

HISTORY OF THE U. S. S. ADMIRAL E. W. EBERLE AP-123 (Concluded)

While anchored in Seeadler Harbor, Manus Island, Admiralty Group at 1303, on 25 March, 1945, a U. S. Navy SBD Dauntless plane crashed into the starboard side of the ship, in compartment A-305-L at 1512. Both occupants of the plane, still unidentified at time of submission of this month's diary, were killed instantly. Engine and propeller of plane lodged in compartment A-305-L. WILLIAMS, Everett E. (633-783) S1c(R) was killed instantly due to a fractured skull and fracture of right humerus.

CHAPTER III VOYAGE NO. 2

Departed San Pedro, California in ballast on 14 May, 1945. First stop was Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone after transitting the Panama Canal on 21 May, 1945. Departed there 22 May, 1945 and stopped at following ports: Gibraltar, Spain (1 June, 1945); Naples, Italy (4-6 June, 1945); Port of Spain, Trinidad, British West Indies (15-18 June, 1945) where unloaded 4,187 Army officers and men; LeHavre, France (26-29 June, 1945); and the voyage ended at Newport News, Virginia where 4,656 Army officers and men were debarked. Completed a total of 21,180.6 nautical miles.

CHAPTER IV

Departed Norfolk, Virginia in ballast on 14 July, 1945. First stop was Marseilles, France on 23 July, 1945. Departed on 25 July, 1945 and stopped at the following ports: Balboa, Panama Canal Zone (4-5 August, 1945) after transitting the Panama Canal; Ulithi Islands, Caroline Islands (24-25 August, 1945); Batangas, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands, (29 August, 1945); Manila, Luzon Island, Philippine Islands (29 August to 6 September, 1945) where 4,036 Army officers and men debarked; Tacloban, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands (8-12 September, 1945); and the voyage ended at Tacoma, Washington on 25 September, 1945. Disembarked

4,608 Army officers, men and a few civilians. Proceeded to Puget Sound Navy Yard, Bremerton, Washington for necessary alterations and voyage repairs. Completed a total of 27,072.3 nautical miles.

CHAPTER V

After 20 days in drydock at the Puget Sound Naval Yard, Bremerton, Washington, we departed Seattle, Washington on 23 October, 1945 for Naha, Okinawa and thence to Nagasaki and Otaka, Japan. Arrived off Naha, Okinawa on 5 November, 1945. We departed there on 12 November, 1945 with orders changed to Nagoya, Japan on last minute instructions. Arrived Nagoya on 14 November, 1945 and departed on 17 November, 1945 enroute to Seattle, Washington. Three days out received diversion orders to San Francisco. When less than twenty-four (24) hours away, we were again diverted to San Pedro, California. Arrived off San Pedro, California at 0600, 27 November, 1945 having set a new world's trans-pacific speed record of 11 days, despite the two separate diversions. This eclipsed the record formerly held by the USS CHICAGO of 13 days and also set a record for largest number of troops in one load (4,686 men) coming to the Los Angeles Port.

CHAPTER VI

Departed San Pedro, California on 6 December, 1945 enroute to Nagoya, Japan. Despite continuous storms all the way, we managed to beat our own record by over two hours, arriving about 1500, 18 December, 1945. The morning after tying up to the pier, all hands were delighted to find the EBERLE had taken on a blanket of snow during the night. Departed from Nagoya 0600, 21 December, 1945 for Seattle, Washington. Arrived there at 0800, 29 December, 1945 having taken only eight days and 11 hours sailing time (a new world's record from Nagoya to Seattle).