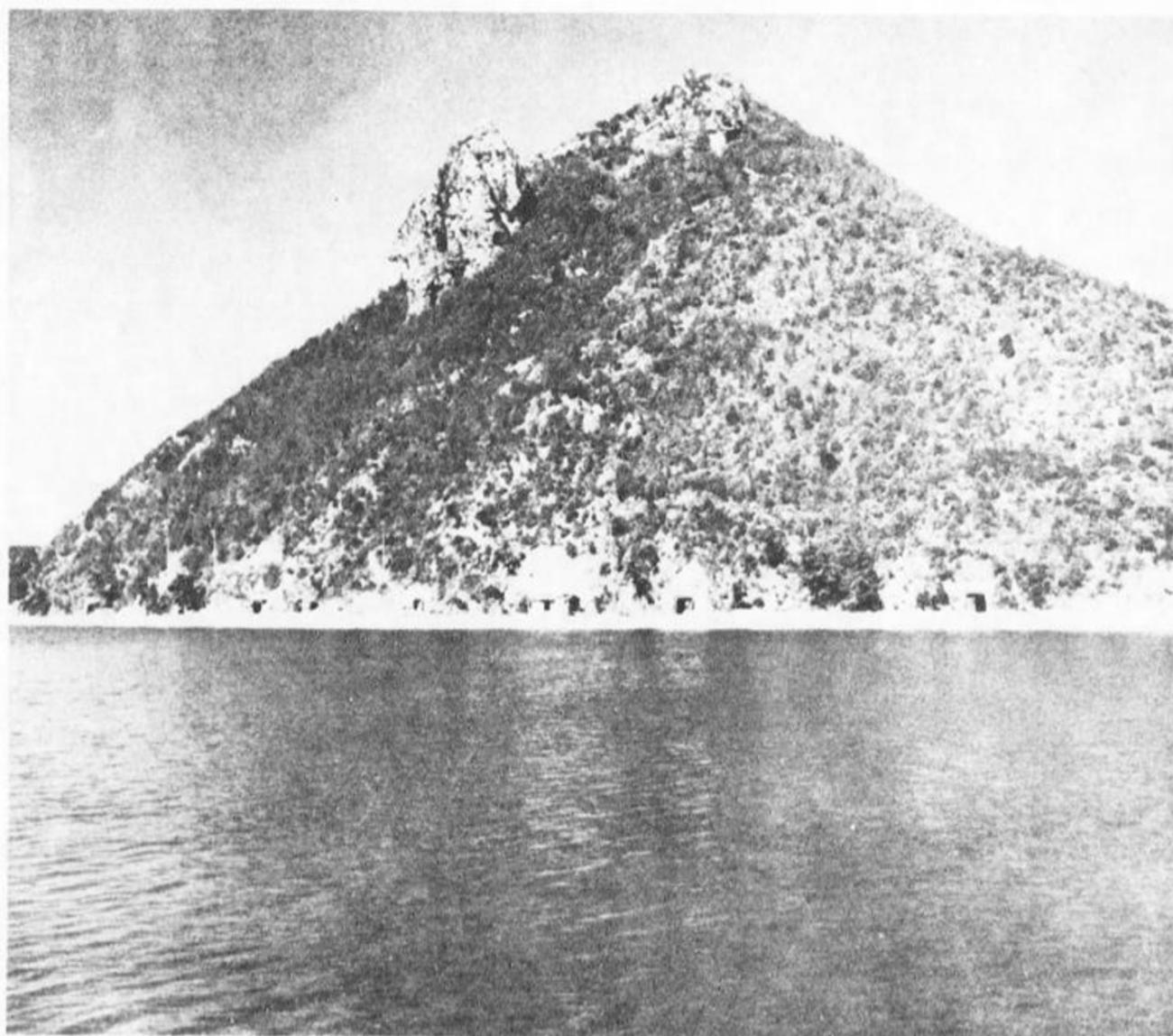
1. No performance of duty under combat conditions was required of personnel, and their conduct during the landing and occupation was, on the whole, good. Strict measures were taken to prevent looting or molestation of the Japanese.

