

U. S. S. BENNINGTON (CV 20)

IN REPLY
REFER TO

- 3 June 1945
Operating in the Okinawa area in bad ~~xxxx~~ weather. Special missions were flown to drop supplies to troops in front of the regular lines at Okinawa.
- 4 June 1945
Underway in the fueling area approximately 311 miles south of Okinawa, receiving fuel and aviation gasoline.
- 5 June 1945
Underway in an area approximately 300 miles southeast of Okinawa seeking to avoid course of storm known to be approaching from the south. Ship in Typhoon Condition Two. Set condition Zebra and Typhoon Condition One at 0423. Wind increased in velocity to 60 knots at 0507. At about 0528, forward 25 feet of flight deck collapsed due to heavy pounding of the seas. Passed through center of storm at 0700-0730. Storm damage other than buckled flight deck included bulkhead at Frame 4 buckled; starboard catwalk at flight deck level carried away; portion of fire main at Frame 15 buckled; all life lines on starboard side of forecastle carried away. Wind gradually subsided during the late morning. No personnel casualties. Steamed toward fueling rendezvous in evening.
- 6 June 1945
Underway approximately 150 miles southeast of Okinawa. Exercised at anti-aircraft firing.
- 7 June 1945
Underway in the Okinawa area maintaining patrols and special missions over Okinawa.
- 8 June 1945
Operating in the Okinawa area launching patrols and strikes against planes at Kanaya airfield.
- 9 - 10 June 1945
Underway enroute from Okinawa area to Leyte Gulf.
- 11 June 1945
Anchored in Berth 29, San ~~xxxx~~ Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands.
- 12 - 27 June 1945
Anchored in Berth 29, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, P.I. for availability and storm damage repair.
On 15 June Rear Admiral J.J. Clark, USN, ComCarDiv five, hauled down his flag in USS Hornet and was relieved as commander Task Group 38.1 by Rear Admiral T.L. Sprague, USN, ComCarDiv Three, in Bennington.
On 17 June Air Group One, Commander N.B. Harden, USN; Air Group Commander, reported aboard for duty, and Air ~~xxxx~~ Group 82, Commander G.L. Heap, USN, Air Group Commander, left the ship, its duty aboard being completed.