

C O P Y

LLL/DD390
Serial 078

U. S. S. RALPH TALBOT (DD390)

CONFIDENTIAL

6 August 1945

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Commander, Western Carolines Subarea.
Subject: Search and Recovery of Survivors - Report of.
Enclosures: (A) Plot of Ship's Movements During Period of Search.
(B) Log of Events During Period of Search.
(C) List of Survivors Recovered by RALPH TALBOT.

1. Enclosures are submitted in accordance with Comwescarsubarea despatch orders.
2. No bodies were recovered.
3. Due to the condition of the survivors and the absence of dog tags in many cases, enclosure (C) cannot be considered accurate.

W. S. BROWN

Copy to:
CTG 94.6 (less enc (A))
CO USS MADISON (less enc (A))

C O P Y

ENCLOSURE (F)

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LOG OF EVENTS

On the afternoon of 2 August, 1945, the RALPH TALBOT was patrolling picket station A-6, fifty miles north of Ulithi Atoll. Following is in order of events for the subsequent three days:

Time Zone (-10)

2 August

- 1601 Departed from picket station A-6 on course 287°T, speed 27 knots, in accordance with CTU 94.6.2 020558 of 2 August.
- 1640 Changed course to 280°T upon receipt of detailed orders.
- 1719-1735 Increased speed to 32 knots.

3 August

- 0235 Sighted illumination from searchlight of CECIL J. DOYLE (DE368) bearing 275°T. Changed course to 275°T.
- 0337 Set condition of readiness one.
- 0400 Reduced speed to approach area in which survivors were reported.
- 0449 Arrived on scene with MADISON (DD425). The following ships are present: MADISON, RALPH TALBOT, CECIL J. DOYLE, DUFILHO (DE423) and BASSET (APD73). OTC is the Commanding Officer, MADISON. Commenced illumination with 36" searchlight in search of survivors.
- 0540 Sighted two life rafts tied together.
- 0558 Recovered six survivors from the two rafts and took the rafts aboard.
- 0628 Set condition of readiness III. BASSET is leaving the area enroute Leyte with survivors.
- 0655 Sighted a single life raft with survivors.
- 0705 Recovered eight men from the raft. Destroyed the raft. Sighted another single raft with survivors. Sighted numerous bodies in water, majority in life jackets.

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LOG OF EVENTS
(continued)

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- 0721 Recovered ten men from the raft and destroyed it.
- 0730 Investigated two rafts which were empty.
- 0734 Formed scouting line with MADISON and DUFILHO on course 206°T, scouting distance four miles. DUFILHO is guide. Order of ships is RALPH TALBOT, DUFILHO, and MADISON. CECIL J. DOYLE is leaving the area enroute Peleliu with survivors.
- 0744 Investigated two empty life rafts.
- 0911 Changed course and scouting line front to 090°T. RALPH TALBOT investigating area in which a smoke pot was dropped by a PBV.
- 0937 Results negative. Resumed search.
- 0945 MADISON left scouting line, proceeding to vicinity of PBV reported to be over survivors in rafts with RINGNESS (APD100) and REGISTER (APD92) effecting rescue.
- 1024 In accordance with orders from OTC, proceeded with DUFILHO to join MADISON.
- 1121 Investigated empty life raft.
- 1205 Destroyed small boat with 20MM gunfire after removal of survivors by MADISON.
- 1222 Destroyed two life rafts with 20MM gunfire.
- 1310 Formed scouting line on course 135°T, scouting distance 3 miles. Order of ships: MADISON, RINGNESS, REGISTER, RALPH TALBOT, and DUFILHO.
- 1328 Investigated empty raft.
- 1445 Commenced transfer of 24 survivors to LCVP from REGISTER.

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LOG OF EVENTS
(continued)

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- 1510 Transfer completed. Screened REGISTER while she took survivors aboard from LCVP.
- 1515 Transfer completed. Investigated a large buoy and destroyed it with 20MM gunfire.
- 1615 Rejoined scouting line now on course 270°T. Order of ships: MADISON, RALPH TALBOT, and DUFILHO. RINGNESS and REGISTER are leaving area enroute Peleliu with survivors.
- 1704 Investigated and destroyed empty life raft.
- 2000 Changed course and scouting line front to 000°T.
- 2300 Changed course and front to 090°T.
- 4 August
- 0400 Changed course and front to 180°T.
- 0615 Changed course and front to 270°T.
- 0643 Proceeding in accordance with orders from CTG 94.5 to station #1. COCKRELL (DE366) and HELM (DD388) arrived in area.
- 0825 On station bearing 315°T distance 35 miles from reference point occupied by MADISON. Commenced patrolling area, assisted by dumbo.
- 1306 Investigated and destroyed a large buoy.
- 1615 Proceeded to area 20 miles east of present station, advising the OTC of the change and that the dumbo detailed to search this area had departed for base upon completion of search due to fuel shortage.
- 1739 Commenced patrolling new area.
- 1836 Sighted object and spray believed to be blackfish but due to resemblance to a broached torpedo, manned depth charge quarters and searched area thoroughly.

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LOG OF EVENTS
(continued)

2115 Radar contact bearing 255°T, distance 5600 yards. Contact was lost at 5100 yards. The area was searched thoroughly, results negative.

5 August

0202 Departed from assigned station in accordance with orders received from ComWesCarSubArea, proceeding to take station in scouting line to be formed at 0630.

0630 Formed scouting line on course 018°T, scouting distance 8 miles. Order of ships: HELM, AYLWIN (DD355), RALPH TALBOT, MADISON, DUFILHO, COCKRELL, FRENCH (DE367) and CECIL J. DOYLE. Assisting aircraft are searching 20 miles ahead of scouting line.

0930 Recovered floater net.

1020 Scouting line executed 9 turn.

1105 Scouting line executed turn 9.

1135 Investigated a small boat and destroyed it with 20MM gunfire.

1510 Due to fuel shortage, departed in company with MADISON, enroute Ulithi. The Commanding Officer, COCKRELL, assumed the duties of OTC.

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LIST OF SURVIVORS RECOVERED BY RALPH TALBOT

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Service No.</u>	<u>Rating</u>
BLANTHORN, B.	964 51 44	Slc
CAMPBELL, H. E.	613 46 50	GM3c
CLARK, Orsen	343 46 10	S2c
COLMAN, R. E.	275 46 70	F2c
FARMER, Archie Calvin	624 39 20	Cox
FORTIN, V. L.	878 45 95	WT3c
HUPKA, C. E.	648 63 61	Bkr1c
KISELICA, J. F.	651 00 99	MM2c
LOPEX, D. B.	888 84 22	F1c
McGUIGGAN, R. N.	736 00 36	Slc
NESTAS, N. A.	618 55 17	WT3c
NASPINI, J. A.	959 66 48	F2c
NICHOLA, W. F.	959 04 19	Slc
NIXON, D. F.	- - - - -	- -
OSBORNE, F. R.	- - - - -	- -
PACE, Curtis	975 82 66	S2c
PASKET, L. M.	329 68 59	S2c
PRICE, J. D.	839 42 09	Slc
REEVES, C. O. B.	616 53 41	S2c
SHIPMAN, R. L.	670 75 26	- -
SMITH, C. L.	351 06 83	Cox
STEVENS, G. G.	554 16 03	WT2c
THOMPSON, D. A.	895 24 01	EM3c
ZINK, C. W.	894 22 54	EM3c

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