2. Few violations of orders in regard to the above were reported. One serious incident, however, occurred ashore at NAGASAKI, shortly after the landing, in which three Coast Guardsmen from CAMBRIA were involved in a criminal offense against local Japanese. The case has since been tried by General Court Martial, at NAGASAKI.

3. Casualties are covered in Part VI - (C).



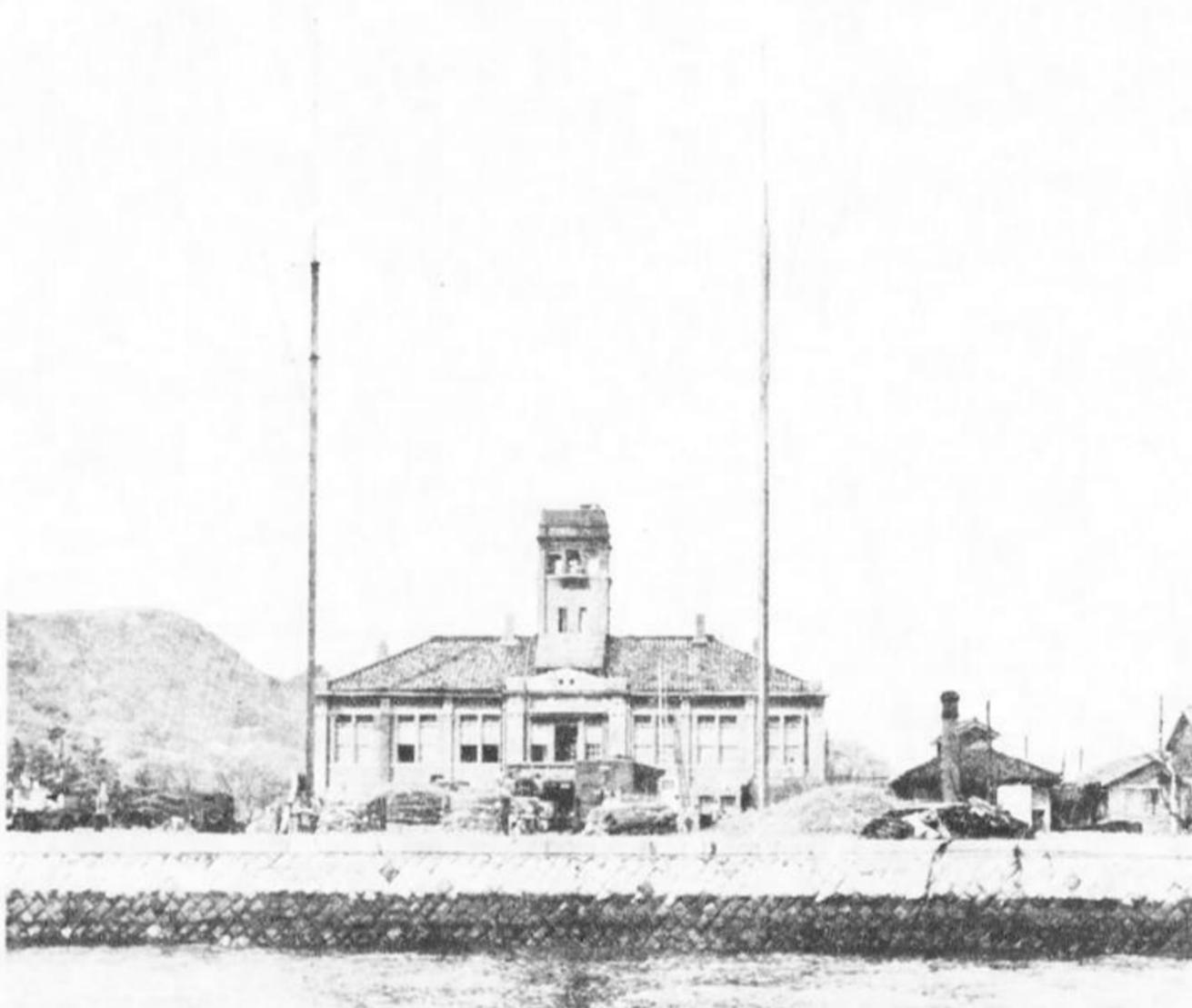
Entrance to Harbor --- Sasebo.



