

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

UNITED STATES FLEET
COMMANDER SEVENTH FLEET

Reg. No.	<i>OM 0784</i>
	10 493
R.S. No.

A12(F-0-5c/rbb)

Serial: **0060**

19 OCT 1945

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: The Commander SEVENTH Fleet.
 To : The Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Seventh Fleet War Diary for the Month of September 1945.

Reference: (a) Cominch ltr FF1-A12-1/A16-3 serial 7152 of
 29 October 1943.

Enclosure: (A) Subject Report.

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

P.L. CARROLL
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

1945 OCT 29 15 02

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
FLAG OFFICE
RECEIVED

Copy to: CinCPac.

143269

10 493

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

S E C R E T

UNITED STATES FLEET
COMMANDER SEVENTH FLEET

WAR DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER 1945

COMMAND

Coincidentally with the Japanese surrender on 2 September Commander in Chief Southwest Pacific Area released to the British Empire control of that part of the Southwest Pacific Area lying generally to the southward of the Philippines and Manus. The title of Commander Allied Naval Forces was abolished and all naval forces thereunder were transferred to British Empire control. The Commander Seventh Fleet was completely divested of responsibility for shore establishments and rear areas. The new Seventh Fleet zone of responsibility for naval operations covered the coast of China north from Hainan Island to Korea, including the Yellow Sea, the western coast of Korea South on 127° East to 27° North, then to 26°30' North 123° East, then South to 23° North, then to 20° North 119° East, then West to Hainan Island.

As of 30 September the Seventh Fleet was composed of the following task forces:

TF 70 Special Group - Admiral T. C. Kinkaid
TF 71 North China Force - Rear Admiral F. S. Low
TF 72 Fast Carrier Force - Rear Admiral A. C. Davis
TF 73 Yangtze Patrol Force - Rear Admiral C. T. Joy
TF 74 South China Force - Rear Admiral E. Buckmaster
TF 75 Fleet Air Wing One - Rear Admiral J. R. Perry
TF 78 Seventh Amphibious Force - Vice Admiral D. E. Barbey

During the month of September numerous official calls were received. On 8 September Vice Adm. D. E. Barbey, CTF 78, Rear Adm. F. S. Low, CTF 71, Rear Adm. J. Wright, and Commo. T. B. Brittain called at Jinsen.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

S E C R E T

On 14 September Rear Adm. C. T. Joy, CTF 73, called on Admiral Kinkaid while off the mouth of the Yangtze. On 18 September Rear Admiral C. T. Joy, CTF 73, and Rear Admiral R. M. Servaes (RN), CTF 111.3, called. In Shanghai on 19 September calls were received from Lt. Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer, ComGenChina, and Rear Admiral M. A. Miles, ComNavGroupChina. On 20 September Rear Admiral E. R. Buckmaster, CTF 74, called. On 22 September calls were received from Brig. Gen. F. W. Boye and the Portuguese Consul. On the 23rd Rear Admirals Joy and Buckmaster called. On 24 September Admiral Kinkaid left for Chungking. The same day Rear Admiral J. R. Perry, ComFairWing One, called on Rear Admiral Combs, Chief of Staff.

While in Chungking, Admiral Kinkaid called on Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek, T. V. Soong, the War Council, Gen. Tai Li, Admiral Chen and Admiral Fraser (RN), CincBPF.

Upon Admiral Kinkaid's return on 26 September he was called on by Capt. R. M. Dick (RN), Chief of Staff of CTF 111.3. On the 27th Admiral Chen Shao Kwan, Commander in Chief of the Chinese Navy called, and also Maj. Gen. D. L. Weart of the Shanghai Base Command.

INTELLIGENCE

With the sudden Japanese surrender on 15 August, Seventh Fleet Intelligence Center had completed its job of supplying operational intelligence for allied Military Forces in the Pacific. The command

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

S E C R E T

was officially dissolved on 30 August 1945. Captain Claiborne and several officers and enlisted men remained with Seventh Fleet to form the Intelligence Division on the Staff of Admiral Kinkaid while the remainder of SEFIC personnel were reassigned to other billets and commands.

AVIATION

On 30 September Fleet Air Wing ONE came under Seventh Fleet jurisdiction. This brought the following AV's and AVP's under Seventh Fleet: Currituck AV-7, Norton Sound AV-11, Kenneth Whiting AV-14, Rehoboth AVP-50, Barataria AVP-33, Duxbury Bay AVP-38, Orca AVP-49, Greenwich Bay AVP-41 and Shelikof AVP-52. The following squadrons came to Seventh Fleet control: VPB-13, VPB-17, VPB-20, VPB-53, VPB-118, VPB-123, VPB-124, VPB-133, VH-1, VH-6 and VD-3.

