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DD614/A12-1

U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)

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DECLASSIFIED

Doc. No. 59
R.S. No. 03845

1 JAN 1944

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Commander-in-Chief, UNITED STATES FLEET.
Subject: War Diary of U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614) for month of December, 1943.
Reference: (a) R-1531 of Navy Department Bulletin of 1 November, 1943.

1. The War Diary of the U.S.S. MAC KENZIE (DD614) for the month of December, 1943 is hereby submitted in accordance to reference (a).

1 December: Operating in company TASKFORCE 60 composed of U.S.S. ARKANSAS, DESRON 16 less U.S.S. KENDRICK and DESRON 15 less DESDIV 30 and U.S.S. BEATTY. TASKFORCE 60 attached to U. S. ATLANTIC FLEET, presently employed in the escort and screening of CONVOY TU-3 from the UNITED KINGDOM to NORTH AMERICA. Mission being discharged in obedience ADMIRALTY'S secret despatch 25/640 of 25 November 1943, and operating in accordance with COMTASK-FORCE 60's CBD 5-1/43 of 16 November 1943, plus currently effective ATLANTIC FLEET Anti-Submarine instructions.

Recorded

0800 position - 55° - 36' N 06° - 36' W
1200 position - 55° - 35' N 07° - 20' W
2000 position - 55° - 47' N 10° - 47' W

2 December: Remainder of operation consisted of routine operations essentially the same.

0800 position - 55° - 42' N 13° - 19' W
1200 position - 55° - 40' N 13° - 47' W
2000 position - 54° - 01' N 13° - 48' W

3 December: 0800 position - 51° - 40' N 14° - 42' W
1200 position - 51° - 12' N 16° - 05' W
2000 position - 50° - 41' N 19° - 18' W

4 December: 0800 position - 49° - 30' N 23° - 52' W
1200 position - 49° - 15' N 25° - 25' W
2000 position - 48° - 45' N 28° - 23' W

5 December: 0800 position - 48° - 04' N 33° - 01' W
1200 position - 47° - 53' N 33° - 56' W
2000 position - 47° - 21' N 36° - 41' W

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- 6 December: 0800 position - 46° - 46' N 41° - 02' W
1200 position - 46° - 35' N 42° - 27' W
2000 position - 45° - 56' N 45° - 12' W
- 7 December: 0800 position - 45° - 17' N 53° - 55' W
1200 position - 45° - 16' N 47° - 56' W
2000 position - 44° - 45' N 50° - 22' W
- 8 December: 0800 position - 43° - 47' N 53° - 55' W
1200 position - 43° - 20' N 55° - 10' W
2000 position - 42° - 44' N 57° - 31' W
- 9 December: 0800 position - 41° - 31' N 61° - 21' W
1200 position - 41° - 18' N 62° - 35' W
2000 position - 40° - 30' N 64° - 49' W
- 10 December: 0800 position - 39° - 44' N 67° - 29' W
1200 position - 39° - 45' N 68° - 28' W
2000 position - 39° - 27' N 71° - 19' W
- 11 December: Operation completed and released from duty with TASKFORCE 60. Entered and moored in NEW YORK NAVY YARD for fourteen (14) days availability to effect voyage repairs.
0800 position - 40° - 12' N
74° - 43' W
- 12 - 26 December: In NEW YORK NAVY YARD availability for repairs. Combat information center installed.
- 27 December: Shifted berth to 35th Street Pier, NAVY YARD NEW YORK ANNEX for brief logistical period.
- 28 December: Got underway at 1755 Q in obedience orders COMDESRON 15 and commenced patrolling in swept channel approaches to NEW YORK HARBOR covering the sortie of CONVOY UT-6.
- 29 December: Reported for duty with COMTASKFORCE 60 at 1200 Q. TASKFORCE 60 composed of U.S.S. TEXAS, DESRON 15 less DESDIV 30 and U.S.S. BEATTY plus DESRON 16. CTF 60 in U.S.S. TEXAS. Mission of TASKFORCE 60 to safely escort CONVOY UT-6 from NORTH AMERICA to the UNITED KINGDOM, operating in accordance with CTF 60's CBD-5/43.