Ammunition storage caves in hill at entrance to Haiki Straits, Sasebo.



Former Japanese Naval building occupied by Fifth Amphibious Corps Headquarters,
Sasebo.



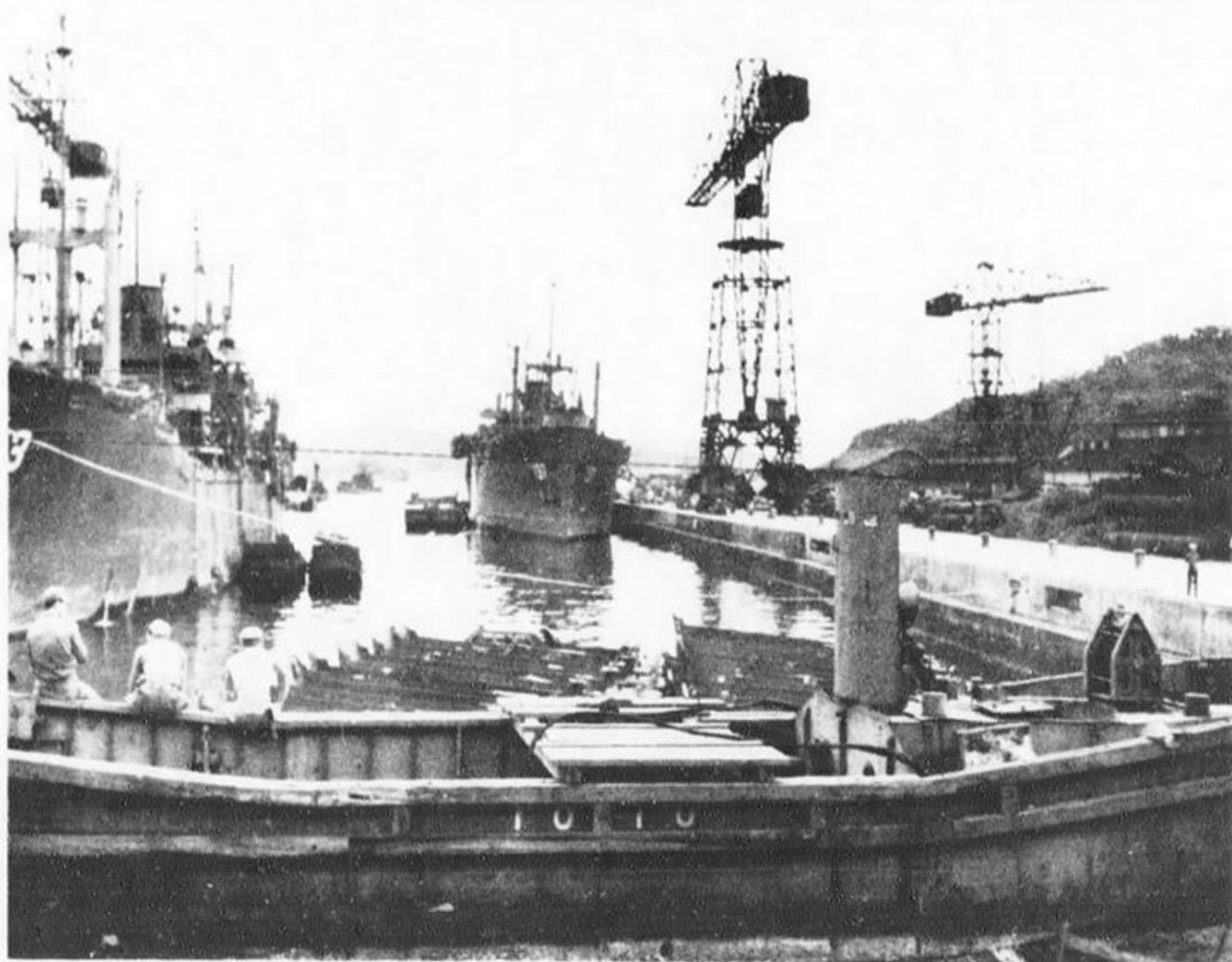
Port Director Station formerly Japanese Harbor Master's building near Supply Basin.
Sasebo.



