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AUTHORITY 918153
By [signature] NARA, Date [date]

DECLASSIFIED

ACTION REPORT

ORIGINAL

USS MAC KENZIE

DD 614

SERIAL 004

29 AUGUST 1944

ACTION REPORT OF U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614) IN
OPERATION ANVIL, FROM 2139B, 17 AUGUST 1944 TO
1315B, 28 AUGUST 1944.

[COVERS EXCELLENT PERFORMACE
DURING THE ASSAULT AND REDUCTION
OF THE FORTRESS OF SAINT MANDRIER
AND IN THE BOMBARDMENT OF TOULON AREA.]

86780

OFFICE OF NAVAL RECORDS AND LIBRARY

DD614/A5-1
Serial No. 004

U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614) **DECLASSIFIED**
NND 968133
FORM 10-jt

S-E-C-R-E-T

29 August 1944.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, UNITED STATES FLEET.
(Readiness Division)

Via: (1) The Commander Task Group 80.6.
(2) The Commander Task Force 86.
(3) The Commander Western Naval Task Force.
(4) The Commander in Chief, ATLANTIC FLEET.

Subject: Action Report of U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614) in
Operation Anvil, from 2139B, 17 August 1944 to
1315B, 28 August 1944.

Reference: (a) Action Report of USS MAC KENZIE (DD614) in
Operation Anvil to 2138B, 17 August 1944,
Serial No. 003 dated 18 August 1944.

1. The action report covering the period from the
beginning of the Anvil operation to 2138B, 17 August 1944, is con-
tained in reference (a).

2. During the period between 2138B, 17 August 1944,
and 1315B, 28 August 1944, the USS MAC KENZIE was assigned to
the following commands during the periods indicated:

- (a) From 2139B, 17 August 1944, to 0001B, 20 August
1944, the MAC KENZIE operated under the command
of Commander Task Group 80.6. Her specific duty
was in the outer beachhead screen in stations
assigned daily by one of two screen commanders.
Commander Destroyer Squadron 18 or Commander
Destroyer Division 14.
- (b) From 0001B, 20 August 1944, to 1420B, 22 August
1944, the MAC KENZIE operated under the command
of Commander Task Force 86. The specific duty
assigned during this period was as screen for the
USS PHILADELPHIA and various other units assigned
by Commander Task Force 86. Operations during this
period were off TOULON, FRANCE.
- (c) From 1420B, 22 August 1944, to 1400, 24 August 1944,
the MAC KENZIE was reassigned to Commander Task
Group 80.6, who assigned duty in the outer beach-
head screen off the ALPHA, DELTA and CAMEL areas.
This ship operated with the screen until 0620B,
23 August 1944, when she was detached to proceed
to PROPRIANO, CORSICA for logistics and minor re-
pairs. This ship reported back to Commander Task
Group 80.6 at 1400B, 24 August 1944.

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- (d) From 1400B, 24 August 1944, to 1315B, 28 August, 1944, the U.S.S. MAC KENZIE was assigned to Commander Task Force 86. The specific duty assigned during this period was as screen for heavy units as designated daily by Commander Task Force 86 as follows:

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>UNITS SCREENED AND LOCATION</u>
1400B, 24 August to 1440B, 25 August -	USS OMAHA; off TOULON, FRANCE.
1440B, 25 August to 0600B, 27 August -	F.S. MONTCALM, F.S. GLOIRE, F.S. DUGUAY-TROUIN, F.S. LORRAINE; off SAINTE MANDRIER, FRANCE.
0600B, 27 August to 0653B, 28 August -	HMS RAMILLES and HMS SIRIUS; off SAINTE MANDRIER, FRANCE.
0653B, 28 August to 1315B, 28 August -	F.S. MONTCALM, F.S. EMILE BERTIN, F.S. GLOIRE, F.S. DUGUAY-TROUIN, F.S. LORRAINE; off island of PORQUEROLLES, FRANCE.

3. The events worthy of comment which occurred during the period covered by this report are set forth in the paragraphs following, one paragraph being devoted to each.