On the 30th Seventh Fleet assumed responsibility for searches from Okinawa and the area of air responsibility was extended North, East and South to encompass the territory bounded as follows: Beginning at the southern coast of Korea at 127°E; thence south to 32° North; thence to 32° North 135° East; thence south to 25° North; thence to 20° North 130° East; thence to 23° North 123° East; thence to 16° North 114° East; thence along 16° North to the French-Indo China coast. During September courier and mail service were established between Shanghai, Jinsen and Okinawa. PBMs flew on this service every other day from Jinsen to Shanghai and from Jinsen to Okinawa. Daily flights were made from Shanghai to Okinawa.

10 493

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

S E C R E T

MEDICAL

General health conditions in the Shanghai area appear satisfactory. The sanitary condition of the Port was neglected during the Japanese occupation and presented a problem during the first days of occupation. By coordinating the Public Health programs of the Army and Navy considerable improvement is being made in this field. A shortage of surgical equipment exists in Shanghai as the result of the hospitals being cannibalized by Jap forces. At the suggestion of the Staff Medical Officer, Seventh Fleet, bi-monthly medical conferences of Army, Navy medical officers and leading Chinese physicians are to be held with a view to familiarize local physicians with current advances that have been made in medicine.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

SECRET

SECRET

WAR DIARY FOR COMMANDER SEVENTH FLEET - SEPTEMBER 1945

1 SEPTEMBER

Commander Seventh Fleet in U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS with CruDiv 16, CruDiv 6, and destroyers making sweep and show of force in Yellow Sea preparatory to Korean landings between 1 and 7 September.

2 SEPTEMBER

TF 72 launched 188 planes for display of air strength over Shanghai.

ComDesRon 64 with 2 DD put in at Dairen to be available for evacuation of prisoners of war from Mukden.

3 SEPTEMBER

Balance of Staff of Commander Seventh Fleet embarked in U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT at Manila.

TF 72 made 224 sorties in display of air strength over western Korea.

4 SEPTEMBER

U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT departed Manila for Jinsen, Korea.

TF 72 launched 90 planes for air display over Dairen.

5 SEPTEMBER

TF 72 launched 114 planes for flights over Tientsin, Peiping, Taku and Chinwangtao.

6 SEPTEMBER

Rear Admiral Ketchum evacuated 1160 prisoners of war from Keelung, Formosa, in CVEs SANTEE and BLOCK ISLAND. British Force TG 111.3, with Rear Admiral Servaes in HMS BELFAST commanding, stood by to cover removal of additional cases needing hospitalization.

7 SEPTEMBER

Minesweeping begun at mouth of Yangtze River by TG 73.2, consisting of AMs, YMSs, and covering unit.

Commander Seventh Fleet arrives off Jinsen.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

SECRET

SECRET

8 SEPTEMBER

In objective area Jinsen: CTF 70, Admiral T. C. Kinkaid in U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS; CTF 71, Rear Admiral Low, with 2 CB, 4 CA, 19 DD; CTF 72, Rear Admiral Davis, with 2 CV, 1 CVL; CTF 78, Vice Admiral D. E. Barbey in U.S.S. CATOCTIN, with Lt. Gen. Hodge, CG 24th Corps, 18 APAs, 1 AKA, and APDs; Minesweeping Group and miscellaneous support craft. Main landings of U. S. 7th Division commenced at 1430. No incidents. At 1600 representatives of Com7thFlt, ComGen 24th Corps, and Japanese Commanders met to arrange details for surrender at Keijo on the 9th. Jinsen signal tower hoisted "Welcome United States Fleet."

AH RELIEF arrived Jinsen to evacuate prisoners of war.

9 SEPTEMBER

All Japanese forces in Korea south of 38° North surrendered at Keijo at 1600. Admiral Kinkaid and Lt. Gen. Hodge signed on behalf of the United States. General Abe, Governor General; Lt. Gen. Yokozuki, ComGen 17th Army; and Vice Admiral Yamaguchi, signed for Japan. Detailed instructions for disarmament and demobilization of naval forces in Korea were given to Vice Admiral Yamaguchi.

CTF 73, Rear Admiral Joy in U.S.S. NASHVILLE, with U.S.S. ST. LOUIS and 2 DDs, arrived at mouth of Yangtze. Minesweeping continued with augmented forces.

10 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid transferred his flag from U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS to U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT at Jinsen.

TF 72 flew 109 sorties over Chefoo and Weihaiwei in show of strength.

11 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid departed from Jinsen in U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT.

TF 72 flew 109 sorties over the Tsingtao area.

Rear Admiral Settle in U.S.S. LOUISVILLE relieved ComDesRon 64 as SOPA Dairen.

