

Tarawa to Tokyo

U.S.S. Sheridan History

(as of 20 September 1945)

31 July 1943 : Commissioned as U.S.S. SHERIDAN (APA51) at Moore Drydock Company, Oakland, California. The ship, hull #226, was originally built for the Maritime Service and was christened the S.S. MESSENGER prior to its conversion.

1 September to 26 September 1943 : San Francisco to San Diego for shakedown period and return to San Francisco.

1 October 1943 : Departed San Francisco for Wellington, New Zealand via New Hebrides, en route to Tarawa, Gilbert Islands, for ships first assault operation on enemy held islands.

20 November to 24 November 1943 : 20 November arrived Tarawa and unloaded approximately 1200 personnel and approximately 400 tons of equipment of the 8th Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, in assault on Beach Red III. Ship remained in the area until departure on 24 November for Pearl Harbor, T.H., and San Diego. One hundred and thirty-five (135) casualties received and cared for aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 53.

2 December 1943 : Ship inspected in Pearl Harbor by Admiral Nimitz, Vice Admiral Gormley, Rear Admiral Turner and Staffs.

13 December 1943 : Arrived Naval Repair Base (Destroyer Base) San Diego.

15 December to 18 December 1943 : Training period in vicinity of Aliso Canyon, under CTF 53.

18 December to 31 December 1943 : Naval Repair Base, San Diego.

1 January to 5 January 1944 : Training period in vicinity of San Clemente Island, under CTF 53.

6 January to 13 January 1944 : Repairs to boats and completion of logistics and loading for Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands Operation. Underway for objective on 13 January, via Lahaina Roads, T.H.

31 January to 8 February 1944 : 31 January arrived in vicinity of Kwajalein Atoll. 1 February landed 1473 personnel and 774.6 tons of equipment of Landing Team 2/23 of the 4th Marine Division, in assault on Beach Red III. Seventy-four (74) casualties were received and cared for aboard. Two (2) bodies of deceased buried at sea. Operation conducted under CTF 53. Ship remained in area until departure on 8 February for Pearl Harbor via Kahului, Maui.

15 February to 28 February 1944 : 15 February detached from TF 53 and ordered to Kahului for unloading. 17 February arrived Pearl Harbor for repairs and logistics until 28 February.

28 February to 6 May 1944 : Continuous day and night maneuvers off Maui, under AdComFIFTHPhibForPacFlt., with 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions.

7 May to 30 May 1944 : Underway to Hilo for loading thence on 10 May underway to Honolulu. 14 May to 19 May training period off islands of Maui and Kahoolawe for Saipan, Marianna Islands Operation and returned to Pearl Harbor. 30 May underway for Saipan.

15 June to 21 June 1944 : Arrived Saipan and landed 1312 personnel and 557.4 tons of equipment of 2nd Battalion, 6th Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, in assault on Beach Red II. Received aboard and cared for two hundred and forty-five (245) casualties, and in addition eight casualties (two dead and six wounded) of the ship's beach party. Operation conducted under CTF 52.

21 June to 3 July 1944 : 21 June departed for Pearl Harbor via Eniwetok. Twenty-one (21) bodies of deceased Naval and Marine personnel buried at sea prior to arrival at Eniwetok. Arrived on 24 June and on following day transferred forty-six (46) minor casualties and received aboard for transfer to Pearl Harbor one hundred and seventy-six (176) additional casualties. According to information furnished the Ship's Senior Medical Officer by the Fleet Surgeon, this vessel received, cared for, and transported the greatest number of casualties of any ship in the entire FIFTH Fleet. 3 July arrived Pearl Harbor.

4 July to 9 July 1944 : Loading at Honolulu and training in Hawaiian Area for Guam, Marianna Islands Operation. 9 July underway for Guam via Eniwetok.

22 July to 28 July 1944 : Arrived Guam on 22 July and on 23 to 27 July, inclusive, landed, in assault, 1636 personnel and 856.09 tons of equipment of the 3rd Battalion, 306th Infantry Regiment, 77th Division, U.S. Army, on Beach White II. Twenty-two (22) casualties were received and cared for aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 53. 28 July departed for Pearl Harbor via Eniwetok.

10 August to 15 September 1944 : 10 August arrived Pearl Harbor, loaded and conducted training off Maui for Yap Operation. 15 September underway to Manus, Admiralty Islands, via Eniwetok. Prior to arrival at Eniwetok, were notified of cancellation of Yap Operation.

25 September to 14 October 1944 : 25 September arrived Eniwetok. 28 September underway for Manus. Arrived Manus on 3 October. 9 October TF designation changed from TF 33 to TF 79. 14 October underway for target, now designated as Leyte, Philippine Islands.

20 to 22 October 1944 : 20 October arrived Leyte and landed, in assault, 1439 personnel and 950 tons of equipment of the 1st Battalion, 383rd Infantry Regiment, 96th Division, U.S. Army, on Beach Orange II. Seventy-eight (78) casualties, seven (7) of whom were civilians were received and cared for aboard. On 21 October, one of the civilians, Mrs. Roberto Cayobit, gave birth to a son who was christened by the Ship's Chaplain as Roberto Sheridan Cayobit, the first Native child born under the American Flag after the re-occupation of the Philippines by American Forces. Operation conducted under CTF 79. 22 October departed for Hollandia, New Guinea.

