

2-27 April 1945

We continued support missions over Okinawa and adjacent areas, and participated in the sinking of the Jap Battleship YAMATO in the East China Sea on 7 April.

30 April - 9 May 1945

Anchored again at Ulithi Atoll.

13-14 May 1945

Launched strikes against airfields on Kyushu.

17 May - 7 June 1945

Returned to areas off Okinawa, and resumed close air support over Okinawa's front lines. On the 5th of June we rode through a typhoon which left its toll of damage on our hitherto unscratched ship.

11 June - 1 July 1945

Anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands, for repairs to our flight deck.

2-9 July 1945

Underway for the Tokyo area.

10 July 1945

We launched strikes against airfields in the Tokyo area.

13 July 1945

Cruising in the Hokkaido area. Bad weather.

14-15 July 1945

Strikes against airfields in the Hokkaido area.

17 July 1945

Strikes against ground targets of the Mito area of Honshu Island.

18 July 1945

Strikes against airfields on coast of Honshu and Jap Battleship NAGATO.

24-25 July 1945

Strikes against airfields and factories and Jap naval units off Honshu.

28 July 1945

Strikes against airfields and shipping.

30 July 1945

Strikes against Kobe-Nagoya area.

2-4 August 1945

Operated south of fueling area to avoid typhoon.

5-6 August 1945

Underway launching and operating area for new northern Honshu strikes. Our position approximately 300 miles from Tokyo.

8 August 1945

Operating in area 100 miles off coast of northeast Honshu. Bad weather prevented air operations.

9 August 1945

Launched and recovered strikes against airfields and shipping in northern Honshu, and supported bombardment at Kasaihi.

10 August 1945

125 miles off Sendai. Strikes against airfields and shipping in northern Honshu.

13 August 1945

Approximately 150 miles off Tokyo. Launched strikes against Tokyo Shibaura Electric Company, and airfields in the Mito area. Many bogies in the area.

15 August 1945

Operated in an area approximately 150 miles off Tokyo, launching strikes against airfields in the Mito area. The first strike, a fighter sweep, was launched at 0427 and went to the Hyakurigahara airfield and damaged planes on the ground, and a freight train. The second strike, with Tokyo Shibaura Electric Plant as its target, was launched but was recalled before reaching the target; ALNAV #194-45 stating that the Japanese had officially accepted the Potsdam peace terms. Combat Air Patrols were continued as scheduled, but all strikes against the Empire were cancelled. A "Judy" was shot down over TG 38.4 at 1123, and other bogies were reported, but faded. At 1301, Admiral Halsey broadcast news of the Jap surrender. At 1315, a bogey was reported, and four minutes later it was shot down by the CAP. During the afternoon all ships broke out their battle flags.

And that's the story folks. Later on, as I said before, I'll have more news for you, and lots more details of this big aircraft carrier's operations and activities.