12 SEPTEMBER

AH RELIEF departed from Dairen with 756 prisoners of war for Okinawa.

Minesweeping of Yangtze approaches continues.

13 SEPTEMBER

Commander Seventh Fleet rendezvoused with CTF 73 and TG 113.3 off Yangtze.

APA COLBERT left Jinsen with last of prisoners of war. A total of 1370 removed, of which 1080 were Americans.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

SECRET

SECRET

Between 1 and 13 September, 145 drifting mines were destroyed in the Yellow Sea and the East China Sea.

ComNorChinaForce (Rear Admiral Davis, CTF 71) designated Com7thFlt representative in Korean area.

CTG 71.1.5, Rear Admiral Wright in U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO, with 3 CAs and 5 DDs, are making sweep of Yellow Sea area.

14 SEPTEMBER

TG 71.2 minesweeping group is operating off Tsingtao and Taku with negative results.

Vice Admiral Barbey departed from Jinsen for Okinawa in U.S.S. CATOCTIN.

CTG 71.4, Rear Admiral Settle in U.S.S. LOUISVILLE, left Dairen and joined TU 71.1.5.

15 SEPTEMBER

Taku minesweeping 80% completed with negative results.

16 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid proceeded from anchorage off Yangtze to Shanghai on YMS to confer with ComNavGroupChina and representatives of Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek and ComGenChina.

CTG 71.4, Rear Admiral Settle in U.S.S. LOUISVILLE, accepted surrender of all Japanese controlled ships at Tsingtao and placed prize crews on 2 DDs (Kure class), 3 SCs and 1 AM.

TG 71.1.5, CruDiv 6 and escorts, has returned to Jinsen after a sweep of the Yellow Sea.

17 SEPTEMBER

APA COLBERT evacuating prisoners of war from Dairen struck a mine at 26°45'N, 125°47'E. Engine room flooded, 1 missing, 2 injured. Under tow for Okinawa. APAs LEON, BUTTE and escorts standing by.

18 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid returned to U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT from Shanghai. Taku minesweep completed.

19 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid in U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT, followed by CTF 73 in U.S.S. NASHVILLE, CTG 111.3 in HMS BELFAST, with escorting DDs, proceeded up Yangtze and Whangpoo Rivers to Shanghai mooring off the Bund. A rousing welcome was received.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

SECRET

SECRET

20 SEPTEMBER

CTF 74, Rear Admiral Buckmaster in U.S.S. INGHAM, with 5 AK, 7 LST and 3 FS arrived at Shanghai. AH REFUGE also arrived Shanghai.

21 SEPTEMBER

LST 46 damaged by mine explosion near entrance to Whangpoo River.

22 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Sheh of Chinese Navy is taking over Japanese naval shore establishments at Tsingtao.

23 SEPTEMBER

CTG 71.4 in U.S.S. LOUISVILLE, with U.S.S. HERNDON, is escorting the Japanese prize ships, the DDs KURE and HASU; the SCs 11, 23 and 38, and the AM 21, from Tsingtao to Jinsen.

24 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid, Commodore Carroll, and Admiral Chen of the Chinese Navy, flew to Chungking for conference with Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek and Lt. Gen. Stratemyer, acting ComGenChina.

Rear Admiral Wright of North China Force is proceeding to Chinkai to take over the Naval Base.

25 SEPTEMBER

CTG 71.2 departed from Jinsen to make a moored check sweep of the Fusan approaches.

26 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid and Commodore Carroll returned to the U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT from Chungking.

27 SEPTEMBER

CTF 78 and main units departed from Okinawa for Taku Bay.
AH REFUGE left Shanghai for Okinawa with 443 internees and prisoners of war.

28 SEPTEMBER

CTU 71.1.9 in DD JOHN BOLE with 2 LSMs received surrender of Japanese naval forces at Quelpart Island.
HMS COLOSSUS (CVL) left Jinsen for Manila with prisoners of war.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

SECRET

SECRET

29 SEPTEMBER

CTF 71 directed to proceed with troop lift to Fusan. Fusan mid-channel buoys planted from breakwater for three miles seaward, reasonably safe for LSTs.

CTG 71.4 in U.S.S. ST. LOUIS assumed duties of SOPA at Chefoo.

30 SEPTEMBER

Admiral Kinkaid and Lt. Gen. Stratemyer flew from Shanghai to Taku to observe the Third Amphibious Corps landings. The First Marine Division was put ashore at 1315 without incident.

CTU 71.1.9 reports 88 Japanese suicide boats found at Quelpart Island.

A typhoon delayed several ship movements.

During the month approximately 230 drifting mines have been destroyed in the Seventh Fleet Area.