Views of bomb damage in business section of Sasebo.



View of the Supply Basin docks after a vast amount of water damage was removed.



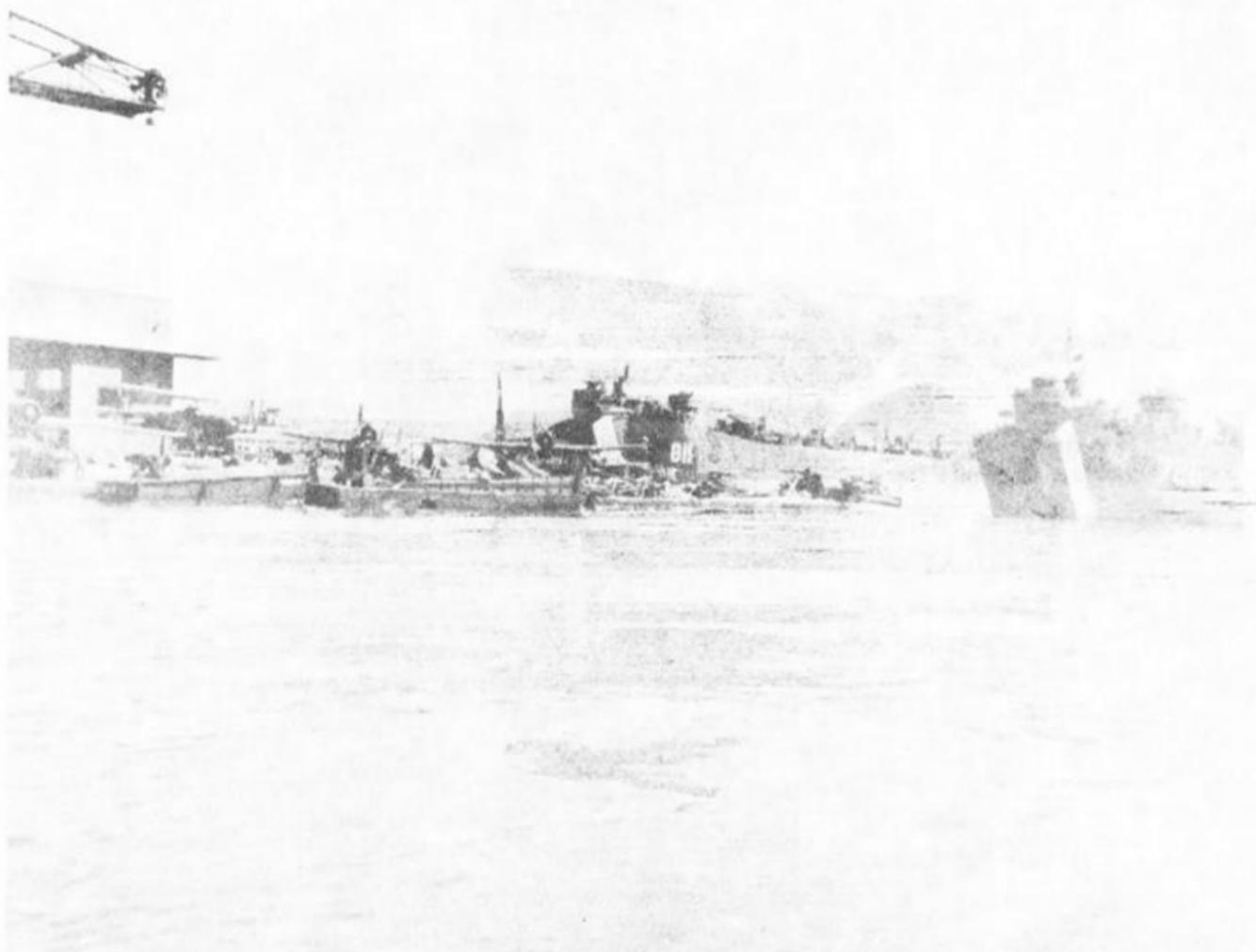
Ships of Southern Occupation Group unload supplies after mooring in flooded dry dock, Sasebo Naval Base. Three dry docks were similarly used to expedite unloading.



