

## A History of the USS Calvert. Chronological Research Notes for the Period May 1, 1944 to August 21, 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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### Introduction for the period May 1, 1944 to August 21, 1944

This document contains research notes and content for the period May 1, 1944 to August 21, 1944:

May 1 - 7 Pearl Harbor attached to Transport Division 30  
 May 8 - 10 Kahului, Maui; Embarked 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division  
 May 11 - 14 Sand Island, Honolulu  
 May 15 - 19 Amphibious training exercises, Maalaea Bay, Maui  
 May 20 - 28 Pearl Harbor; Liberty  
 May 29 - June 6 Underway for Eniwetok  
 June 7 - 10 Anchored, Eniwetok  
 June 11 - 14 Underway for Saipan  
 June 15 - 24 Amphibious Assault Operation, Island of Saipan  
 June 25 - 28 Underway for Eniwetok  
 June 28 - July 15 Anchored, Eniwetok Lagoon  
 July 15 - 19 Underway for Saipan  
 July 19 - 23 Saipan, preparing for the invasion of Tinian Island  
 July 24 - 25 Amphibious Assault Operation, Island of Tinian  
 July 25 - 27 Anchored, Saipan; Embarked 420 Japanese and Korean prisoners of war and casualties.  
 July 28 - August 2 Underway for Eniwetok.  
 August 3 - 11 Enroute to Pearl Harbor, in company with Task Unit 57.19.14.  
 August 11 - 21 Moored, Pearl Harbor. Disembarked Japanese and Korean prisoners of war.

### Primary Sources for the period May 1, 1944 to August 21, 1944

- \* A History of the USS Calvert (APA-32), David B. Cullen
- \* Calversion newsletter, various editions, published by John Cole
- \* Adventures of a Landing Craft Coxswain, Christian Funck, 2006
- \* Beach Party, Billy Lee Bell, San Antonio Heights Publishing Co. Upland, CA. 1999
- \* War Diaries, Operation Reports, and Muster Rolls for the USS Calvert, Transport Divisions, Transport Group Ships, and Upper Commands.

### Additional Notes:

- \* All times are in "24-hour" time. For example, 0000 is midnight, 0400 is 4am, ... 1200 is noon, 2000 is 8pm ..., and so on.
- \* Certain details and personal accounts are corroborated, and in some cases corrected, by official Navy records.

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1944-May				"In May, after completing her overhaul period and trials, the Calvert, now assigned to Transport Division Thirty, Transport Group Baker, a component of TF 52, Northern Attack Force, under the overall command of Vice Admiral Richmond K. Turner, USN. Commander Transport Division 30 in the USS Leonard Wood (APA 12) was Captain D.W. Loomis, USN, first Commanding Officer of the Calvert."	
				May 1 - 7 Pearl Harbor attached to Transport Division 30	A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 8
				May 8 - 10 Kahului, Maui; Embarked 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division	
				May 11 - 14 Sand Island, Honolulu	
				May 15 - 19 Amphibious training exercises, Maalaea Bay, Maui	
				May 20 - 28 Pearl Harbor; Liberty	
			May 29 - 31 Underway for Eniwetok		

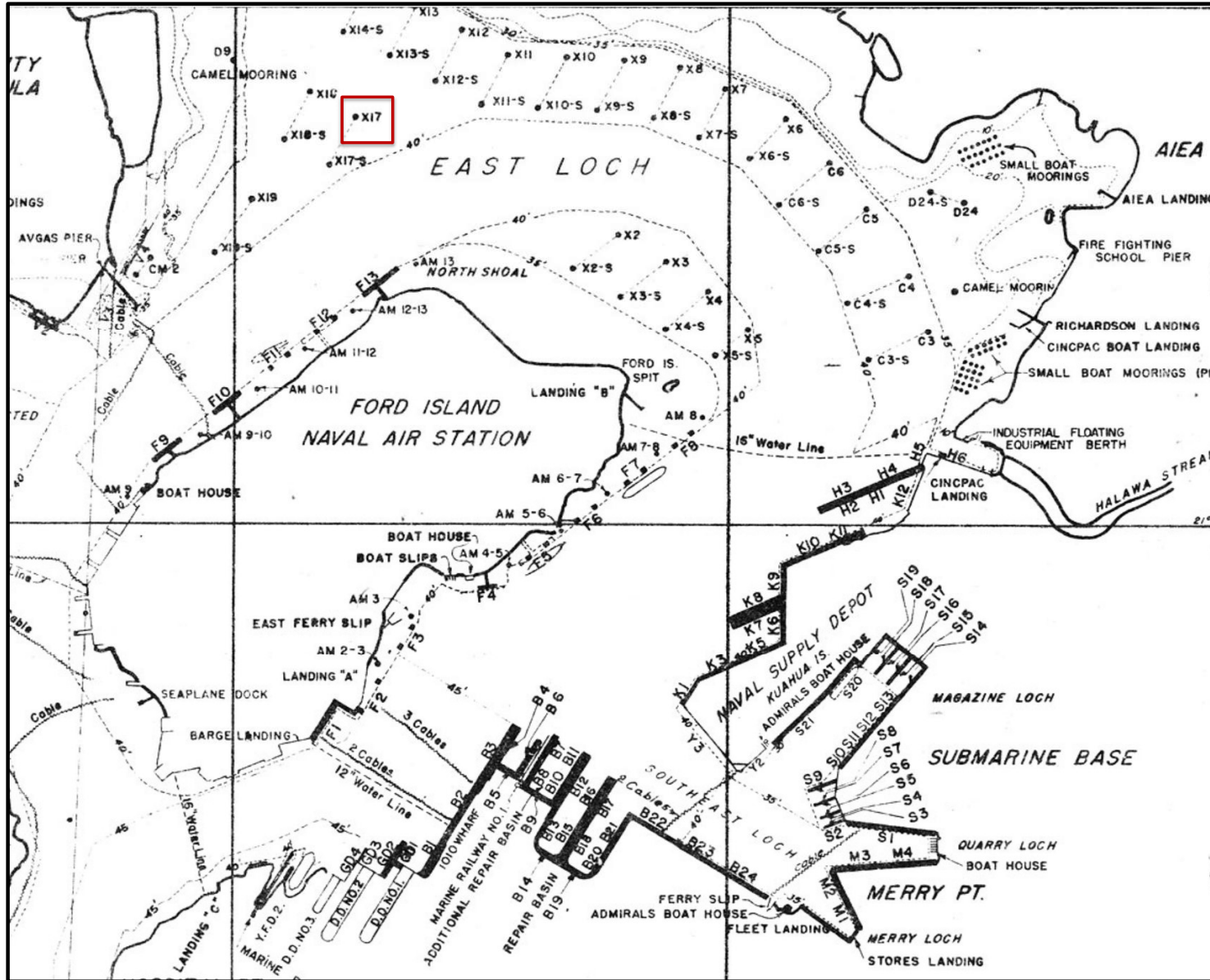
#### Additional Sources for May 1944

- \* War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944, National Archives: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78469162>
- \* Muster Roll and Report of Changes, USS Calvert, May 1944, National Archives: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=631-657>
- \* War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944, National Archives: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517816>
- \* USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas, National Archives: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78532652>
- \* Commander Transport Division 30 (COMTRANSDIV 30), Report of Operations During the Invasion & Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas, 6/15-28/44: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517535>

1944	May	1 - 7	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	<p>1) May 1st - 7th: Temporarily attached to Transport Division 30, Fifth Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet, moored at berth X-ray 17, Pearl Harbor.</p> <p>2) Commander Transport Division 30 shifted flag to the Calvert. Transport Division 30, Task Group 52.4.3, comprised of: Knox, Calvert, Fuller, John Land, Bellatrix, George F. Elliott.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944</p>
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The Calvert's berthing location, X-17, indicated by red rectangle. Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T.H. Mooring and Berthing Chart



Online:  
[https://ww2db.com/image.php?image\\_id=20160](https://ww2db.com/image.php?image_id=20160)

Related online sources, corroborating static berthing and mooring locations during the early 1940s:  
<https://www.geographicus.com/P/Antique-Map/pearlharbormoorings-usnavy-1944>  
<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/digital-exhibits-highlights/action-reports/wii-pearl-harbor-attack/pearl-harbor-mooring-and-berthing-plans.html>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	May	8	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Underway to Kahului, Maui	<p><b>Departure to Kahului, Maui</b></p> <p>1) 0835 Took departure from Pearl Harbor. 1127 Manned all guns for firing exercise. 1155 Commenced firing exercise. 1247 Secured from firing exercises with the following amounts of ammunition expended: 15 rounds 5'38"   43 rounds 3'50"   329 rounds 40MM   764 rounds 20MM 1737 - Moored port side to pier 1 at Kahului, Maui.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>
1944	May	8	Moored, Kahului, Maui	<p><b>Embarkation: 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division</b></p> <p>* Landing Team One of Combat Team Twenty-Four, of the Fourth Marine Division, a total of 87 officers and 1221 men. 660 short tons of cargo and supplies, combat loaded. * Air Support Group - CTF 52 - 5 officers and 17 men (radio specialists) to set up a standby Air Support Station in the Calvert.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

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**USS Calvert, and LSTs, moored in Kahului, Maui. Mid-May, 1944**

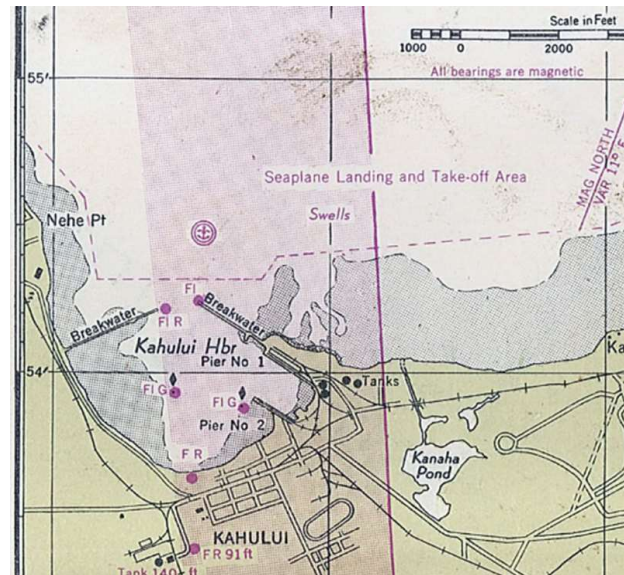


The USS Calvert (APA-32) approached Kahului on the afternoon of 8 May 1944 and moored port side to Pier #1. ... Her experienced crew made quick work of combat loading the 660 short tons of cargo and supplies, and on 10 May, Calvert began boarding troops. Hydrographic and air liaison units came aboard, followed by hundreds of Marines. Combat engineers from the 20th Marines, support troops from the 4th Service Battalion, truckers from the 4th Motor Transport Battalion – even the assistant division commander, Brigadier General Samuel B. Cumming, and his staff were on the Calvert’s sailing roster. The bulk of her human cargo, though, would be the reinforced First Battalion, 24th Marines – known for the operation as Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 1-24."

... By the evening of 10 May the entire battalion – from Lt. Colonel Maynard C. Schultz, the “Old Man” himself, down to a quartet of young corporals who reported for duty just two days earlier – joined the troops already aboard the Calvert.