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month of December, 1943.

0800 position - 40° - 23' N	73° - 49' W
1200 position - 40° - 32' N	66° - 32' W
2000 position - 40° - 33' N	64° - 31' W

30 December: Engaged in routine operations essentially the same.

0800 position - 40° - 18' N	69° - 44' W
1200 position - 40° - 32' N	66° - 32' W
2000 position - 40° - 33' N	64° - 31' W

31 December: 0800 position - 40° - 48' N 61° - 22' W
1200 position - 40° - 55' N 60° - 08' W
2000 position - 40° - 59' N 57° - 18' W

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

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1 February 1944.

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WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944

1 January- Underway in company with TASKFORCE 60 composed of U.S.S. TEXAS, COMDESRON 15 and DESDIV 29 less U.S.S. QUICK, COMDESRON 16 and DESRON 16. TASKFORCE 60 engaged in the escort of Convoy UT-6 from NORTH AMERICA to the UNITED KINGDOM. Operating in accordance with CTF 60's CBD 5 - 3/43 plus CDS 15's various amplifying letters and visual despatches. O.T.C. - CTF 60 embarked in U.S.S. TEXAS.

0800 position 41°-17' N 53°-38' W
1200 position 41°-36' N 52°-44' W
2000 position 42°-22' N 51°-05' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to /2 1/2 Z.D.

2 January- Fired 12 rounds 5" 38 cal. service ammunition, 26 rounds 40 MM ammunition and 246 rounds 20 MM ammunition at surprise submarine target.

0800 position 42°-22' N 47°-12' W
1200 position 42°-21' N 45°-56' W
2000 position 42°-32' N 43°-45' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to /2 Z.D.

3 January- 0800 position 43°-56' N 40°-19' W
1200 position 44°-01' N 38°-50' W
2000 position 45°-23' N 37°-14' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to /1 1/2 Z.D.

4 January- 0800 position 47°-30' N 34°-30' W
1200 position 48°-15' N 33°-30' W
2000 position 49°-16' N 31°-08' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to /1 Z.D.

5 January- 0800 position 50°-58' N 28°-26' W
1200 position 51°-39' N 27°-20' W
2000 position 52°-44' N 24°-54' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to /1/2 Z.D.

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6 January- 0800 position 54°-18' N 20°-36' W
1200 position 54°-22' N 19°-53' W
2000 position 55°-28' N 15°-35' W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1/2 hour to G.C.T.

7 January- Detached at 1200A by verbal orders CTF 60;
proceeding in company with COMDESRON 16, DESDIV
31 plus U.S.S. BOYLE to NAVAL OPERATING BASE,
LONDONDERRY, NORTH IRELAND. Fired starshell
practice at 2000A expending eleven rounds 5" 38 cal.
starshell ammunition.

0800 position 55°-28' N 10°-17' W
1200 position 55°-26' N 08°-25' W
2000 position 54°-56' N 06°-50' W

At 1300 advanced clocks 1 hour to -1 Z.D.

8 January- Anchored in river approaches to LONDONDERRY, NORTH
IRELAND at 1300A.

0800 position 55°-13' N 06°-46' W
1200 position 55°-16' N 06°-48' W

9 January- Proceeded to N.O.B. LONDONDERRY, NORTH IRELAND for
brief logistical period.

10-12 January- No remarks.

13 January- Proceeded to exercise area for gunnery exercises.
Expended sixteen rounds 5" 38 cal. ammunition and
49 rounds 40 MM ammunition. Anchored at mouth of
LOUGH FOYLE at 1725A.

0800 position 55°-13' N 06°-55' W
1200 position 55°-11' N 06°-59' W

14 January- Underway at 0400 proceeding in obedience ADMIRALTY'S
101507A and 101851A of January. Rendezvoused with
TASKFORCE 60 and commenced assignment of escorting
Convoy TU-6 from THE UNITED KINGDOM to NORTH AMERICA.
Organization of TF 60 unchanged.