Others unloaded at the Supply Basin docks after a vast amount of scattered debris was removed.



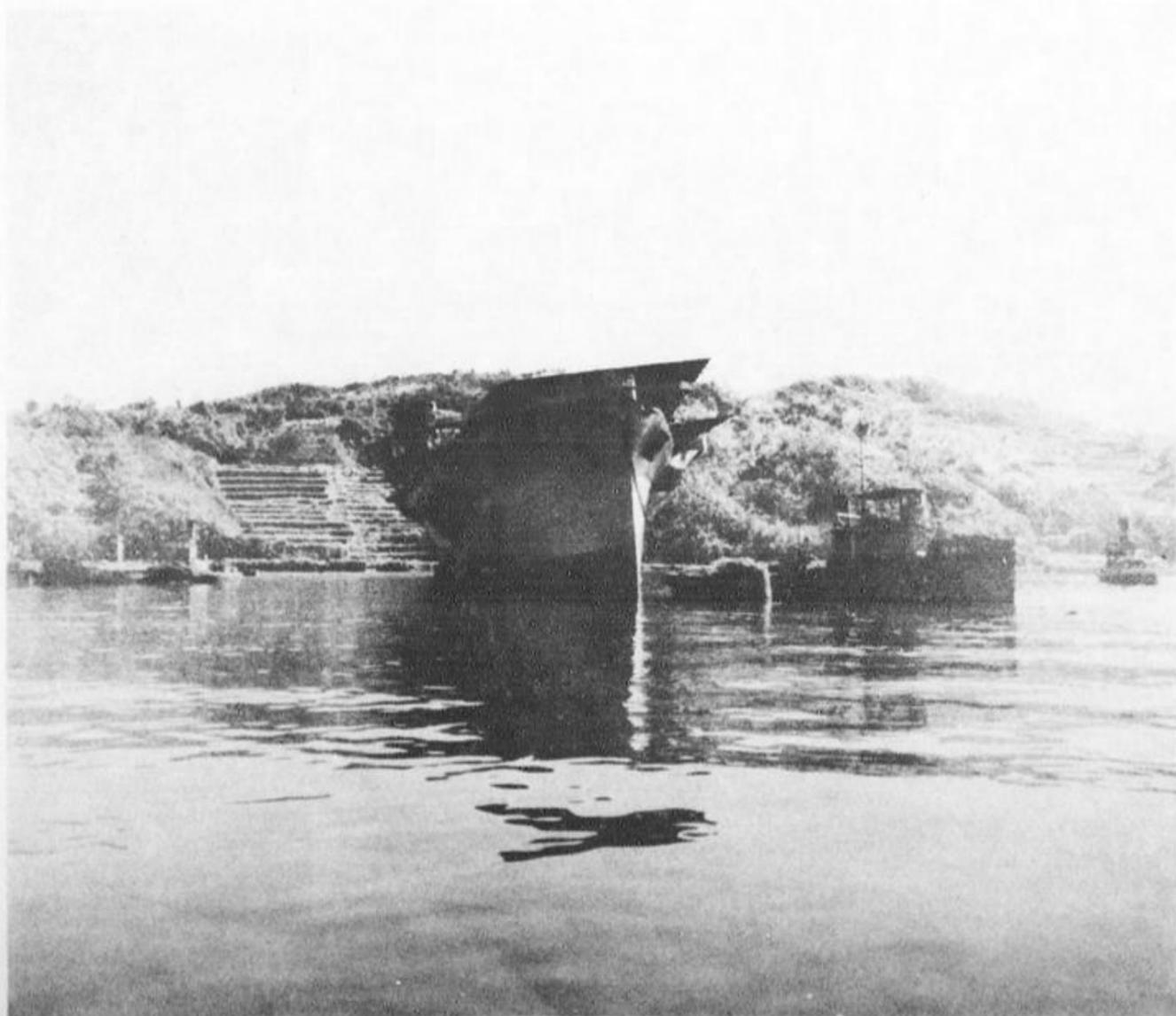
LST beached at ramp at Supply Basin, Sasebo.