- (a) At 1559B, 18 August 1944, the MAC KENZIE dropped a 15 charge, very deep depth charge pattern in a creeping attack directed by the USS C.F. HUGHES off CAENNES, FRANCE. No visual results were observed.
- (b) At 1552B, 20 August 1944, the USS PHILADELPHIA was fired upon by heavy coast defense guns while firing in the area off the peninsula of GIENS, FRANCE. The MAC KENZIE made stack and fog-oil smoke while screening the evasive action of the USS PHILADELPHIA. The burst closest to this ship was approximately 500 yards. Neither this ship nor the PHILADELPHIA suffered damage. Five bursts were observed from this ship, and from the size of the bursts the shells were from high calibre guns..

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- (c) At 1749B, 21 August 1944, the USS PHILADELPHIA was again fired upon in the same area by a gun of approximately the same size as that observed on 20 August 1944. Three bursts were observed. During this firing, the MAC KENZIE made stack and fog-oil smoke to screen the PHILADELPHIA.
- (d) At 2015B, 24 August 1944, while screening the USS OMAHA, five minesweepers of the fleet AM class were fired upon off CAPE SPIGIE, FRANCE, by a coastal battery or batteries. From the appearance of the bursts, the shells were fired in salvos. At least fifteen splashes were observed from the MAC KENZIE, and the projectiles appeared to be dye-colored. Pursuant to orders of the OMAHA, the MAC KENZIE made stack and fog-oil smoke until approximately 2040B. No damage to the MAC KENZIE was suffered and none was observed on the minesweepers.
- (e) At 1530B on 25 August 1944, while operating as screen for F.S. MONTCALM and other units of the French Fleet, USS MAC KENZIE commenced firing upon targets of opportunity on the island of SAINTE MANDRIER, FRANCE. Direct fire was used at a range of 15,000 yards at what was believed to be gun emplacements. Hits were observed on the targets fired upon. At 1534 the MAC KENZIE ceased firing. At 1632B, the MAC KENZIE again commenced firing upon targets of opportunity believed to be gun emplacements or pill boxes on the island of SAINTE MANDRIER and at 1639B ceased firing. Hits were observed on the targets fired upon. Direct fire was used at a range of approximately 14,000 yards. During these two firings 38 rounds of 5"/38 cal. AA Common projectiles and smokeless powder were expended.
- (f) It had been suggested during the afternoon of 25 August 1944 by the commanding officer of the HMS AURORA that directing fire against SAINTE MANDRIER by all units in the area might force the surrender of the enemy units still holding out on the island. The suggestion was apparently adopted and at 1851B, the MAC KENZIE commenced firing on the island in accordance with this plan. A fortress on the eastern end of the island was used as a point of aim; direct

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fire was used; four gun salvos were fired. Spots to the right and left of the point of aim were made. Range was 12,000 yards. Fire was ceased at 1900B. 48 rounds of AA common projectiles and smokeless powder were expended.

- (g) At 1425B, 28 August 1944, the U.S.S. MAC KENZIE commenced firing on targets of opportunity on SAINTE MANDRIER. Emplacements and concrete block houses were fired upon, three separate targets having been chosen. Direct fire was used at a range of 9,000 yards. Four gun salvos were fired. Hits were observed on all three targets fired upon. At 1457B fire was ceased, 108 rounds of AA Common projectiles and smokeless powder having been expended.
- (h) At 0840B on 27 August 1944 prisoners were sighted on a rubber raft off SAINTE MANDRIER by the MAC KENZIE. A white cloth was being flown and at 1858B thirteen prisoners were taken aboard. These men claimed to be of the following nationalities: one, Czechoslovakian; three, German; one, Polish-German; eight, Polish. Their clothing was adequate. They were unarmed. They carried kits containing clothing, emergency rations and toilet articles. None was identified as an officer. No resistance was offered and they all seemed cheerful, not displeased with surrendering. Several of the prisoners said that they had evacuated their positions on SAINTE MANDRIER the previous night on orders of their officers, because of lack of ammunition to defend the island. The interrogation was necessarily cursory because of the short time they were aboard. By direction of Commander Task Force 86 all prisoners were delivered to the HMS RAMILLES at 0941B, for interrogation with bag and baggage.

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4. On 28 August 1944 the U.S.S. MAC KENZIE was
detached from Commander Task Force 86 and left the area of
Operation Anvil.