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0800 position 55°-35' N 06°-42' W
1200 position 55°-26' N 07°-28' W
2000 position 55°-03' N 10°-22' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to -1/2 Z.D.

15 January- 0800 position 54°-28' N 12°-57' W
1200 position 54°-03' N 13°-49' W
2000 position 52°-38' N 16°-05' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to G.C.T.

16 January- 0800 position 51°-25' N 19°-01' W
1200 position 50°-37' N 20°-53' W
2000 position 49°-20' N 21°-51' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to ~~1~~1/2 Z.D.

17 January- 0800 position 48°-12' N 25°-55' W
1200 position 47°-53' N 27°-08' W
2000 position 47°-25' N 28°-55' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to ~~1~~1 Z.D.

18 January- 0800 position 46°-49' N 31°-25' W
1200 position 46°-41' N 32°-35' W
2000 position 46°-00' N 34°-52' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to ~~1~~1 1/2 Z.D.

19 January- 0800 position 45°-07' N 38°-16' W
1200 position 45°-04' N 39°-23' W
2000 position 44°-54' N 41°-21' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to ~~2~~2 Z.D.

20 January- DESRON 31 made practice torpedo firing run on Convoy.

0800 position 43°-43' N 45°-13' W
1200 position 43°-22' N 46°-32' W
2000 position 42°-41' N 48°-55' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to ~~2~~2 1/2 Z.D.

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21 January- Fired at simulated submarine target expending
14 rounds 5" 38 cal. ammunition, 50 rounds 40 MM
ammunition and 182 rounds 20 MM ammunition.

0800 position 41°-57' N	52°-27' W
1200 position 41°-38' N	53°-47' W
2000 position 41°-09' N	56°-22' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to 73 Z.D.

22 January- At 1300 U.S.S. TEXAS left formation screened by
U.S.S. MC LANAHAN and U.S.S. BOYLE. S.O.P.A. -
Convoy Commodore embarked in U.S.S. DORTHEA L. DIX.
At 1800 U.S.S. SANTEE left formation screened by
U.S.S. KENDRICK.

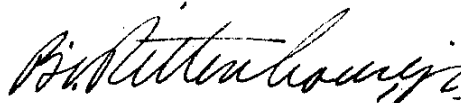
0800 position 40°-23' N	60°-16' W
1200 position 40°-22' N	62°-19' W
2000 position 39°-43' N	65°-02' W

At 1400 retarded clocks 1/2 hour to 73 1/2 Z.D.

23 January- 0800 position 39°-22' N 68°-55' W
1200 position 39°-23' N 69°-59' W
2000 position 39°-26' N 71°-28' W

24 January- At 1100 detached from duty with TASKFORCE 60.
Proceeded to NAVY YARD, NEW YORK for voyage
repairs.

25-31 January- Effecting voyage repairs.



B. N. RITTENHOUSE, Jr.

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WAR DIARY

FEBRUARY 1944

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1 February: In NEW YORK, NAVY YARD undergoing Voyage repairs.
through At 1200 Q 4 February got underway and moored at
4 February: 33rd STREET PIER, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK for brief
logistical period.

5 February: Got underway at 0800 Q in obedience COMDESRON
SIXTEEN. Proceeding to CASCO BAY, MAINE for
training under COMTASKGROUP 29.9. COMDESRON
SIXTEEN in U.S.S. PARKER and DESDIV 31 less
U.S.S. KENDRICK in company. At 1600 Q fired
"HYPO" machine gun practice at sleeve target
expending 281 rounds 20 MM ammunition and 19
rounds 40 MM ammunition.

1200 position - 40° - 08' N 73° - 30' W
2000 position - 40° - 12' N 69° - 43' W

6 February: At 1000 Q arrived and anchored CASCO BAY, MAINE.

7 February: Got underway at 0730 Q for operating area; fired
RADAR CALIBRATION PRACTICE in accordance COMDESLANT
directive. Expended 26 rounds 5" 38 cal. service
ammunition. Returned and moored alongside NAVAL
SUPPLY PIER, CASCO BAY, MAINE.