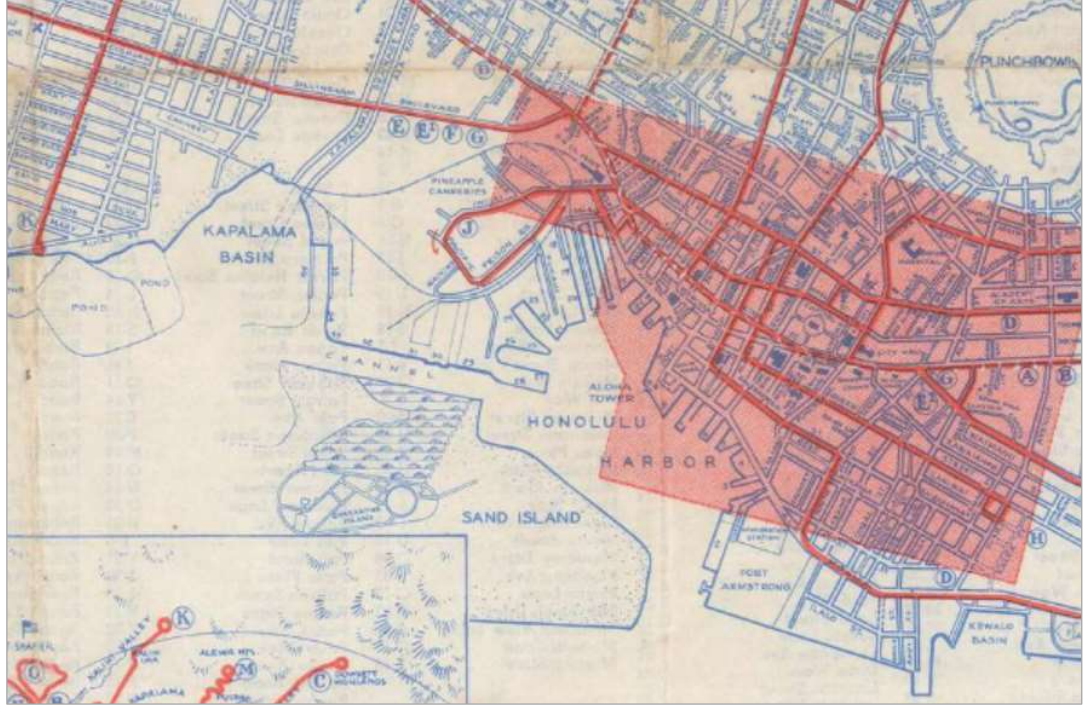
Photo, and text quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/>

**Pier 1, Kahului, Maui**



1944 Chart for Kahului, Maui (Naval Air Station Landing Chart) <https://warbirdsnews.com/warbirds-news/kahului-mauis-naval-air-station-turned-airline-gateway.html>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
			Sand Island, Honolulu, Hawaii	<p><b>Kapalama Basin, Sand Island, and Honolulu Harbor: Honolulu, Hawaii</b></p> 	<p>A Map and Bus Guide of Honolulu. Issued for Service Men and Women by the U.S.O. of Hawaii. 1944                  Online: <a href="https://www.geographicus.com/P/AntiqueMap/mapbusguidehonolulu-mann-1944-2">https://www.geographicus.com/P/AntiqueMap/mapbusguidehonolulu-mann-1944-2</a></p>
1944	May	11 - 13	Sand Island, Honolulu, Hawaii	<p>"... the Calvert weighed anchor and pulled out of Kahului. After an uneventful day's steaming, she moored at Pier 4 at Sand Island. The former detention facility had little to offer the restive Marines, but it was within sight of downtown Honolulu. ... to their surprise, all hands were allowed ashore under strict orders to return by evening. For Marines accustomed to the limited liberty options of Maui, Honolulu looked like paradise. "Everyone was going to pieces, they were so happy to get liberty," recalled PFC Chester L. McCoy of B/1/24th Marines.</p> <p>During the daylight hours over the next two days, the men of First Battalion could enjoy whatever temptations they chose, from beaches to bars to ballgames at Honolulu Stadium. Some, perhaps, ignored their NCO's warnings and ventured to explore Honolulu's notorious Hotel Street. Others hit the tattoo parlors. P... All told, the Marines were on their best behavior – or, at least, committed no serious breaches of discipline. Nobody wanted to jeopardize their good fortune."</p>	<p>The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan                  Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>
1944	May	12 - 13	Moored, Sand Island, Honolulu	<p>No remarks in the USS Calvert's war diary for these dates.</p>	<p>War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p>

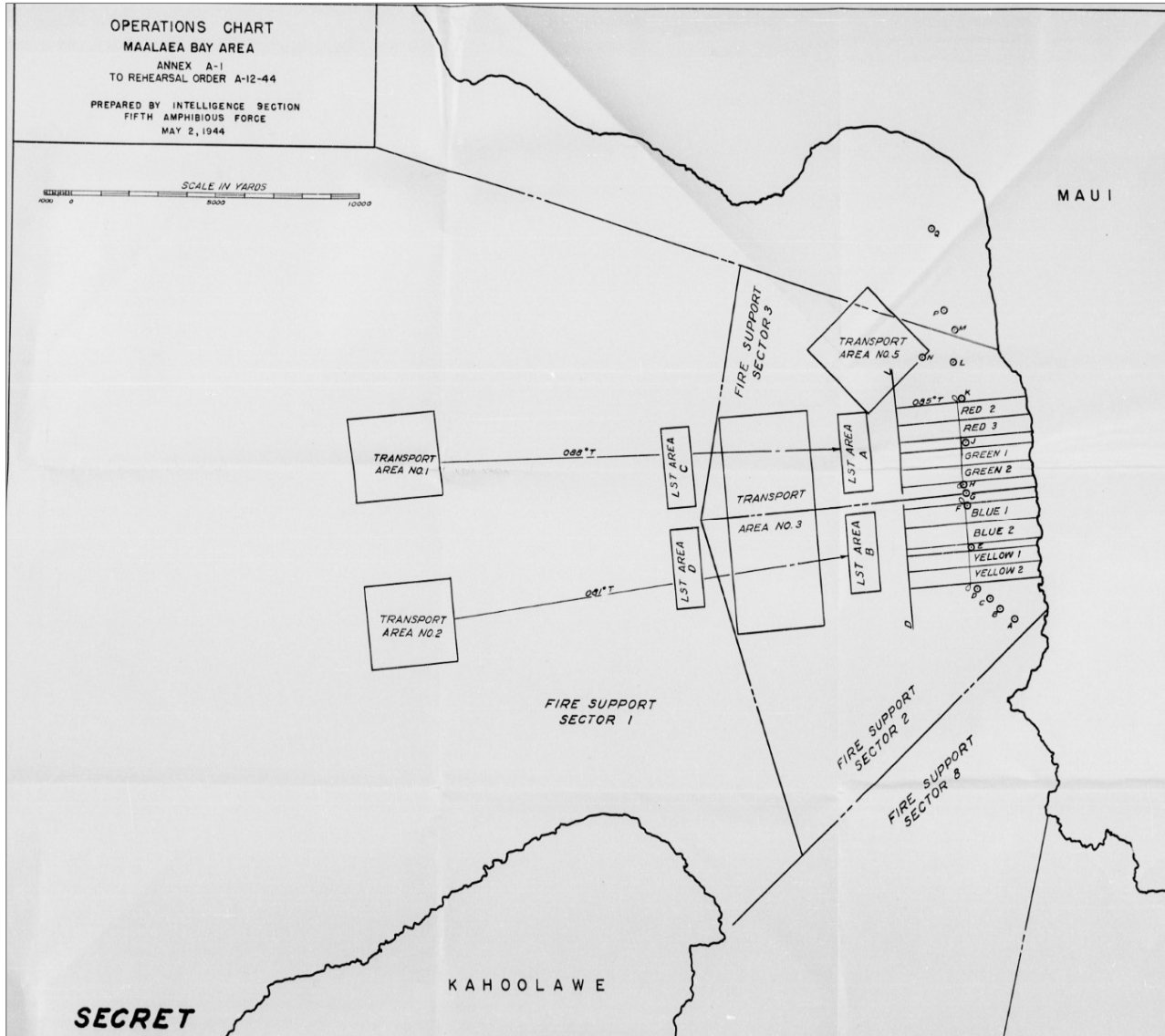
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	May	14	Moored, Sand Island, Honolulu Underway to Lahaina Roads, Maui	<p><b>Underway for training exercises, Maui area</b></p> <p>1) Task Unit 52.4.3 comprised of Knox, Calvert, Kuller, John Land, G.F. Elliott, and Bellatrix. Task Unit 52.9 was formed on 14 May as part of Demonstration Group consisting of Transport Divisions 10 and 30 and various screen and control ships.</p> <p>2) The Division sailed on 14 May for Lahaina, where various debarkation drills were conducted, mainly in the Maalaea Bay area.</p> <p>3) 0824, underway for Lahaina Roads, Maui.</p> <p>4) 1630 Task Force 52 arrived Lahaina Roads, and anchored.</p>	<p>1) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 8</p> <p>3) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>4) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944</p>
1944	May	14 - 19	Moored, Sand Island, Honolulu Underway to Lahaina Roads, Maui	<p>"On 14 May, Calvert departed Honolulu for landing exercises off Lahaina Roads, Maui. Over the next two days, troops learned the routes to their debarkation stations, sailors lowered LCVPs, and boat crews beettled about from designated rendezvous areas to simulated lines of departure. Tracked amphibious landing craft were available, and assault units practiced transferring from boats to LVTs at sea. The exercises culminated in a massive, multi-division landing at Maalaea Bay. "</p>	<p>The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>
1944	May	15	Lahaina Roads, Maui	<p>1) Anchored in berth D 17, Lahaina Roads, Maui, T.H.</p> <p>2) Operation Chart A-1, Maalaea Bay, for this day. Transports debark troops in boats, form waves and reembark. Troops and supplies will not be landed.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944 Annex D to COMTASK 52 Training Order A12-44</p>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Maalaea Bay Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A1 - May 15 Training Exercise**

1944 May 15



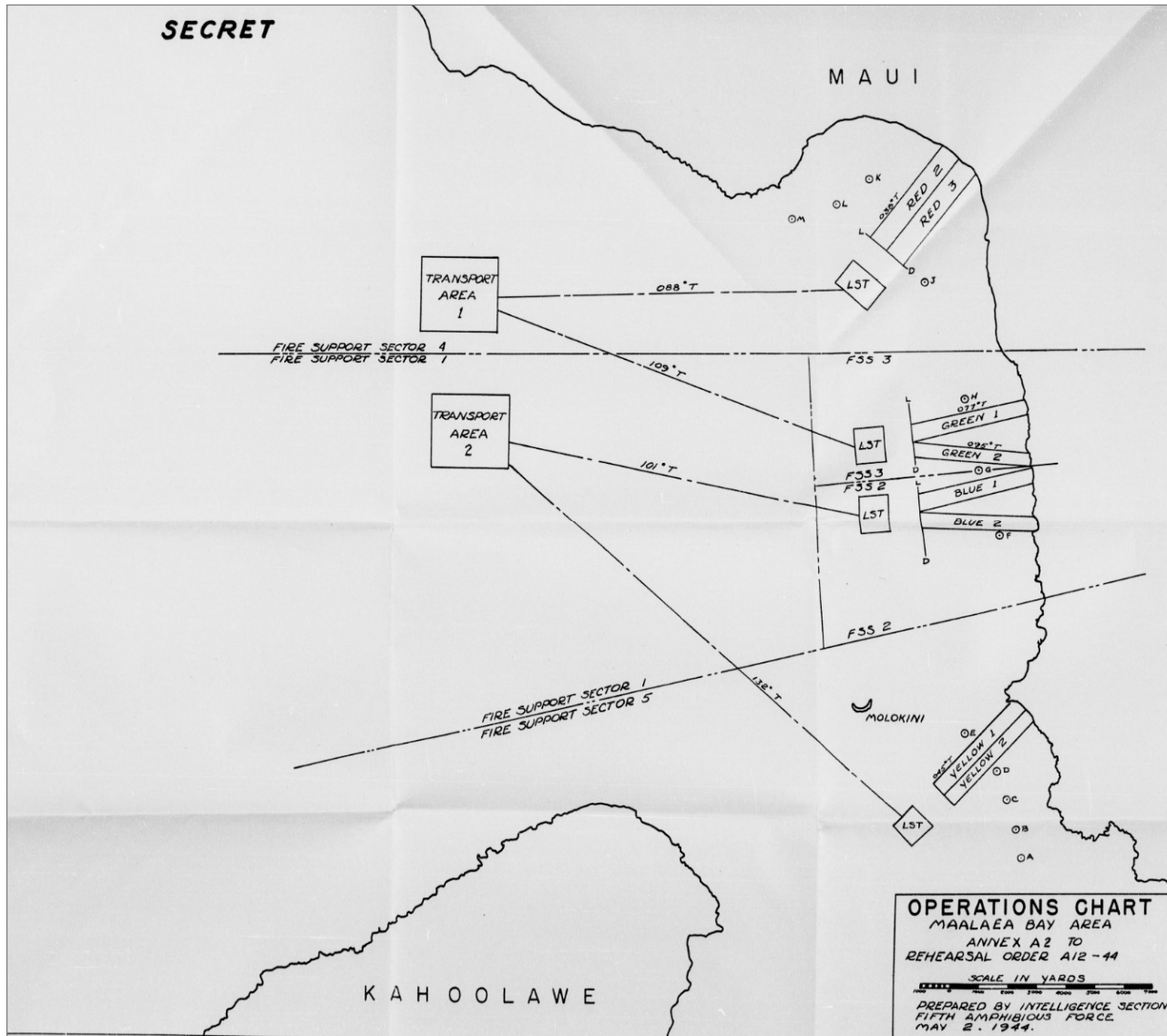
Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A1  
 Commander, Fifth Amphibious Group,  
 War Diary May 1944

Online:  
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517816?objectPage=568>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Maalaea Bay Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A2 - May 16 Training Exercise**

1944 May 16



Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A2  
Commander, Fifth Amphibious Group,  
War Diary May 1944