B. N. Rittenhouse, Jr.
B. N. RITTENHOUSE, Jr.

Advance Copy - CominCh (Readiness Division)
Copy to - ComDesLANT
ComNavNAV

OF6-7/A16-3
ll/pe
Serial: 00217

COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON SEVEN
CARE POSTMASTER, MORGAN ANNEX
NEW YORK, N. Y.

1 November 1944.

S-E-C-R-E-T

FIRST ENDORSEMENT To:
CO, MAC KENZIE Secret ltr.
DD614/A5-1, Serial 004
of 29 August 1944.

From: Commander Task Group 80.6, (ComDes8thFleet).
To : Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
(Readiness Division)
Via : (1) The Commander Task Force 86.
(2) The Commander Western Naval Task Force.

Subject: Action Report of U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)
in Operation Anvil, from 2139B, 17 August
1944 to 1315B, 28 August 1944.

1. Forwarded, re-routed as indicated.
2. During the periods of time covered by this report that MAC KENZIE was attached to Task Group EIGHTY POINT SIX she was assigned to beachhead screen. Her performance of duty while attached to this command was reliable and entirely to my satisfaction.

J. P. CLAY
J. P. CLAY

Copy to:
COMINCH
CINCLANT(Complete)
COMDESLANT
CO, MAC KENZIE
CDS-16

12 1582

FB3-8/A16-3
Serial: 0260

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
CRUISER DIVISION EIGHT

05/ra

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

c/o Fleet Post Office,
New York, N. Y.,
13 November 1944.

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to
CO MAC KENZIE secret
ltr. DD614/A5-1, ser.
004 of 29 August 1944.

From: Commander Cruiser Division EIGHT.
To : Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Via : Commander EIGHTH Fleet.

Subject: Action Report of U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)
in Operation Anvil, from 2139B, 17 August
1944 to 1315B, 28 August 1944.

1. Forwarded.
2. During the period MAC KENZIE was attached to Task Force EIGHTY-SIX, her performance was excellent and very efficient, particularly during the assault and reduction of the Fortress of Saint Mandrier.
3. The classification of basic letter is hereby reduced to confidential.


F. R. DODGE

Copy to:
CO MAC KENZIE



A16-3

UNITED STATES EIGHTH FLEET

Serial: 001387

SECRET

ENDORSEMENT to
CO MackENZIE Secret
Ltr. DD614/A5-1 (004)
of 29 August 1944.

6 DEC 1944

From: Commander United States Eighth Fleet.
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: Action Report of USS MackENZIE (DD614) in Operation
ANVIL, from 2139B, 17 August 1944 to 1315B, 28 August 1944.

1. Forwarded.
2. Classification of the basic report and endorsements is restored to "Secret" owing to the use of codewords.
3. This report relates briefly the part played by USS MackENZIE in the bombardment of the Toulon area as one of the Support Force, and as a member of the beachhead screen.

Transmission by Registered Guard Mail or U. S. Registered Mail is authorized in accordance with Article 16(15)(e) and (f), U. S. Navy Regulations.

Spencer Lewis

SPENCER S. LEWIS
CHIEF OF STAFF

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
FLAG OFFICE
RECEIVED

31 DEC 26 14 33

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By: [unclear] DATE: [unclear]

A16-3

UNITED STATES EIGHTH FLEET

Serial: 001387

SECRET

6 DEC 1944

~~SECRET~~
ENDORSEMENT to
CO MackENZIE Secret
Ltr. DD61A/A5-1 (CO4)
of 29 August 1944.

From: Commander United States Eighth Fleet.
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: Action Report of USS MackENZIE (DD61A) in Operation ANVIL, from 2139B, 17 August 1944 to 1315B, 28 August 1944.

1. Forwarded.
2. Classification of the basic report and endorsements is restored to "Secret" owing to the use of codewords.
3. This report relates briefly the part played by USS MackENZIE in the bombardment of the Toulon area as one of the Support Force, and as a member of the beachhead screen.

Transmission by Registered Guard Mail or U. S. Registered Mail is authorized in accordance with Article 79(1)(b) and (c), U. S. Navy Regulations.

SPENCER S. LEWIS
CHIEF OF STAFF

1944
REVINCEA JAS...
CHIEF OF STAFF

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