0800 position - 43° - 42' N 70° - 13' W
1200 position - 43° - 22' N 69° - 43' W

8 February: Underway 0730 Q for fueling exercises with the
U.S.S. AUGUSTA. Returned and anchored, CASCO BAY,
MAINE at 1800 Q.

0800 position - 43° - 41' N 70° - 14' W
1200 position - 43° - 12' N 69° - 15' W

9 February: Underway at 0730 Q for exercise area. Fired
Depth Charge practice expending five 600 pound
and six 300 pound depth charges. Returned and
moored NAVAL SUPPLY PIER, CASCO BAY, MAINE.

0800 position - 43° - 38' N 70° - 09' W
1200 position - 43° - 25' N 69° - 49' W

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U. S. S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)

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1 March 1944.

Subject: War Diary

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- 10 February: Underway 0700 Q for AA DRONE practice and AA machine gun sleeve practice and expended 325 rounds 5" 38 cal. ammunition and 697 rounds 20MM service ammunition. Returned and moored alongside U.S.S. DENEbola, CASCO BAY, MAINE.
- 0800 position - 43° - 34'N 70° - 07'W
1200 position - 43° - 01'N 69° - 57'W
- 11-12 February: Alongside U.S.S. DENEbola, operations prohibited by weather.
- 13 February: Underway to fire SEP off SEAL ISLAND, CASCO BAY, MAINE. At 0900 Q fire broke out in steering motor room destroying electrical control board. Effected temporary repairs and proceeded back to CASCO BAY, MAINE and moored.
Got underway at 2200 Q enroute to NORFOLK VIRGINIA in accordance with CinCLant's 102239 of February and COMDESLANT's 132341 of February.
- 0800 position - 43° - 30'N 69° - 58'W
1200 position - 43° - 48'N 68° - 42'W
- 14 February: At 1300 Q fired AA gunnery practice firing at shell bursts. Expended 41 rounds 5" 38 cal., 220 rounds 40MM and 599 rounds 20MM ammunition.
- 0800 position - 40° - 42'N 70° - 20'W
1200 position - 39° - 29'N 70° - 41'W
2000 position - 38° - 41'N 70° - 43'W
- 15 February: Arrived and moored NORFOLK , NAVY YARD for two day logistical period and to effect repairs to steering motor.
- 16-17 February: Moored in NAVY YARD NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.
- 18 February: Underway in accordance CinCLant's 102239 February and 161628 February.
Engaged in escorting convoy UGS 33A TASKGROUP 27.4 composed of U.S.S. MAC KENZIE, U.S.S. KENDRICK, and U.S.S. LAUB. CTG 27.4 in U.S.S. MAC KENZIE.
Operating in accordance with Port Director NORFOLK's sailing instructions.

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18 February: At 0100 advanced clocks $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to zone (Cont.) description + $3\frac{1}{2}$.

1200 position - 36° - $52'$ N 74° - $57'$ W
2000 position - 36° - $36'$ N 73° - $46'$ W

19 February: Developed engine trouble intailing extensive repairs by ships force. Stopped, directing U.S.S. KENDRICK to take charge and proceed on.

0800 position - 35° - $29'$ N 70° - $28'$ W
1200 position - 35° - $28'$ N 70° - $26'$ W
2000 position - 35° - $28'$ N 70° - $26'$ W

At 0100 advanced clocks $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to zone description +3.

20 February: Repair completed; proceeded to rejoin convoy.

0800 position - 34° - $50'$ N 67° - $21'$ W
1200 position - 34° - $37'$ N 66° - $00'$ W
2000 position - 34° - $09'$ N 62° - $53'$ W

21 February: 0800 position - 33° - $39'$ N 58° - $35'$ W
1200 position - 33° - $31'$ N 57° - $09'$ W
2000 position - 32° - $59'$ N 54° - $36'$ W

At 0100 set clocks ahead $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to zone description + $2\frac{1}{2}$.