LSTs unloading onto seaplane ramps at Naval Air Station, Sasebo.



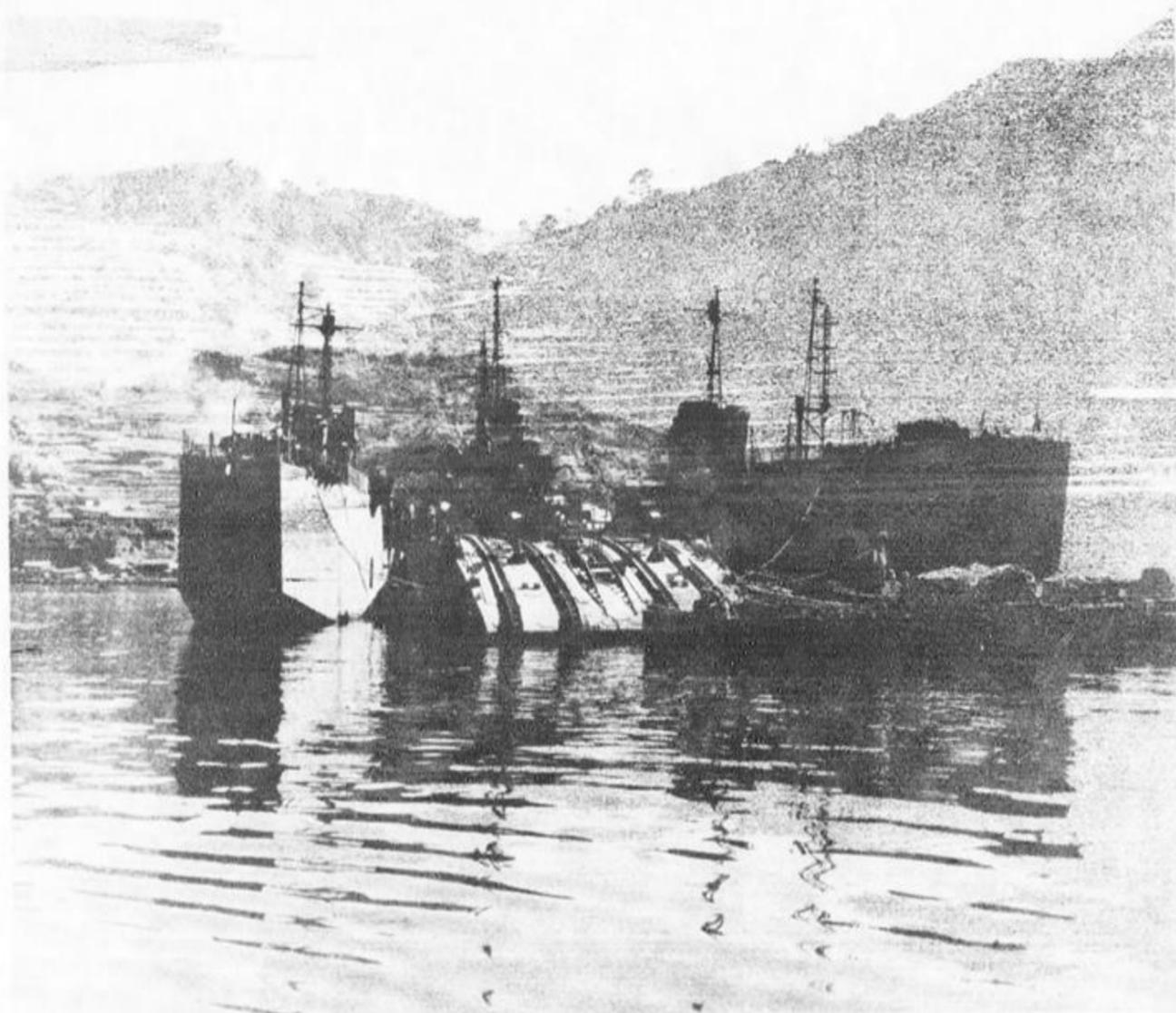
LSM and LSTs on ramp at Naval Aircraft Factory, Sasebo.