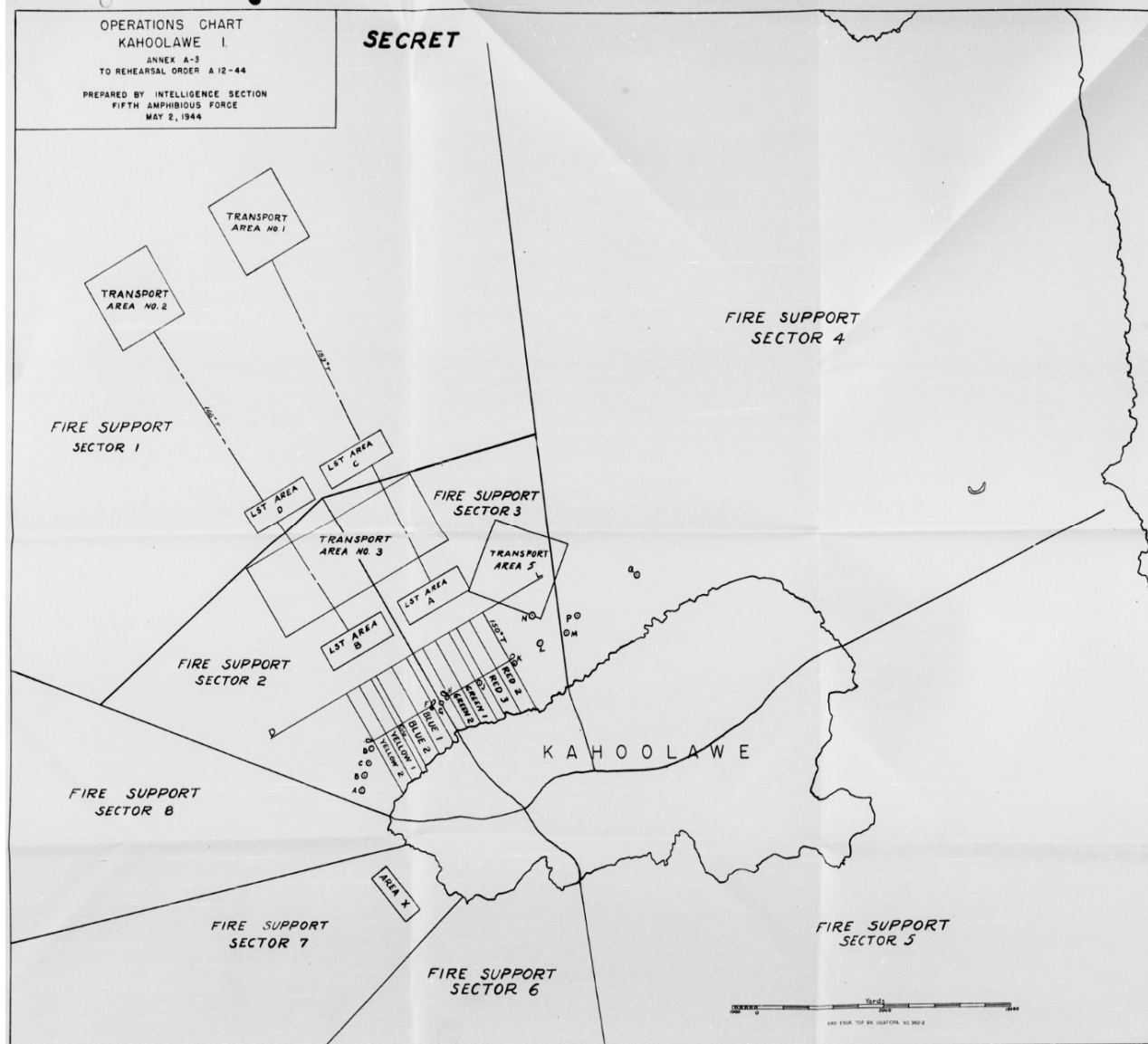
Online:  
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517816?objectPage=569>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	May	16	Moored, Lahaina Roads, Maui  Underway for training exercises off the coast of western Maui.	<p>1) 0538 Underway from Lahaina Roads to Maalaea Bay, Maui.</p> <p>2) Executing Training Order 12-44. Operation Chart A-2, Maalaea Bay, for this day. Land troops with individual equipment and weapons, but without supplies or vehicles, on designated beaches. Reembark same day. Transports exercised in making smoke.</p> <p>1) 1822 Underway from Maalaea Bay, Maui, to Lahaina Roads.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944 Annex D to COMTASK 52 Training Order A12-44</p>
1944	May	17	Moored, Lahaina Roads, Maui  Underway for training exercises, Maalaea Bay, Maui.	<p>1) 0525, underway from Maalaea Bay, Maui to berth D 17 Lahaina Roads.</p> <p>2) Executing Training Order 12-44. Operation Chart A-2, Maalaea Bay, for this day. 0804 Transports arrived in Transport Areas. 0818 Simulated bombing and strafing attacks were made on all beaches. 0925 How Hour. Training Plan: Land assault troops, including reserve RCTs, on designated beaches. Landing and tactical problems to simulate Forager Operation. Simulate landing of additional supplies as requested by troop commanders. Troops remain ashore overnight.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944 Annex D to COMTASK 52 Training Order A12-44</p>
1944	May	18	Maalaea Bay, Maui  Underway to Kahoolawe Island	<p>1) 0944 Anchored in Maalaea Bay, Maui, T.H. 1731 Underway from Maalaea Bay, Maui, to Kahoolawe.</p> <p>2) Training Plan: Reembark troops beginning at 0630. 1300 critique aboard Leonard Wood.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944 Annex D to COMTASK 52 Training Order A12-44</p>
1944	May	19	Kahoolawe Island	<p>1) On 19 May the group conducted a full-scale rehearsal at Kahoolawe.</p> <p>2) Executing Training Order 12-44. Operation Chart A-3, Kahoolawe Island, for this day 0650 Ships arrived in position and the "Land the Landing Force" signal was given. 1152 All ships commenced embarking troops and equipment. Training plan: Conduct ship-to-shore movement, but do not land. Waves approach to 300 yards of beach. Naval gun fire and air support employ live ammunition.</p> <p>3) 1618 Underway from Maalaea Bay to Pearl Harbor.</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 8</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944 Annex D to COMTASK 52 Training Order A12-44</p> <p>3) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Kahoolawe Island Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A3**

1944 May 19



Training Operations Chart, Training Order A12-44, Annex A3  
Commander, Fifth Amphibious Group,  
War Diary May 1944

Online:  
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517816?objectPage=570>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	May	19	Underway from Maalaea Bay, Maui, to Pearl Harbor	<b>Return to Pearl Harbor</b> 1618 Underway from Maalaea Bay to Pearl Harbor.	War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944
1944	May	20	Moored, Pearl Harbor	Moored Port side to USS Knox, at Option 1, Pearl Harbor, Oahu.	War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944
1944	May	21	Moored, Pearl Harbor	There are no comments in the Calvert's war diary for this date.	War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944
				<b>West Loch Explosion</b>  On May 21, a large explosion occurred in West Loch, Pearl Harbor. The crew of the USS Calvert would have witnessed this event.  2) May 21: 1530 An explosion of undetermined origin started large fires in West Loch which continued until early morning of May 22.  3) "Accidental ordnance blast on LST-353 sets off cataclysmic ammunition explosions at West Loch, Pearl Harbor. Six tank landing ships (LST-39, LST-43, LST-69, LST-179, LST-353, LST-480), three tank landing craft (LCT-961, LCT-963, LCT-983), and 17 track landing vehicles (LVTs) are destroyed in explosions and fires. 163 killed and 396 injured."  4) "Smith and his buddies were "grabassing" on 21 May when a massive explosion shook the ground, and a pall of black smoke started rising into the western sky over a marshaling area called West Loch. Sirens began to wail. Some men thought the Japanese were attacking; they searched the skies for aircraft and the sea for signs of miniature submarines. More explosions, a thousand-foot-high pillar of fire – whatever was happening at West Loch had all the markings of a second Pearl Harbor."	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944  2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1944  3) Navy History, Navy.mil <a href="https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhhc/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/c/casualties-usnavy-marinecorps-personnel-killed-injured-selected-accidents-other-incidents-notdirectly-result-enemy-action.html#1940">https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhhc/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/c/casualties-usnavy-marinecorps-personnel-killed-injured-selected-accidents-other-incidents-notdirectly-result-enemy-action.html#1940</a>  4) The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a>
1944	May	21	Moored, Pearl Harbor		
				<b>Liberty, Pearl Harbor</b>  The shore liberty schedule was reinstated. Twenty percent of the men were allowed into town each day, while the remainder of the men were allowed to wander within the confines of the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard for supervised recreation and games. "We have been having quite a good time lately," wrote 1Lt. Philip E. Wood, Jr. (A/1/24) to his mother and sister in Manhattan. "Quite a bit of liberty in the Big Town and most of the time athletics, recreation, and fights." The food improved, at least for officers. "I'm almost ashamed to say that we have had fresh, rare, delicious roast beef twice this week, steak once, chicken, lamb chops, etc." Wood continued. "We have always had two full meat meals a day – all the eggs, etc. that we want for breakfast. For the enlisted men, the recreational facilities of the Navy Yard left something to be desired – PFC George A. Smith, also of A/1/24, summed it up as "playing grabass over at Hickam Field" – but at least they were off the overcrowded Calvert. At night, troops gathered for movies on the deck or watched USO shows presented on the docks.	Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a>
1944	May	21 - 28	Moored, Pearl Harbor		