22 February: Rendezvoused with convoy at 1700 P. Resumed command of TASKGROUP, learned that the U.S.S. LAUB had been detached to screen the S.S. CHINA MAIL whose main engines had failed.

0800 position - 32° - $55'$ N 51° - $11'$ W
1200 position - 33° - $55'$ N 49° - $38'$ W
2000 position - 33° - $03'$ N 47° - $23'$ W

At 0100 set clocks ahead $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to zone description +2.

23 February: 0800 position - 32 - $53'$ N 43 - $55'$ W
1200 position - 32 - $53'$ N 42 - $44'$ W
2000 position - 40 - $31'$ N 32 - $57'$ W

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24 February: 0800 position - 33° - 14'N 36° - 52'W
1200 position - 33° - 24'N 36° - 43'W
2000 position - 33° - 17'N 33° - 52'W

At 0100 advanced clocks ½ hour to zone description +1½.

25 February: 0800 position - 31° - 18'N 30° - 24'W
1200 position - 33° - 18'N 29° - 09'W
2000 position - 33° - 21'N 27° - 14'W

At 0100 advanced clocks ½ hour to zone description +1.

26 February: Directed by FOGMA to effect rendezvous with Convoy KMF 29.

0800 position - 33° - 50'N 23° - 33'W
1200 position - 33° - 53'N 22° - 26'W
2000 position - 33° - 56'N 20° - 21'W

At 0100 advanced clocks 1 hour to GCT.

27 February: Rendezvoused with KMF 29 at 0900 Z. Commodore of convoy and OTC., embarked in HMS ORONTES. KMF 29 escorted by British Escort group four (4). Senior Officer in HMS BENTINCK.

0800 position - 34° - 00'N 18° - 07'W
1200 position - 35° - 14'N 15° - 49'W
2000 position - 35° - 23'N 13° - 51'W

At 0200 advanced clocks 1 hour to zone description -1.

28 February: 0800 position - 35° - 40'N 10° - 42'W
1200 position - 35° - 49'N 09° - 36'W
2000 position - 35° - 42'N 08° - 42'W

29 February: Detached from duty with Convoy KMF 29 and proceeded into GIBRALTAR HARBOR with U.S.S. KENDRICK and in accordance with basic orders. Reported by despatch to COMDESRON SEVEN for duty.

0800 position - 35° - 55'N 06° - 48'W

B. N. Rittenhouse, Jr.
B.N. RITTENHOUSE, Jr.,
Commander, U. S. Navy,
Commanding U.S.S. MAC KENZIE.

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WAR DIARY
March 1944

P. No. 124
R.S. No. 015515

U. S. S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)

1 March: Moored in GIBRALTER HARBOR, awaiting instructions to proceed and discharge mission as unit of the **F-48** EIGHTH FLEET.

2 March: Got underway in accordance with ComDesRon SEVENS Secret 272250A (February) and rendezvoused with Convoy UGS 33 off GIBRALTER. Reported to Commander Screen in H.M.S. SHARPSHOOTER.

0800 position - 35° - 39' N 10° - 42' W
1200 position - 36° - 58' N 04° - 47' W
2000 position - 35° - 46' N 03° - 12' W

3 March: Detached from duty with UGS 33 at 0100A; proceeded to ORAN, ALGERIA; U.S.S. KENDRICK and U.S.S. TARAZED in company and moored in MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE.

0800 position - 31° - 44' N 01° - 44' W

4 March: Fired AA practice off CAPE FALCON, ORAN, ALGERIA at sleeve target. Expended 80 rounds 5" 38 cal.; 1530 rounds 20 MM and 739 rounds 40 MM ammunition. Moored MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE on completion.

5 March: Fired Shore Bombardment Practice off ARZEU, ALGERIA. Expended 40 rounds 5" 38 cal. ammunition. Moored MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE ORAN, ALGERIA.

