

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. ORMSBY (APA49)

20 January: Moored starboard side to U.S.S. President Polk, berth X-ray 12, Pearl Harbor. 1543 Shifted berth from X-ray 12 to berth Mike 4, Pearl Harbor. 1655 Moored starboard side to U.S.S. Windsor berth Mike 4, Pearl Harbor.

21 January: Moored starboard side to U.S.S. Windsor, Berth Mike 4, Pearl Harbor. 0915 Commenced embarking troops of 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry, U.S. Army. 1133 Finished embarking troops. Embarked 70 officers and 1,348 men.

22 January: Moored starboard side to U.S.S. Windsor, berth Mike 4, Pearl Harbor. 1546 Departed Pearl Harbor for Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. Formed cruising disposition 311 in accordance with secret operation plan A6-43; Transport Division Four, Task Unit 52.5.11, for the purpose of transporting the 17th Infantry Division, U.S. Army to their destination and accomplishing the capture of Kwajalein Atoll, OTC- CTF 52, U.S.S. Rocky Mountain.

23 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

24 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

25 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

26 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

27 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

28 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

29 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. 1126 Test fired .50 Caliber machine guns mounted on boats LCM #2, LCC 39.

30 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. 1712 Parted company with task force 52.5, formed task group 52.17, Advanced Transport Group. O.T.C., CTF 52, U.S.S. Rocky Mountain.

31 January: Enroute from Pearl Harbor to Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. 0546 Arrived in troop transfer area One Able off Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands. 0549

af

7029

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. ORMSBY (APA49)

0549 Lowered all boats. 0619 U.S. naval bombardment of Kwajalein commenced. 0635 L.S.T. 242 arrived on station transfer of L.V.T. teams continued. 0725 All L.V.T. teams transferred. 0854 All troops debarked and away to line of departure. 0911 First wave of boats landed on beach, north end, seaward side of Ennylabegan Island, no opposition. 0914 Shifted from Transfer Area One Able to Troop Transport Area One. 1030 Arrived Transport Area One, various courses and speeds maintaining position. 1157 Commenced discharging troop cargo #1,2,3 and 5 hatches. 1300 Closed assigned beach to 1.0 mile in accordance with orders Transport Division Four, U.S.S. Zeilin. 1330 Discharge of troop cargo delayed due to absence of boats; ten boats dispatched during operations to U.S.S. President Polk. 1525 Shifted to Transport Area One in accordance with orders Transport Division Four, U.S.S. Zeilin. 1725 Formed in single column with Transport Division Four and proceeded to enter Kwajalein lagoon anchorage. 1814 Entered swept channel on course 080° True, 080° Gyro. 1827 Passed thru Gea Pass and entered lagoon. 1848 Stopped. 1858 Let go starboard anchor. Veered chain to 75 fathoms. 1905 Secure at anchor Kwajalein Lagoon in 24 fathoms of water on the following anchor bearings: North Tangent Ennylabegan Island 286° True, South Tangent Ennylabegan Island 223° True, North Tangent Gea Island 299° True. 2000 Commenced discharging cargo #1,2,3 and 5 hatches. 2015 Dispatched five boats to U.S.S. President Polk. 2330 Discontinued discharging cargo due to tidal conditions at beach.

Leonard Frisco
LEONARD FRISCO,
Comdr., D-M, U.S.N.R.
Commanding Officer.

C.M. Houston
C.M. HOUSTON,
Lt., D-M, U.S.N.R.
Navigator.

10

REFER
FILE NO.

APA49/A12-1
Serial 081

CONFIDENTIAL

Reg. No.	963
S.S. No.	010976

48

U. S. S. ORMSBY (APA49)

1 March 1944.

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet
Subject: War Diary, month of February, 1944.
Reference: (a) CominCh FF1/A12-A16-3, Serial 7152, 29
October 1943.