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	May	22-28	Moored, Pearl Harbor	<p>1) There are no comments in the Calvert's war diary for these dates.</p> <p>2) May 23 - 28: During the period 23 May to 28 May 1944, this command's Beach Party conducted joint training exercises with the Marine Shore Party.</p> <p>3) May 27 - 28: Installed communication system. Installed cable for power supply to multilith machine. Installed power supply outlets panel in aft compartment. Installed cable for motor outlets and photo finish lamps.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>3) War diary, Commander Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, May 1944, p107</p>
<b>Underway for Eniwetok; Preparation a new Assault Landing</b>					
1944	May	29	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) 0816 - Underway from Pearl Harbor. Attached to Transport Division 30, Fifth Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet operating with Task Force 52.</p> <p>2) 2201 Fleet speed 13 knots. 2213 Commenced zig zagging.</p> <p>Weather conditions: Generally clear - Light scattered clouds. Moderate easterly swell to the sea. Prevailing winds of moderate velocity, easterly and southeasterly.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>
1944	May	30	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) There are no comments in the Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) Commenced training exercises which continued throughout the day as the formation advanced on schedule. The exercises went well, including night maneuvers.</p> <p>Weather conditions: Clear - good visibility. Moderate easterly swells. Prevailing easterly and southeasterly of moderate velocity, 17 to 21.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>
1944	May	31	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) There are no comments in the Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) 1800 Two CVEs commenced launching planes in preparation for a simulated air attack on the formation. 1950 Simulated air attack was completed. The plane attack was well coordinated and the leader of the attacking planes reported that the fleet maneuvering was very effective.</p> <p>At varying intervals during the day, routine exercises and drills were conducted, among which were emergency turns in formation, IFF drills, and firing by destroyers and TBS exercises.</p> <p>Weather: A few local squalls early in the day; Overcast by 0600, clear at noon and partly by 1600 for remainder of the day. Easterly winds, moderate to fresh, moderate swells, easterly. Visibility good.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Making Know The Mission: The Invasion of Saipan, Mariana Islands, Operation Forager</b>					
1944	Late-May & Early June		Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) To All Hands: Immediately after departure from Pearl all hands were informed by the ship's public address system of the mission and objectives of the assembled task force. Photographs and charts were posted throughout the ship, i.e., in the Ship's Instruction Room, on bulkheads, bulletin boards, and in the wardroom.</p> <p>1) To All Officers: Conferences for all officers, Navy and Marine, were held to explain all details of the landing and this vessel's immediate tasks. Based upon the operation order, current applicable dispatches, letters, and mailgrams, a "Brief", was formulated setting forth the specific task of this vessel. This brief was read by all officers.</p> <p>2) The objective of the invasion of the Marianas, code named Operation Forager, was to further the United States' progress in the 'island hopping' approach to the Japanese mainland by capturing key islands in the Mariana archipelago . Operation Forager was organized as a three-part campaign. The first objective was Saipan Island, the second objective was Guam, and the final objective was Tinian Island.</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) Funck, 60</p>
<b>Drills while underway</b>					
1944	Late-May & Early June		Underway for Eniwetok	<p>General Quarters: (Condition One): Daily, from one hour before sunrise to sunrise and from sunset to one hour after sunset, all hands were at Battle Stations.</p> <p>Abandon Ship: 4 times all hands (Naval and Troops) rehearsed going to abandon ship stations, providing and non-providing, during daylight and under darken ship conditions.</p> <p>Damage Control: Exercised at the following drills, while at General Quarters: Fire and explosions in various parts of the ship; Torpedo hits; Incendiary bomb hits; Rescue breathing apparatus drills; Instruction in care and operation of ICE driven pumps and Navy Type "A" RBA equipment.</p> <p>Debarkation: On four occasions the embarked Landing Team exercised going from living compartments to Debarkation Stations. Average time to complete this evolution was 22 minutes.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	Late-May & Early June		Underway for Eniwetok	<p><b>Report of Briefing of Boat Crews</b></p> <p>The program of briefing all boat personnel began immediately upon departure from Pearl and was based upon the premise that knowing the complete picture of operations the Boat Officers and crews could best execute their orders intelligently and act with greater initiative in the event of emergencies.</p> <p>By means of lectures, demonstrations, question and answer periods, and use of all Intelligence material available (i.e., relief model, charts, aerial and submarine reconnaissance photos, etc.) this program was executed.</p> <p>Each Boat Officer met once a day with the three crews in his charge to review details and clear up questions and misconceptions.</p> <p>Essentially helpful to all boat personnel were the mimeographed copies of instructions explaining the scheme of identifying Transports by means of Identification Flags and Lights; ad also the written instructions pertaining to the use of Cargo Tickets.</p> <p>Posted on the bulkheads of the ship's instruction room, in the crews mess hall, in the wardroom and throughout the ship were charts and photos of the objective. This enabled all hands to become better acquainted with the physical characteristics of the Island.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
				<p><b>Briefing of the Beach Party</b></p> <p>1) Enroute to the objective nine meetings were called to brief the Beach Party on the attack plan, intelligence data, topographical information and how to gain an estimate of the situation prevailing. Discussion periods were held to review camp sanitation, handling of casualties, camouflage, unloading methods, etc.</p> <p>2) "While we are underway we go through all the drills and maneuvering exercises. One day, the USS Robinson came along side. They had a boy with acute appendicitis and we took him aboard and our doctors operated on him. That was really something the way they brought him across from one ship to the other while we were still underway. We finally find out where we are going. We are going to the Marshall Islands and we will anchor at Eniwetok Atoll. ... The beach party was called up to one of the ward rooms to meet and talk over the plans. We were shown the plans of the beaches where we would be landing and we were told that the Island would be Saipan."</p>	1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas 2) Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 14, p1
				<p><b>Aircraft Recognition and Identification Instruction</b></p> <p>One hour each day from 30 May to 14 June, teaching all lookouts and general quarter gun crews, all personnel standing underway condition watches, and Boat and Beach Party personnel, the principles of recognizing United States and Japanese planes. Pictures of US and Japanese planes were posted in Ship's Instruction Room, wardroom, in offices, in passageways, and in the crew's mess hall.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	Late-May & Early June		Underway for Eniwetok	<p><b>First Aid Instruction and Readiness</b></p> <p>Instruction in First Aid for all hands. Additional instruction was extended to all boat crews, gun crews, repair parties and Beach Party to emphasize the solution of problems which might arise in the discharge of their more specialized duties.</p> <p>The "Operating Team", "Shock and Burn Team" and "Gas Warfare Teams" composed of ship's doctors and "H" Division men were thoroughly trained in their duties by simulated casualty problems, created at daily General Quarters.</p> <p>Morphine syrettes and Battle Dressings were made available for all Officers and Chief Petty Officers and instructions in their use given.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
				<p><b>Chemical Warfare Readiness</b></p> <p>The "Gas Warfare Bill" was reviewed by all Repair Parties and "Gas Warfare Teams." Three decontamination stations were set up topside. Members of the Beach Party and Repair parties were taught personnel protection and decontamination and the proper use of gas mask.</p>	

### Underway



USS Calvert APA 32 1944 Color 16mm Footage  
 Online:  
<https://youtu.be/R6n-ZcSfmt8?t=282>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Radar Exercises while enroute to Eniwetok and Saipan**

Enroute to the objective the following Radar Exercises were participated in:

- (a) Tracking of Surface Target at dawn G.Q.
- (b) Detection of low level torpedo attack.
- (c) IFF Tests
- (d) Anti-Aircraft tracking.
- (e) Long Range Airplane Tracking (65 miles)
- (f) Tracking of Surface Target using both radar and rangefinder for comparative analysis.

All radarmen were reviewed in the principles of air plotting, tracking on SG and SC-2 and in the procedure of reporting planes as promulgated in USF 10A.

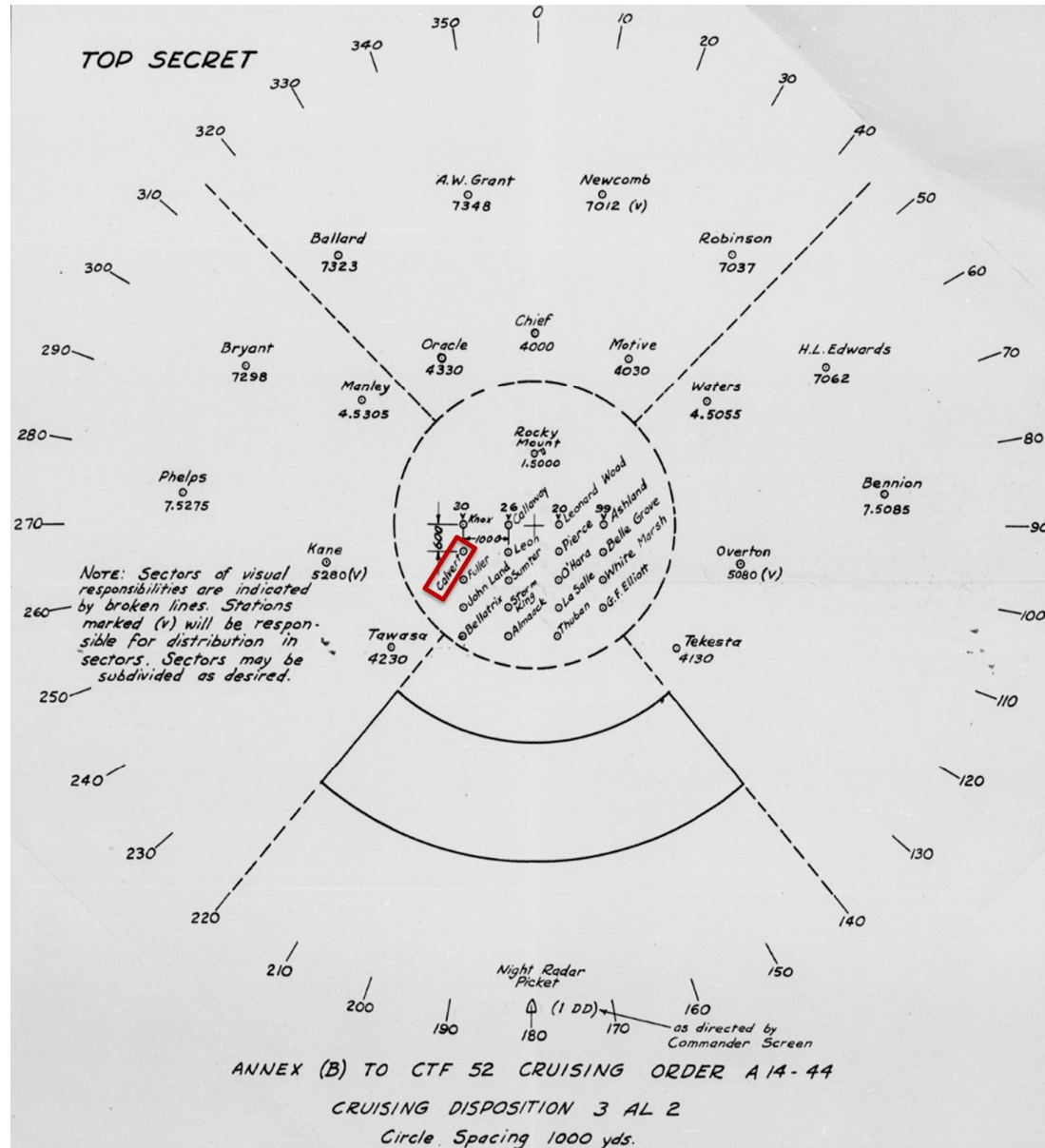
1944 Late-May & Early June

Underway for Eniwetok

USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Cruising Disposition Chart, Enroute to Eniwetok**



War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944  
Cruising Order, Cruising Disposition Chart Online:  
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517816?objectPage=774>

Calvert's position highlighted by red rectangle.

1944 Late-May & Early June

Underway for Eniwetok

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	Late-May & Early June			<p><b>No One Thought of Failure: The Embarked 1/24th Marines' Experience Aboard The Calvert</b></p> <p>"We possessed the new advantage of having already faced combat, and therefore a knowledge of how each of us reacted personally.... No one thought of failure."</p> <p>Instead, they worried about their comfort. The Calvert was sailing about five percent over capacity; more than 1300 men jostled and bickered for space in troop compartments filled to bursting. "Junior officers [sleep] 18 to the stateroom," commented 2Lt. Jim G. Lucas, "the kind of staterooms which would not countenance double beds in civilian days." The atmosphere within the ship quickly grew sour and stifling. "The heat becomes more and more oppressive, shirts are always wet and soggy, and you actually steam when you go below decks," complained 1Lt. Phil Wood of Able Company. ...</p> <p>Wood and his buddies commandeered space in the landing craft lashed to the Calvert's deck, turning the boats into private clubhouses for their officer's cabal. The occasional soaking rain shower was not enough to drive them back to their stifling quarters below decks; it was cooler and more comfortable to sleep under the stars. "[We] used to talk long into the night about everything from God to women's clothes," remembered 1Lt. Howard "Fran" Shattuck, Jr. "In consequence, we generally overslept and missed breakfast each morning."</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>
				<p>"So crowded has this ship been that many marines have been below deck only to eat," commented Lieutenant Lucas, "and [they] have lived and slept on deck, with no protection at all from the elements." Vital business was conducted in the open, too. "Up forward, a headquarters unit has set up its stand beneath one of the invasion barges, which straddles the ship from rail to rail," continued Lucas. "Decks, cots, files, and personal gear have been arranged in neat order, and the area has been roped in. A large pencil sign 'Headquarters Personnel Only' bars the way to intruders and sets it aside as a military reservation."</p> <p>... A few Monopoly sets appeared, and for several days the game was "quite the rage." The eternal card games continued. Bridge was perennially popular, and those who cared – and could afford the stakes – were welcome at any number of poker games. "We'd play cards all day, or sit around and talk," summed up Chester McCoy.</p> <p>"Some of the Calvert's crew were fond of shooting dice, and one afternoon PFC George "Gunga" Smith and Corporal Thomas F. McCay happened upon a craps game. McCay, a "wise guy" from New Jersey, wanted in on the action and hit Smith up for a loan. The sailors welcomed the new shooter – until he won three consecutive throws right out of the gate. Grumbling sailors handed over bills and coins until one sore loser accused McCay of using loaded dice. The muttering turned ugly, and the two Marines turned and fled with their winnings. "We were lucky not to get thrown into the sea," recalled Smith. Once safely surrounded by fellow Marines, McCay counted out his winnings, paid back Smith's loan with interest, and threw his pile of loose change over the side. Gunga was startled, but McKay just laughed. "What are we going to do with coins where we're going, anyway?" Smith dumped his handful of change into the Pacific, and the two friends swaggered off in search of some more trouble."</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p> <p>Email, Geoffrey Roecker, January 2015: "McCay was killed in action less than a week later."</p>