6 March: Exercised off CAPE CARBON, ALGERIA. Fighter Direction and evasive action while under aircraft attack. Fired Coordinated AA practice in Company with U.S.S. KENDRICK and U.S.S. EBERLE in afternoon. Expended 700 rounds 40 MM and 1870 rounds 20 MM Ammunition.

1200 position - 35° - 56' N 00° - 32' W

7 March: Continued training operations under Commander Destroyers EIGHTH FLEET. Held towing exercise in the GULF of ARZEU off ARZEU, ALGERIA in company with U.S.S. KENDRICK.

8 March: Fired Shore Bombardment Practice in GULF of ARZEU. Expended 30 rounds 5" 38 cal. ammunition.

1200 position - 35° - 54' N 00° - 35' W

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WAR DIARY (Cont'd.)
March 1944.
U. S. S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)

- 9-10 March: Moored in MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE.
- 11 March: Underway at 0815A for tactical exercises with FRENCH CRUISERS. C.F. HUGHES and MAC KENZIE screening cruiser column: EMILE BERTIN; DUGUAY TROUIN; GLOIRE and GEORGES LEYGUES in company. ComCruDiv EIGHT, Rear Admiral, DAVIDSON, U.S.N. in EMILE BERTIN.
- 12 March: Moored in MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE.
- 13 March: Underway at 0815A for tactical exercises with FRENCH CRUISERS as on 11 March. ComCruDiv EIGHT O.T.C. in F/S DUGUAY TROUIN. Returned and moored MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE 1800A
- 14 March: Exercises as before with FRENCH CRUISERS.
- 15 March: Exercises as before with FRENCH CRUISERS.
- 16 March: Underway from MERS EL KEBIR ANCHORAGE independently at 1800A in accordance with ComNOB 161547A enroute to NAPLES, ITALY.
- 2000 position - 36° - 06' N 00° - 17' W
- 17 March: At 1600A received orders from CinCMed to join submarine hunt off BOUGIE, ALGERIA in cooperation with BRITISH LIGHT FORCES and AIRCRAFT. Rendezvoused with H.M.S. CATTERICK; H.M.S. ATHERSTONE and H.M.S. MENDIP at 2000A and Com-menced search.
- 0800 position - 37° - 10' N 04° - 25' E
1200 position - 37° - 16' N 05° - 39' E
2000 position - 37° - 23' N 05° - 53' E
- 18 March: Relieved by H.M.S. FAULKNER at 0600A and proceeded in accordance with basic orders.
- 0800 position - 37° - 19' N 04° - 28' E
1200 position - 32° - 25' N 05° - 40' E
2000 position - 37° - 54' N 08° - 51' E

WAR DIARY (Cont'd)
March 1944.
U. S. S. MAC KENZIE (DD614)

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19 March: Rendezvoused off SORRENTO, ITALY with U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA; U.S.S. ERICSSON; U.S.S. BROOKLYN; U.S.S. KEARNY and reported for duty to Commanding Officer U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA, ComTasGroup 81.8 at 1030A

0800 position - 39° - 58' N 08° - 53' E

20 March: Got underway at 0600A for familiarization cruise of ANZIO AREA with officers of the U.S.S. H.P. JONES aboard. Returned and anchored off TORRA ANNUNZIATA, ITALY at 1700A.

0800 position - 41° - 41' N 03° - 32' E
1200 position - 41° - 15' N 03° - 45' E
2000 position - 40° - 42' N 14° - 27' E

21-30 March: Routine operations and training in the BAY of NAPLES.

31 March: Underway at 0900A for availability at ORAN, ALGERIA. Operating in accordance with U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA'S operation plan B/44 and current doctrine. U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA and U.S.S. KENDRICK in company. O.T.C. Commanding Officer U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA. Commander Screen - Commanding Officer U.S.S. MAC KENZIE. Arrived PALERMO, SICILY 1505A. Fueled and anchored for the night in GOLFO di PALERMO.

1200 position - 39° - 51' N 13° - 04' E

B.N. Rittenhouse Jr.
B.N. RITTENHOUSE Jr.,
Commander, U.S. Navy,
Commanding.