27 October to 14 November 1944 : 27 October arrived Hollandia. 5 November departed for Kimiri, Noemfoor Island, Netherlands East Indies. 7 November arrived Noemfoor and loaded troops and cargo for reinforcement of Leyte. 14 November departed for Leyte.

18 November 1944 : Arrived Leyte and landed, in reserve, 599 personnel and 110 tons equipment and 105 vehicles of the 58th Fighter Group, 5th Air Force, U.S. Army Air Corps, on eastern Leyte midway between Catmon Hill and San Roque. No casualties received aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 79. Underway en route to Manus.

24 November to 28 November 1944 : 24 November arrived Manus. 28 November departed for Cape Bredow, Finschhafen (Finsch Harbor), New Guinea. 28 November departed Finsch Harbor en route to Torokina Point, Empress Augusta Bay, Bouganville, Solomon Islands.

1 December to 31 December 1944 : 1 December arrived Torkina and loaded troops and cargo for Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, Philippine Islands Operation. 16 December departed for Huon Gulf and held maneuvers in the vicinity of Lae and Salamua, New Guinea on 18 and 19 December, thence proceeded to Manus. 21 December, arrived Manus. 28 and 29 December, ship drydocked in ABSD 4 for scraping and painting of bottom. 31 December, underway for Lingayen Gulf.

9 January 1945 : 9 January arrived Lingayen Gulf and landed, in assault, 1207 personnel and 262.30 short tons of equipment of the advance echelon of the 37th Infantry Division, U.S. Army on Beach Yellow I. Six (6) casualties were received and cared for aboard. In addition one hundred and eight (108) casualties and survivors from the U.S.S. OMMANEY BAY were taken aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 79. Underway for Leyte.

12 January to 26 January 1945 : 12 January arrived Leyte and loaded troops and equipment for the Zambales Province, Luzon Operation. 26 January underway for Zambales Province.

29 January 1945 : 29 January arrived Zambales Province and landed, in assault, 1184 personnel and 399 short tons of equipment of the 2nd Battalion, 149th Regiment, 38th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, on Beach Red II. No casualties were received aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 78. Underway for Leyte.

1 February to 27 March 1945 : 1 February arrived Leyte. 12 February detached from TF 78 and assigned to TF 55. Remained in Leyte Gulf and San Pedro Bay unloading merchant ships, furnishing logistics to small craft, completing own logistics, loading and training for Okinawa, Ryuku Islands, Operation. 27 March underway for Okinawa.

1 April to 5 April 1945 : 1 April arrived Okinawa and landed, in assault, 1239 personnel and 649 tons of equipment of the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Division, U.S. Army, on Beach Orange I. Sixty-one (61) casualties were received and cared for aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 55. 5 April underway for Guam, Pearl Harbor, and the United States.

30 April to 15 July 1945 : 30 April arrived San Francisco. Sixty (60) day availability at United Engineering Company, Ltd., Pier 20, San Francisco until 30 June. 1 July to 12 July, shakedown and logistics period in San Francisco, shakedown period San Diego and returned to San Francisco. 12 July arrived San Francisco and loaded casual personnel for forward areas. 15 July underway for Eniwetok, Ulithi (Caroline Islands), and Leyte.

5 August to 14 August 1945 : 5 August arrived Leyte and move to Guiuan, Samar, Philippine Islands, on same date. 5 and 6 August debarked 1749 personnel at Leyte and Guiuan. 14 August underway for Zamboanga, Mindinao, Philippine Islands.

15 August to 16 August 1945 : 15 August arrive Zamboanga and loaded 1373 redeployment troops of the 41st Division, U.S. Army, for transportation to Leyte. Heard official announcement of Japanese surrender while lying to awaiting pilot at Zamboanga. 16 August underway for Leyte.

17 August to 25 August 1945 : 17 August arrived Leyte and debarked troops on 18 August. 19 August underway for Batangas, Luzon, to load troops and equipment for the occupation of Japan.

25 August departed for Japan. 26 August returned to Subic Bay due to foul weather. 27 August departed for Japan.

2 September to 4 September 1945 : 2 September arrived Tokyo Bay and anchored off Yokohama. Passed in near vicinity of U.S.S. MISSOURI during surrender ceremonies. 3 September moved to Tatayama Wan and landed 657 personnel and 605.4 tons of equipment of the 112th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, U.S. Army, over the Tatayama Naval Base Seaplane ramp instead of Beach Red as previously planned. No casualties received aboard. Operation conducted under CTF 33. 4 September underway for Buckner Bay, Okinawa.

7 September to 20 September (Present date) : 7 September arrived Buckner Bay. 8 September moved to Hagushi beaches and reported to ComPhibGrp 7 U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY (APA21). 12 September moved to Chuda, Nago Wan and loaded 1000 tons of equipment of the 7th Service Regiment, 1st Marine Division. 16 September underway to open sea to ride out typhoon. 19 September returned to Chuda. Expect to load 1200 personnel of the 7th Service Regiment, 1st Marine Division for proposed landing at or near the vicinity of Tientsin on the Coast of China.

Total of Troops, Casualties and Cargo loaded and transported to date, including pending operation:

TROOPS - 16,228 CASUALTIES - 905 CARGO - 6,563.79 Tons

These figures do not include troops and cargo loaded and transported on numerous training cruises.