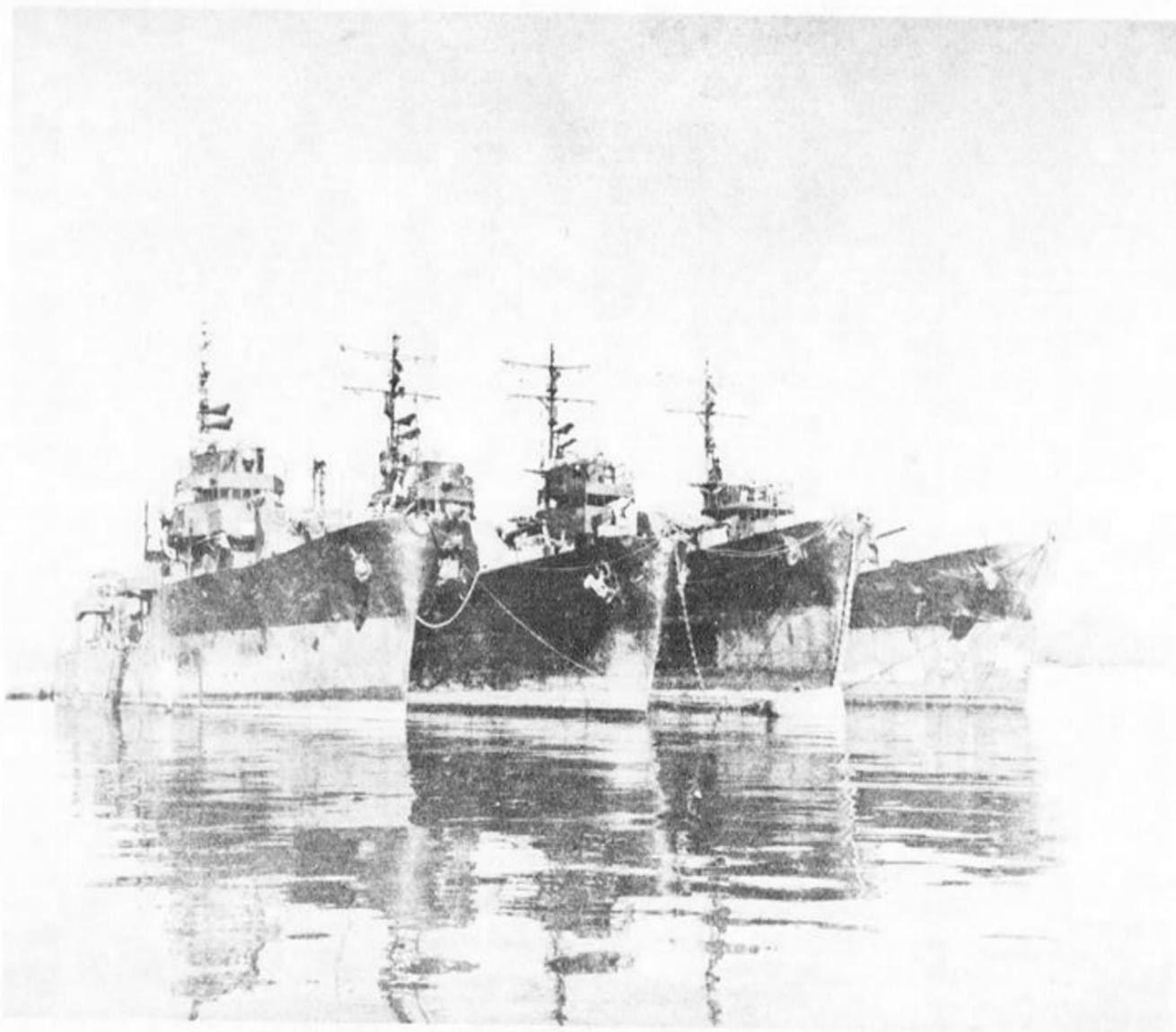
Unfinished Japanese aircraft carrier KASAGI in Ebisu Bay, Sasebo.