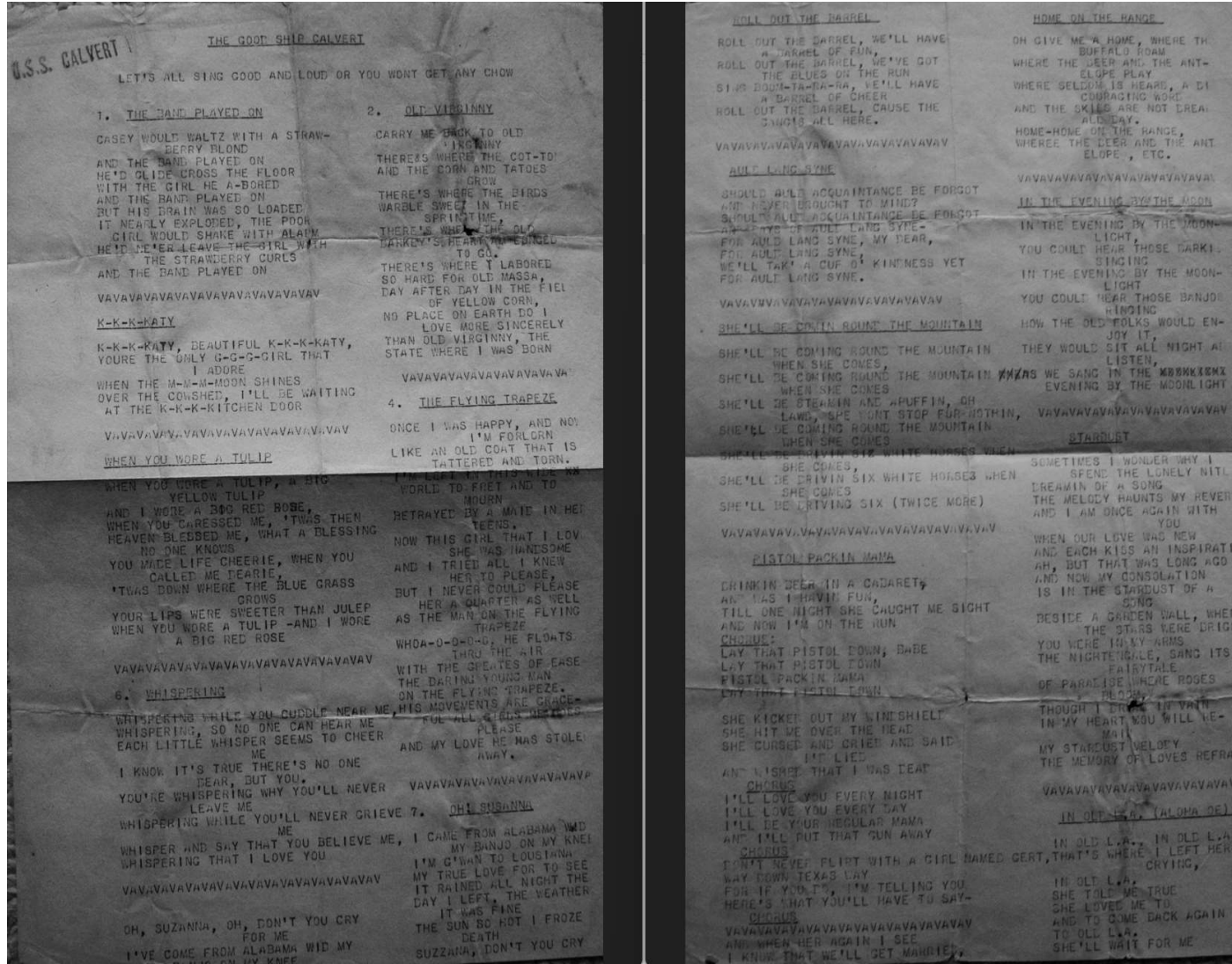
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	Late-May & Early June			<p>"Battalion officers made efforts to organize some more wholesome forms of entertainment. Jim Lucas, a former combat correspondent now serving as the Division's PR officer, turned his keen reporter's eye on these methods of diversion:</p> <p>Under the direction of Major Robert N. Fricke, formerly with the Williamsburg restoration, daily entertainment has been provided for the men, usually at "jam session" with an eight-piece orchestra from a marine band on the promenade deck. At one such gathering, Marine Private First Class John Poggioli, New Rochelle, NY, introduced his own composition, "Moonlight Rendezvous," to hundreds of his wildly cheering mates. Marine Poggioli also gave us his interpretation of the Ink Spots, singing "Do I Worry?" Marine First Lieutenant James Donovan, formerly a reporter from Peoria, Ill., organized a talent show which played to full houses several nights deep in Japanese waters..."</p> <p>2Lt. Jim G. Lucas, 4th Marine Division HQ</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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'Calvert's Song Sheets, Possession of 1/24th Marine George A. Smith, PFC

Email, Geoffrey Roecker, January 2015

1944 Late-May & Early June



"This song sheet belonged to PFC George A. Smith (A/1/24), then a nineteen year old machine gunner, now a retired police captain. He must have carried it in his pocket into the battle of Saipan, where he (and it) survived being bowled over by a shell, a week of combat, and then being shot and evacuated to a hospital ship, never to return to combat.

See also:  
The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan  
Online: <https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June			June 1 - 6 Underway for Eniwetok	
				June 7 - 10 Anchored, Eniwetok	
				June 11 - 14 Underway for Saipan	
				June 15 - 24 Invasion of Saipan	
				June 25 - 28 Underway for Eniwetok	
				June 28 - 30 Eniwetok Lagoon	

### Additional Sources for June 1944

- \* War Diary, USS Calvert: June 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78509555>
- \* USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78532652>
- \* Muster Roll and Report of Changes, USS Calvert, June 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=657 - 689>
- \* War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, May 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78523836>
- \* Commander Transport Division 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion & Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas, 6/15-28/44: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78517535>
- \* Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78545691>
- \* War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78552232>

1944	June	1	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) Attached to Transport Division THIRTY, Transports Group BAKER, operating with Task Group 52, underway from Pearl Harbor, T.H. to Eniwetok, in accordance with CTF 52 Operation Plan A10-44.</p> <p>2) Exercises from the previous day were completed. Tare - Victor - George (well done) hoisted.</p> <p>Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy all day with some local squalls early in the morning. Winds moderate, East and Northeast. Moderate easterly swells. Visibility good.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>
1944	June	2	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) 1145, Manned all guns for firing exercise. 1222 ceased scheduled Firing Exercise with the following amounts of ammunition expended, 20MM - 590 rds. 40MM - 80 rds. 3"/50 - 20 Rds. 5"/38 - 9 Rds.</p> <p>2) Drills carried out during the day by the formation included surface tracking, air attack drills, and maneuvering of formation during attack, done with marked effectiveness. Maneuver involving the regaining of station in formation.</p> <p>Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy all day but visibility was good. A few local squalls 0549 to 0617. Winds were ENE, moderate to fresh. Moderate Easterly Swell.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, May 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	2, 3	Underway for Eniwetok	<p><b>Gunnery Exercises while enroute to Eniwetok and Saipan</b></p> <p>June 2, all machine guns firing. 3"50 and 5"38 Caliber: Exercised at burst firing , with bursts at torpedo attack and horizontal bomber attack position angles. June 3, all machine guns firing. All 20MM guns were test fired.</p> <p>Gunnery Instructions Periods: Gunnery Doctrine: Two sessions were devoted toward teaching all Battery Officers, Gun Captains and Gun Control Talkers the gunnery doctrines governing during the operation.</p> <p>Gunnery Classes: Each 20MM crew attended three classes to review the procedure for clearing jams and how to operate the Mark 14 sight. Each 3"50 gun crew spent six periods at the loading machine.</p> <p>During daily morning and evening General Quarters all batteries were exercised at local control and range finder drills.</p> <p>Beach Party members and boat crews were taught how to fire and handle carbines.</p> <p>All personnel assigned to the smoke making generators, smoke pots and floats were reviewed in the procedure to follow in the execution of the Smoke Plan.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
1944	June	3 - 6	Underway for Eniwetok	<p>1) The Calvert's war diary lists positions for these days (3rd - 6th), but no additional entries.</p> <p>2) June 3rd: Drills conducted during the day included AA battery exercises, range finder tracking drill, radar reporting, and "skunk raid" drill.</p> <p>1500 Crossed the 180th meridian, date became June 4.</p> <p>Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy to 0900, cloudy for the remainder of the day. Visibility was good and winds were Easterly, moderate to fresh. No local precipitation. Moderate easterly swells.</p> <p>2) June 5th: Weather Conditions: Overcast until 0600, partly cloudy the balance of the day. Some showers and squalls 0300 to 0445, and from 1340 to 1530. Visibility 10-12 miles. Winds, east to northeast were moderate to fresh. Slight to moderate easterly swell.</p> <p>2) June 6th: Weather Conditions: Visibility 10-to-12 miles dropping to 2 miles at 1800. Partly cloudy and increasingly overcast by 0700. Light rain 0505 to 2400. Gentle winds ENE to NE, and moderate S to SW. Moderate Easterly swell.</p> <p>3) "On 6 June 1944, news of the Normandy invasion was passed to all hands. "Cheering hadn't died down before I suddenly got a flash realization that this war may be over 'in our time,'" mused Lt. Phil Wood."</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944</p> <p>3) The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>

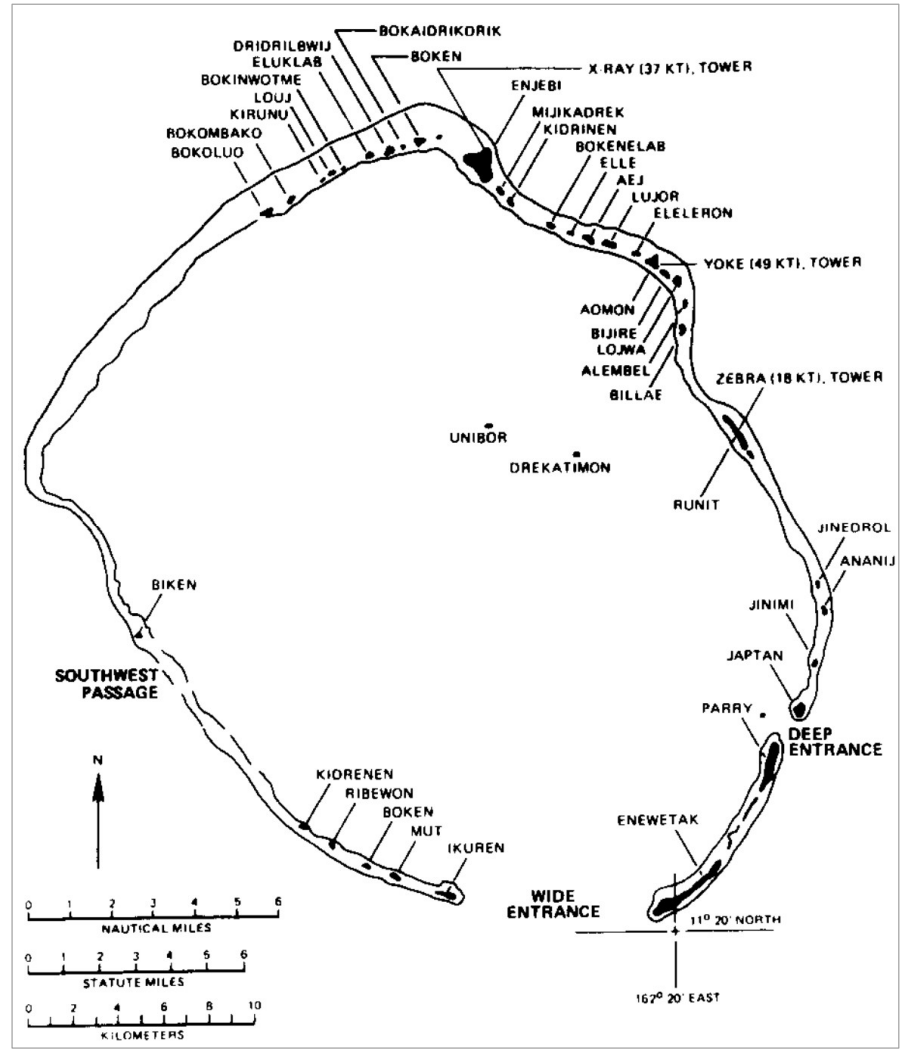


Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Arrival, Eniwetok</b>					
1944	June	7	Underway for Eniwetok  Eniwetok	1) June 7th: No force exercises were scheduled. Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy all day with some squalls and light showers in this general area from 1515 to 1930. Winds ESE to ENE of moderate velocity, 8 to 12 knots. Moderate Easterly swells.  2) The Calvert arrived at Eniwetok on 7 June, conducted various replenishments and pre D-Day troop transfers to the LST Groups.	1) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, May 1944  2) Cullen, p9
1944	June	8	Eniwetok Lagoon	1) Anchored in Berth 35, Eniwetok Lagoon. 1842, Underway for U.S.S. CARIBOU in accordance with Appendix 1 to Annex G of CTF 52 Operation Plan A10-44.  2) Vessel Fueled: U.S.S. Calvert Time Vessel Moored: Starboard: 2111; Away: 0012 (June 9) Barrels Fuel Oil Delivered: 2386	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944  2) War Diary, USS Caribou (IX-114), June 1944
1944	June	9	Eniwetok Lagoon	0012 Underway from U.S.S. CARIBOU. 1210 Underway for the USS OCKLAWAHA. 1445 Underway from USS OCKLAWAHA. 1115 General Quarters, unidentified aircraft in the vicinity. 1210 secured from General Quarters.	War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944
1944	June	10	Eniwetok Lagoon	1) 2238 General Quarters, unidentified aircraft in the vicinity. 2318 Secured from General Quarters.  2) General Quarters: (Condition One) Two alarms were sounded while in Eniwetok Harbor. No enemy planes were visible. (b) While at the objective six "Flash Red" signals were received sending all hands to Battle Stations. Although many vessels did fire at enemy and other planes, this command withheld fire for no enemy targets were within effective range. (c) Average time necessary to man and ready all Battle Stations was 6 minutes. (d) Smoke was created only once - while the Group was taking departure from the objective.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944  2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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Eniwetok Atoll: Japtan shown bottom right quadrant of the chart