1. In compliance with reference (a) the War Diary of this vessel for the month of February 1944 is submitted.

2. U.S.S. ORMSBY (APA49) operating as a unit of Transport Division Four, Division Commander, U.S.S. ZEILIN, Task Group 52.17. Advanced Transport Group, O.T.C., C.T.F 52 U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNTAIN; at anchor in Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands for the purpose of completing the capture and occupation of the Marshall Islands for the United States Forces and the landing of ammunition and equipment of the 17th Infantry Division, United States Army.

1 February: At anchor Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands in company with Transport Division Four and various other units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. 0655 Resumed discharging cargo and landing same on beach, lagoon side of Ennylabegan Island as tidal conditions became favorable. Unloading operations continued throughout the day as boats became available.

2 February: Anchored in Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands in company with Transport Division Four and various other units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Continued discharging cargo as boats became available. 1420 U.S.S. SIGSBEE, DD502 made fast alongside to receive fuel oil. 1600 Finished discharging cargo, all hatches completed, landing ammunition and equipment on beach, lagoon side of Ennylabegan Island. 1613 Commenced reembaring troops and reloading equipment for further operations. 1824 Reembarked 500 troops of the 17th Infantry Division, U.S. Army on board, continued reloading equipment. 2210 Finished pumping fuel oil to DD502, pumped 75,373 gallons. 2300 All designated mechanized equipment reloaded on board.

3 February: Anchored in Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands in company with Transport Division Four and various other units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. 0545 Set condition IA. 0607 Commenced rail loading troops into boats and lowering boats. 0555 U.S.S. SIGSBEE, DD502, let go lines and proceeded on assigned duty. 0625 Lowered all boats. 0712

FILMED

67042

Recorded

REFER
FILE No.

APA49/A12-1
Serial 081

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. ORMSBY (APA49)

1 March 1944

0712 All troops debarked into boats and away to line of departure. 0934 First wave of boats landed on the beach, lagoon side, south end Ebeya Island encountered light, but steady enemy resistance. 1043 Tenth wave of boats landed on the beach, all waves landed. 1429 U.S.S. MURRAY, DD576 made fast alongside to receive fuel oil. 1443 Commenced fueling U.S.S. MURRAY, Pumped 102,000 gallons fuel oil.

4 February: Anchored in Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands in company with Transport Division Four and various other units of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. 0717 U.S.S. MURRAY, DD576, let go lines and proceeded on assigned duty. 0925 Hove up anchor, underway, proceeding to sea via swept channel in company with Transport Division Four. 1008 Formed cruising formation in two sections, Transport Division Four, Task Unit 52.19.1 OTC U.S.S. ZEILIN for the purpose of proceeding to Funafuti, Ellice Islands for refueling and provisioning.

2000 07-45N 169-18E

5 February: Enroute from Kwajalein, Marshall Islands to Funafuti, Ellice Islands.

0800 05-37N 170-42E
1200 05-00N 171-05E
2000 03-18N 171-44E

6 February: Enroute from Kwajalein, Marshall Islands to Funafuti, Ellice Islands. 1056 Held anti-aircraft target practice, ammunition expended 900 rounds 20mm, 151 rounds 1.1 caliber, 3 rounds 5"/38 caliber.

0800 00-43N 172-35E
1142 Crossed equator 173-07E
1200 00-04S 173-07E
2000 01-39S 173-50E

7 February: Enroute from Kwajalein, Marshall Islands to Funafuti, Ellice Islands. 1038 Held anti-aircraft target practice, ammunition expended 1080 rounds of 20mm caliber, 286 rounds of 1.1 caliber and 2 rounds of 5"/38 caliber.

0800 03-55S 175-10E
1200 04-34S 175-48E
2000 05-59S 176-44E

8 February: Enroute from Kwajalein, Marshall Islands to Funafuti, Ellice Islands. 0653 Nukufetau Island sighted bearing 035° True, distance 13 miles. 0800 07-55 S 178-36E. 1133 Arrived off Te Bua Bua entrance to swept channel, Funafuti, Ellice Islands. 1329 Anchored, berth Baker 1, Funafuti Lagoon.