Surrendered Japanese ships in Ebisu Bay, Sasebo. Two LSMs moored alongside an APD; JUNYO class aircraft carrier in background.



Stern view of Japanese LSMs and APD.



Four Japanese PF - Frigates (KAIBOKAN Class) moored in Ebisu Bay, Sasebo.



Japanese coastal submarine (200 class) in Ebisu Bay, Sasebo.

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

BENNETT, Lt. Comdr. C.L., USN (USS PERMIT) - Recorded 9/29/43	PAGE 1
BINGHAM, Capt. Donald C., USN (Ret.) - Recorded 9/21/45	PAGE 22
EBERT, Lt. (jg) J.D., USNR (USS DICKERSON) - Recorded 6/11/45	PAGE 34
GRANT, Lt. Comdr. J.D., USN (USS GREENLING) - Recorded 9/19/43	PAGE 44
GROSS, Comdr. R.L., USN (USS SEAWOLF & USS R-9) - Recorded 10/4/43	PAGE 55
KEYES, Comdr. C.M., USN (USS WILLIAM D. PORTER) - Recorded 7/18/45	PAGE 72
McDOWELL, Comdr. Ellis H., USN (USS CONVERSE) - Recorded 11/1/45	PAGE 84
McGREGOR, Comdr. L.D., Jr., USN (USS PIKE) -	PAGE 96
MORTON, Comdr. Dudley W., USN (USS WAHOO) - Recorded 9/9/44	PAGE 126
MORTON, Comdr. D.W., USN (USS WAHOO) -	PAGE 145
POST, Lt. Comdr. W.S., USN (USS GUDGEON) -	PAGE 159
RICH, Lt. E. Melendy, USNR & TIMBERLAKE, Lt. Joe H., USNR (USS UNDERHILL) - Recorded 8/29/45	PAGE 197
STREET, Comdr. George L., USN (USS TIRANTE) - Recorded 9/25/45	PAGE 205
TRAIN, Rear Adm. Harold C., USN - Recorded 8/2/45	PAGE 234
TRIEBEL, Comdr. C.O. (USS SNOOK) -	PAGE 244
TURNER, Vice Adm. R.K., USN & BUCKNER, Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar, 10th Army (USS ELDORADO) - Recorded 3/27/45	PAGE 267
VIEWEG, Capt. W.V.R., USN (USS GAMBIER BAY) - Recorded 12/18/44	PAGE 278

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

WEISS, Comdr. D.F., USN (USS WHALE, USS R-13 & USS R-10)

Recorded 9/29/43

PAGE 288

WHITE, Comdr. D.C., USN (USS PLUNGER & USS CERO) -

PAGE 308

FIVE ENLISTED MEN of the crew of USS CHARLES AUSBURNE -

Recorded 10/30/45

PAGE 320