Eniwetok Atoll and Islands  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Eniwetok\\_Atoll1966.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Eniwetok_Atoll1966.jpg)

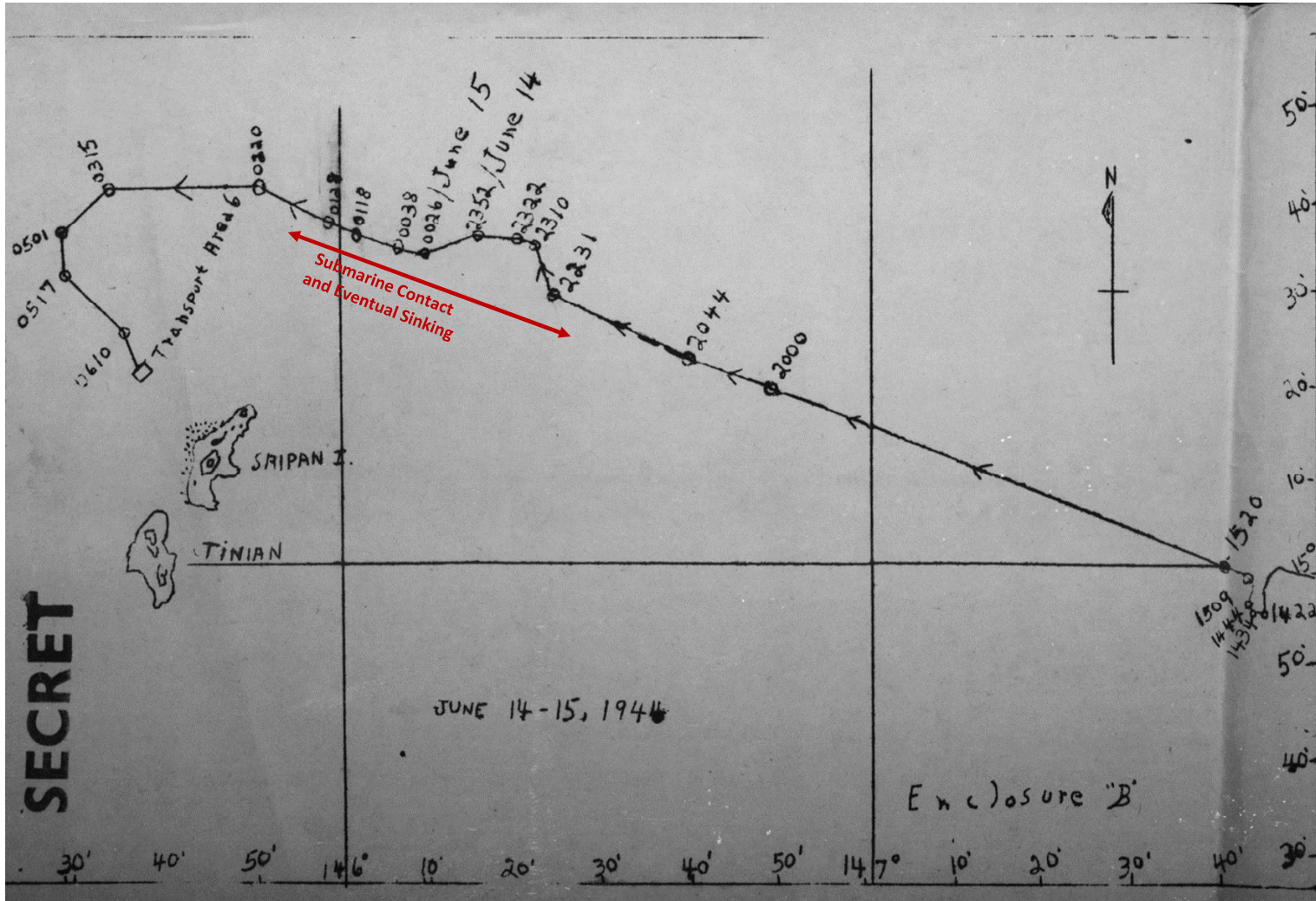


Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	11	Underway for Saipan	<p>1) June 11th: Attached to Transport Division THIRTY, Transport Group BAKER, operating with Task Force 52. 0659 Underway from Eniwetok Lagoon.</p> <p>2) Weather Conditions: No precipitation, partly cloudy. Visibility good throughout the day. Winds ENE, 6 to 17 knots. A slight sea, low swells from the East.</p> <p>3) All 20MM guns were test fired.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944</p> <p>3) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
	June	12	Underway for Saipan	<p>1) No notable events recorded in the Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy with both high and low clouds. Squalls and showers 0250 to 0730 and 1730 to 1810. Winds ENE and E, from 8 to 12 knots. Visibility 10 to 15 miles. Light to moderate Easterly swells.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944</p>
	June	13	Underway for Saipan	<p>1) No notable events recorded in the Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy, both high and low clouds, low visibility averaging .2 to .3. Winds Easterly, velocity 9 to 14 knots visibility 15 miles. Light to moderate Easterly Swells.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944</p>
1944	June	Mid	Underway for Saipan	<p>As they entered Japanese waters, shipboard discipline grew stricter. "The speed had to be the speed of the slowest ship," remarked PFC Robert E. Tierney of Company A. "The whole fleet would zig and zag at the same time. This is in absolutely pitch dark – if anybody on deck lit a cigarette, man, we would be court-martialed." The ship's officers were not kidding about this rule, as PFC Chester McCoy discovered after waking from an afternoon nap and absentmindedly lighting up. "I didn't know they had darkened the ship," he admitted. The MPs descended, and the teenaged Georgian found himself standing tall before his company commander, Captain Milton G. Cokin, and Lieutenant Commander Edward J. Sweeney of the Calvert. McCoy pleaded his ignorance of the time, but Sweeney was unmoved. "Son, for the rest of the trip, you will spend your time in the brig from darken ship until light." Cokin didn't like the punishment but had no say in the matter. "McCoy, just take all your stuff to the brig with you," he said. McCoy obeyed – and reported to the brig fully equipped and armed for action. He didn't mind his new quarters. "In the brig, you're the safest person on the ship," he explained. "If something goes wrong, you're the first one to go topside. They take care of you. You didn't have to worry about anything."</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/transport/</a></p>
1944	June	Mid	Underway for Saipan	<p><b>Briefing of Boat Crews</b></p> <p>After departing Eniwetok (the staging area) for Saipan a daily review was conducted culminating on D minus One day when a complete resume of the entire attack plan was given.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	14	Underway for Saipan	<p><b>Diversiónary Task Group 52.9 Formed</b></p> <p>1) No notable events recorded in the Calvert's war diary for this day.</p> <p>2) 1300 The division detached from TG.52.16, and with TransDiv30, plus G.F. Elliot, formed TG.52.9 and assumed cruising disposition as follows:  Right column: Knox, Calvert, Fuller, John Land, Bellatrix, G.F. Elliot  Left column: Clay, Middleton, Neville, Feland, Alhena, Hercules, Jupiter.  Inner screen: Preserver, Modala, Tekesta, Tawasa  Outer screen: Philip, Cony, Bryant, Shaw, Phelps, Ballard, Motive, Heed, Oracle.  Distance between heavy ships: 600 yards. Interval between columns: 1,000 yards.</p> <p>2010 Observed star shell, flares over Saipan. These were observed continuously all night.  2126 Observed gun fire and flares on port bow. This gunfire, at Saipan, continued intermittently all night.</p> <p>3) Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy with low clouds, .3 to .4. A few scattered squalls around midday. Winds Southeasterly, 10 to 15 knots. Visibility 10 to 15 miles. Light to moderate southeast swells.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) USS Neville War Diary - P8, P9</p> <p>3) War Diary, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, June 1944</p>
1944	June	14	Underway for Saipan	<p><b>Contact: Japanese Submarine</b></p> <p>1) 2057, June 14: A submarine contact was made and an attack made by the Bryant and Waters. Commander Destroyer Division 112 reported strong indications of damage to the target. The Task Group was maneuvered by emergency turns for this and several other submarine contact reports during the night of June 14-15.</p> <p>2) 2225 USS Walters, screening the group 10 miles ahead, reported submarine contact. Dropped charges, smelled oil.  2320 USS Oracle picked up submarine contact. 2332, USS Conoy picked up submarine contact dead ahead. 2340 depth charges. 2348 depth charges. 2351 Ships left to course 247. 2400 More depth charges.  "What a night"</p>	<p>1) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) USS Neville War Diary - P8, P9</p>
1944	June	15	Underway for Saipan	<p>0012 Depth charges on our port beam.  0044 USS Cony reports submarine contact.  0113 More depth charges.  0323 Strong smell of oil.  0337 USS Cony reports picking up Jap in water.  0525 Philip reports picking up seven Japanese survivors. One refused to be rescued.</p>	<p>War Diary, USS Neville, June 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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TransDiv 30's approach to Transport Area 6, Saipan Island, June 14-15, 1944



1) War Diary, USS Fuller, June 1944, p10

Approximate Timing of Japanese Submarine Contact and Sinking:

2) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion & Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas

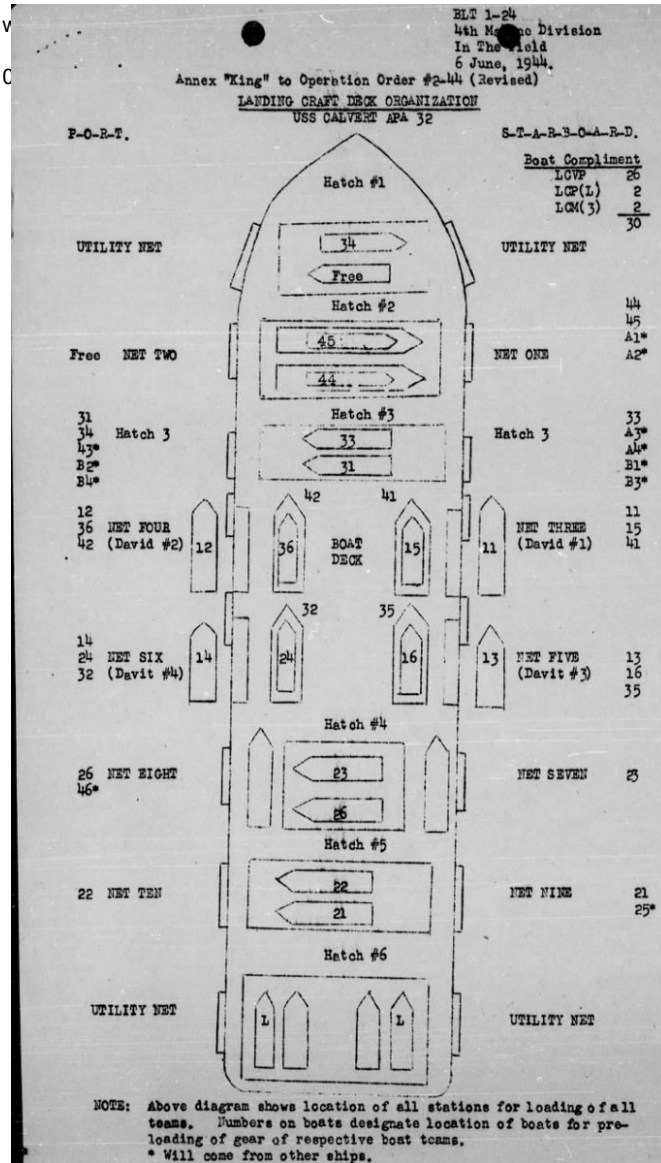
3) USS Neville War Diary - P8, P9

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>D-Day Saipan Island, Thursday, June 15th, 1944   Operation Forager, Mariana Islands</b>					
1944	June	15	Saipan, Marianas Islands	<p>1) The Calvert's initial task was to participate in a diversionary exercise off Tanapag Harbor with several other Transports and a Naval Fire Support Unit. The Demonstration Group's objective was to divert the Japanese ground forces away from the primary landing areas located on the southwestern beaches of the island. Second, the Calvert was directed to "maintain readiness as 'priority Ship Number One' to debark troops and cargo 'on Call' off Saipan." Third, the Calvert was to remain available to provide medical support duties by taking aboard wounded from the assault beaches. In the days prior to D-Day the crew spent time converting the Calvert's mess hall into a surgical ward. Also embarked were extra doctors and surgical equipment.</p> <p>2) "The invasion of the Island of Saipan in the Marianas Islands. This was to take us the longest of any landing as we started 15 June we were not released until 24 June 1944."</p>	<p>1) Funck, p60</p> <p>2) Calversion Vol 7, P3</p>
<b>Preparations Belowdecks</b>					
1944	June	15	Saipan, Marianas Islands	<p>Belowdecks, thousands of nervous Marines checked and re-checked their equipment, blood singing through their ears. Some had seen combat before; others, new replacements, had only the advice of veterans and half-remembered newsreel footage to shape their imaginations. A 0200 reveille wakened those who grabbed a few winks of sleep. The pleasant smell of steak and eggs wafted from the galleys. The cooks went all out with pancakes, red beans, fruit, and toast; coffee was in high demand. There were nervous jokes about the "condemned man's breakfast" and the "last meal." Some wolfed down the hot food and went back for seconds; others, suffering from nerves or believing a full stomach would make abdominal wounds harder to treat, preferred to go hungry. In the background, the rumble of the bombardment grew more intense.</p> <p>While the enlisted men and junior officers made their preparations, the senior staff anxiously awaited the findings of the Underwater Demolition Teams' mission of the previous day. The report arrived at 0400 – no significant or unexpected obstacles, natural or man-made, would hinder the approaches to the designated landing beaches. The assault waves would come in under fire, but nobody expected an unopposed landing. Dawn was breaking behind the smoke-shrouded ridges of the island; to correspondent Robert Sherrod, Saipan looked like "a low-lying prehistoric monster" partly hidden by clouds. Even at this early hour, the mercury rose above eighty degrees. It would be a hot, clear day.</p> <p>With everything as ready as it would be, Admiral Richard Kelly Turner gave the order to "Land the landing force." It was 0542. Operation FORAGER had entered the assault phase.</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a></p>
1944	June	15	Saipan, Marianas Islands	<p>"General quarters sounded really early in the morning, about 0300. The crew and troops had to be fed and the excitement seemed to be everywhere. You could see it in the cases of all the young men; and the fear. I watched them eat, knowing that this would be the last for some. When I finished eating chow I went up on the deck of the ship to look around. It was still dark, but I could see the big guns of the battle wagons, heavy cruisers, light cruisers, and destroyers firing everything they had at the Japs. I've got to admit I was scared because of all the briefing our beach party had up in the wardroom. The island was so big and there were thousands of Japs on it and they had everything else on it too. This wasn't going to be a three or four day operation. It was going to take a long time to take this place."</p>	<p>Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p1.</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	<p><b>Diversiónary Group, Task Group 52.9</b></p> <p>1) The demonstration, a diversionary feint, was aimed at diverting the enemy's ground forces away from actual landing beaches.</p> <p>2) As dawn broke on 15 June 1944, D-Day for operation Forager, and H-Hour neared, the Calvert and other ships of T.G. 52.9, Diversiónary Group, moved into Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, near the government seat of Garapan to conduct a diversionary action.</p> <p>2, 3) Atmospheric Conditions: Moderate sea with swells and wind direction from West Southwest at 12 knots; Sky moderately overcast with cumulus nimbus clouds; Temperature 88 degrees; Ceiling 3500 feet; Visibility 2000 yards. Visibility was excellent, sea very smooth and the weather was ideal for invasion.</p> <p>3) 0600 Observed Maryland, Colorado, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Birmingham, Indianapolis and DD's firing on the beach.</p> <p>2) 0600 All Hands were at General Quarters, which was secured at 0610 and Condition One Able set. Ten boats were lashed to the rail ready for launching, hatches were stripped and operating gear was rechecked for readiness.</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p> <p>3) War Diary, USS Neville, June 1944</p>

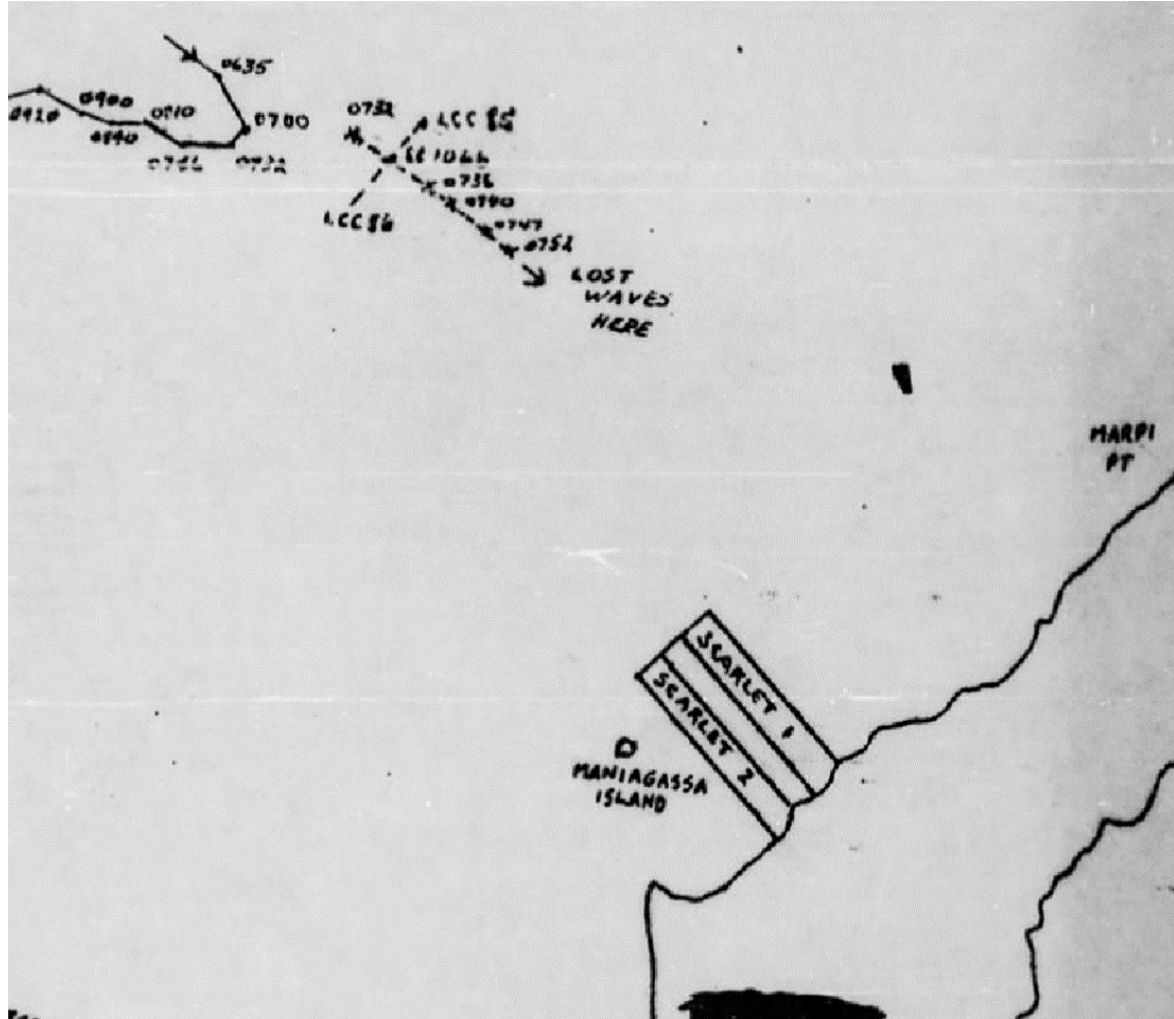
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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1) Landing Craft Organization for Saipan, USS Calvert.



2) Diagram of Demonstration Group

Radar report: The Diversionary Landing at Scarlet Beach I and II: In this landing the boat were only tracked to 4000 yards. The first wave departed from the rendezvous area at 0752. The track was lost at 0752.



USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

- 1) Page 34
- 2) Page 37

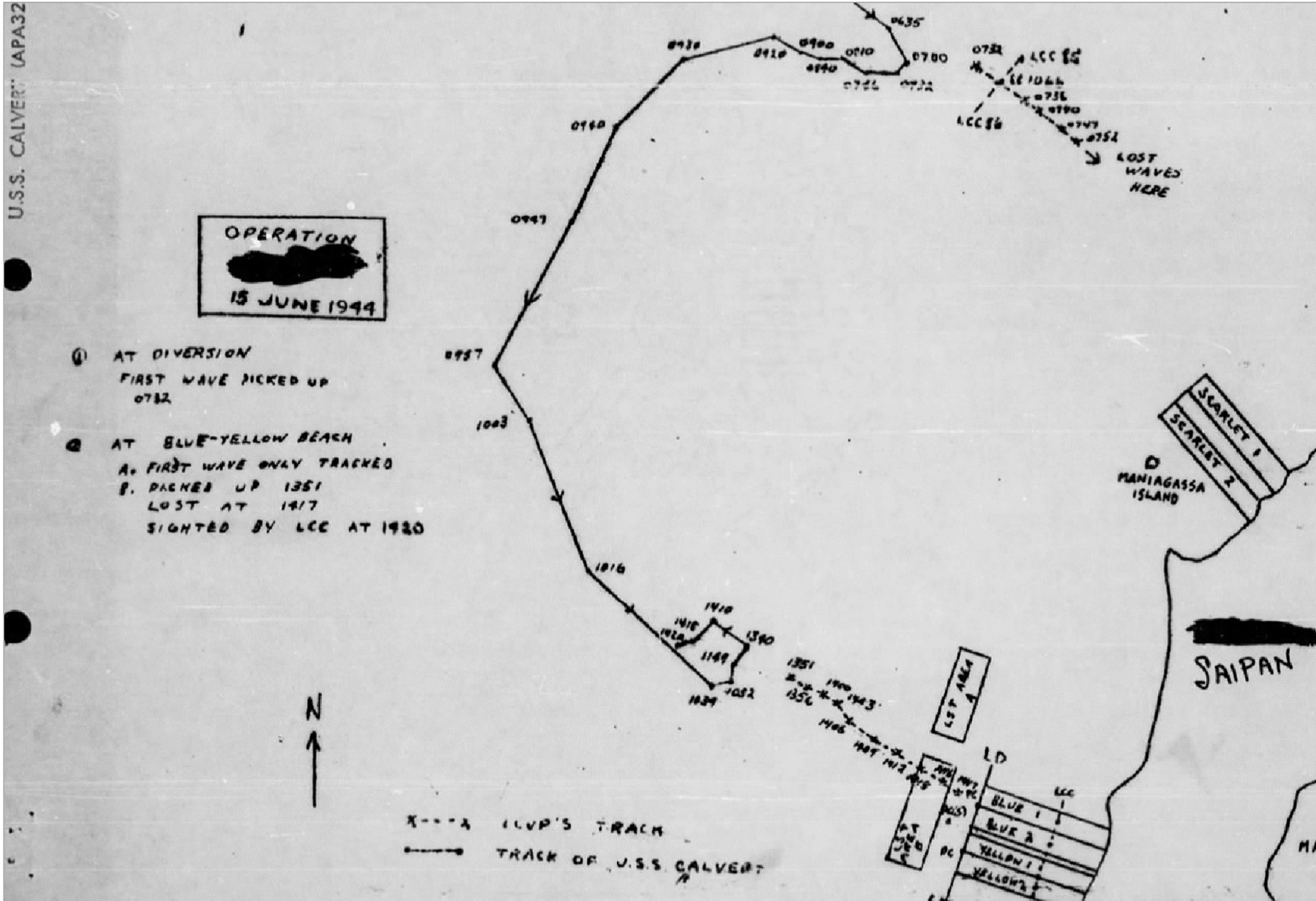


Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	<p>1) The troops were boated, assault waves formed and dispatched toward Tanapag Harbor.</p> <p>2) The demonstration, a diversionary feint, was aimed at diverting the enemy's ground forces away from actual landing beaches.</p> <p>0644 The signal to execute the feint, "Land the Landing Force" was received. 0651 17 boats were water borne. These remained alongside long enough to give the appearance of being loaded.</p> <p>3) 0700 Heavy support bombardment of Saipan by ships and planes commenced.</p> <p>2) 0703, the three waves, consisting of five boats each, were dispatched at one minute intervals to the Rendezvous Area led by the Boat Commander and his Assistant.</p> <p>0712 Arrived at the Rendezvous Area, the three waves formed as the second wave of Group Three and the second and fourth waves of Group Four.</p> <p>0725, the First Group shoved off, followed at 3 minute intervals by the remaining Groups. Heading for the beach at full speed, at 0812, when 6000 yards from the beach, the Boat Groups suddenly executed two 90 deg turns within five minutes, thus reversing their course away from the beach.</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>3) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	<p>"The diversion was afforded realism by supporting naval gunfire ... as landing craft approached the beach to within 5,000 yards, circled for a few minutes, wheeled about, and returned to their ships. ... Landing craft drew no fire during the feint, and no activity was observed on the shore."</p>	<p>Hyperwar Online: <a href="http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Saipan/USMC-M-Saipan-2.html">http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Saipan/USMC-M-Saipan-2.html</a></p>
1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	<p>At the appointed time, the boats returned to their ships and were reembarked. Although the Japanese commander, Lieutenant General Yoshitsugu Saito, IJA, was not completely duped by their action, he had moved a regiment into the area, just in case. This materially reduced the amount of opposition encountered by the 6th, 8th, 23rd, and 25th Marines, who were then crossing the beaches three miles to the south. This diversionary movement, coupled with a hit by the shore battery on the battleship California gave cause for Radio Tokyo to crow that "a modern battleship had been sunk and the invasion repulsed."</p>	<p>A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p>
1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	<p>1) 0833 All demonstration boats returned to the Calvert; Hoisted by 0910.</p> <p>0925 Transport Divisions 10 and 30 underway to rejoin Commander Transports Group Baker.</p> <p>2) Diversionary Task Group 52.9 was dissolved. Task Unit proceeded to Transport Area 3, formed part of Task Group 52.4 (Transport Group Baker).</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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1944	June	15		<b>Diagram of Demonstration Group and Diversionsary Boat Group; Diagram of Landing Course</b>	
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USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas



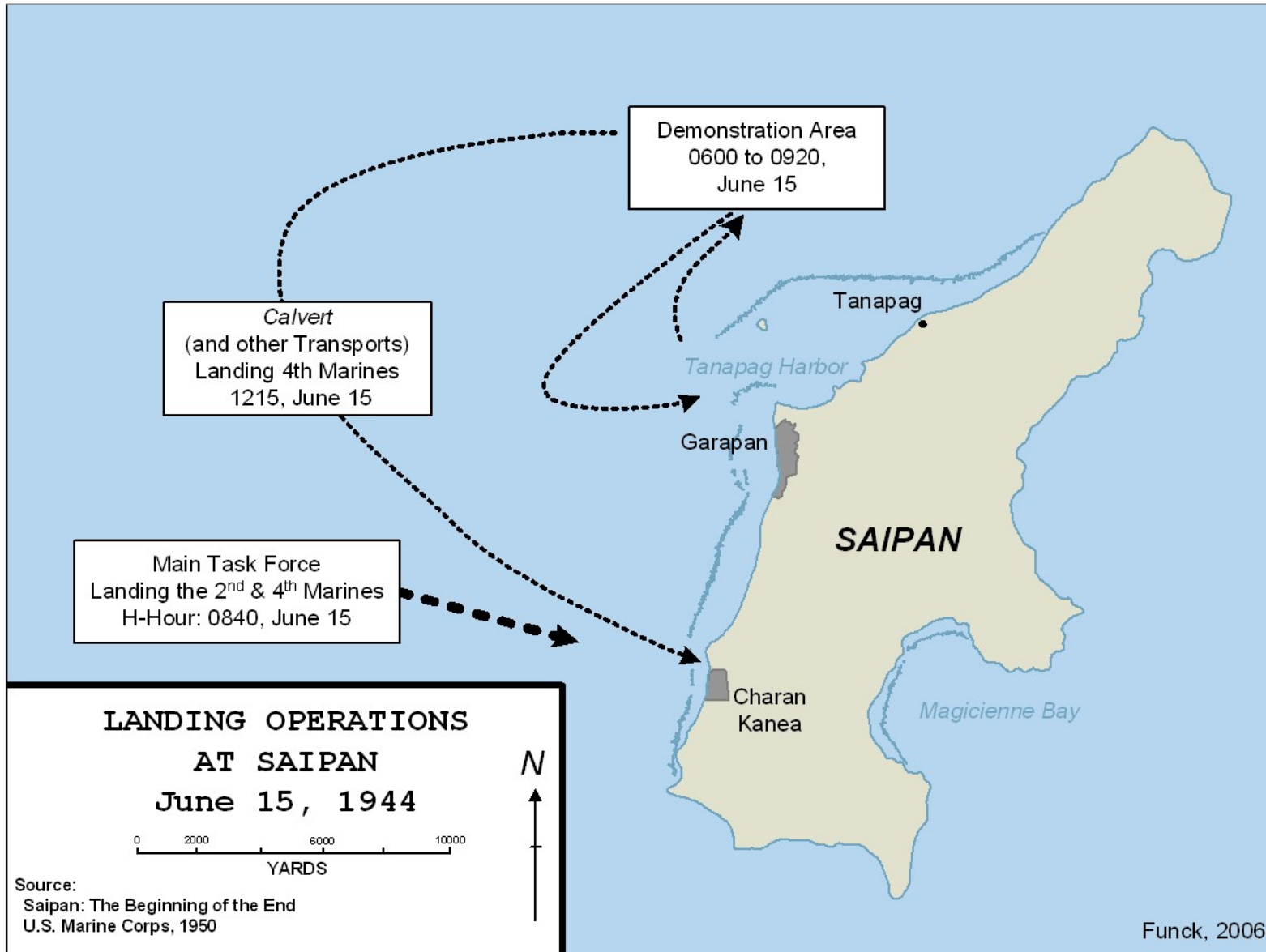
1944	June	15	Saipan	1044 Entered Transport Area 3, off Saipan Island.	
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War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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The USS Calvert's Landing Operations, Saipan, June 15, 1944 | Diversionsary Operation and Assault Landing

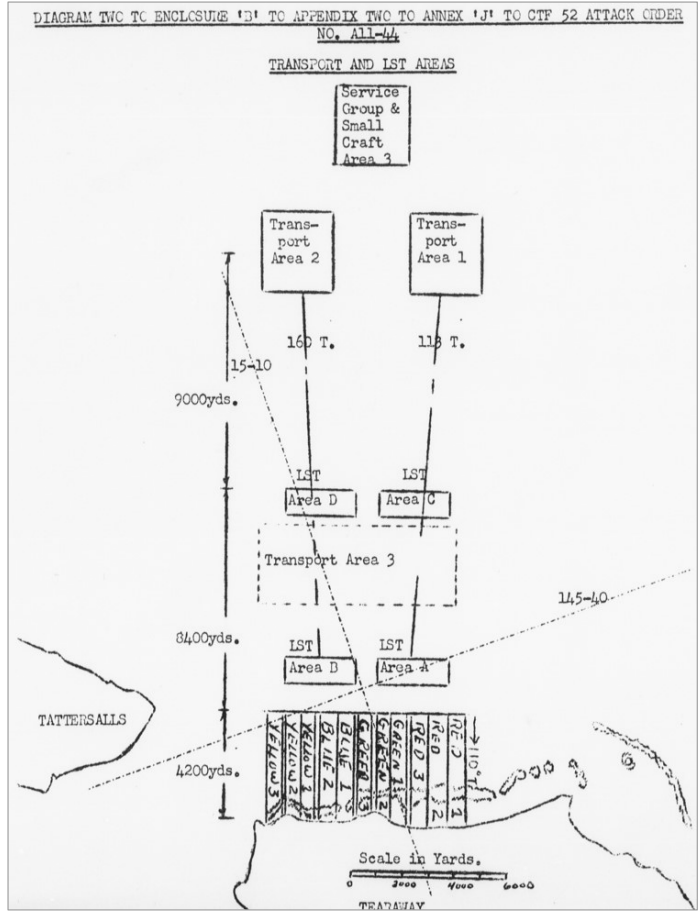
Funck, p61



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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1944 June 15

Transport Area 3, and Assault Beaches, Saipan



Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas

1944 June 15

Underway for Transport Area Three, Saipan  
Transport Area Three, Saipan

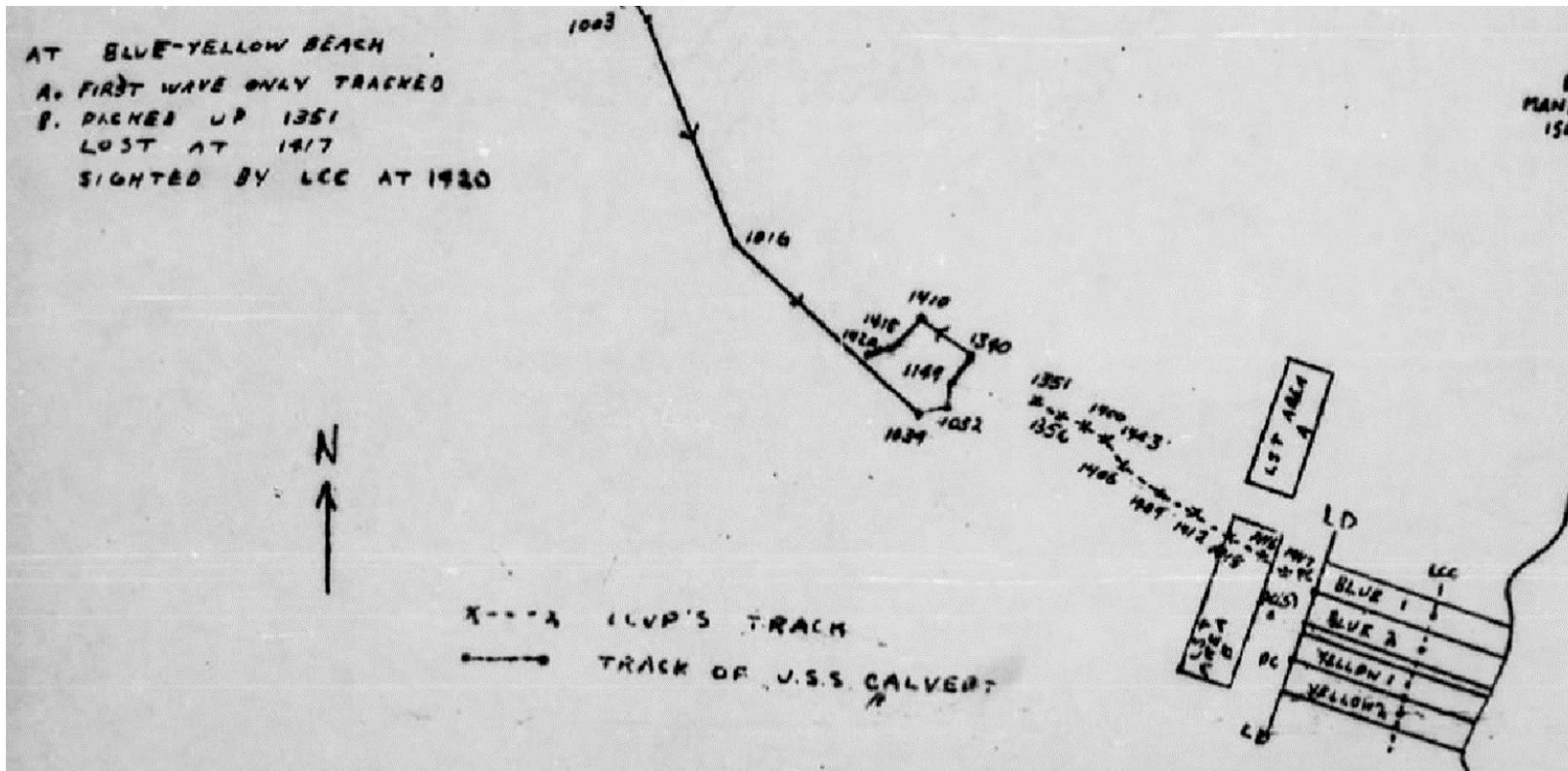
"The transports are still moving to the transport area and when we enter over the area, over the loudspeaker comes: "Troops prepare for debarkation and commence lowering all hatch boats and davit boats." When all the landing boats are waterborne, they rendezvous at the stern of the ship and each one comes up to the side of the ship to one Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p1 of the cargo nets to take on the assault troops. When the boats are fully loaded they again rendezvous at the stern of the ship and then they are dispatched to the line of departure."

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Radar Report: Landing Course at Blue and Yellow Beaches**

1944	June	15	Transport Area Five off Mutacho Point, Saipan	The boat waves were dispatched at 1345. The first echoes were picked up at 1351 at 1370 yards. In spite of the fact that the USS Calvert changed positions during the time the boats were proceeding to the beach, an accurate plot was obtained. The first wave was lost at 1417 at a distance of 7350 yards among LSTs and other craft. The Control Vessel at Yellow Beach sighted the boat wave at 1420.	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
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**Diagram of Landing Course and Assault Beaches; Informed by the Calvert's Radar Fixings**



1) Chart to left: USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

2) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion & Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas:

Commentary: Fourth Marine Division Reserves, RCT 24, carried by Transport Division 30, were landed on beaches Blue Two and Yellow One during the afternoon of D-Day.

\* BLTs One and Two landing from boats.  
 \* BLT Three transferred from boats to LVTs.

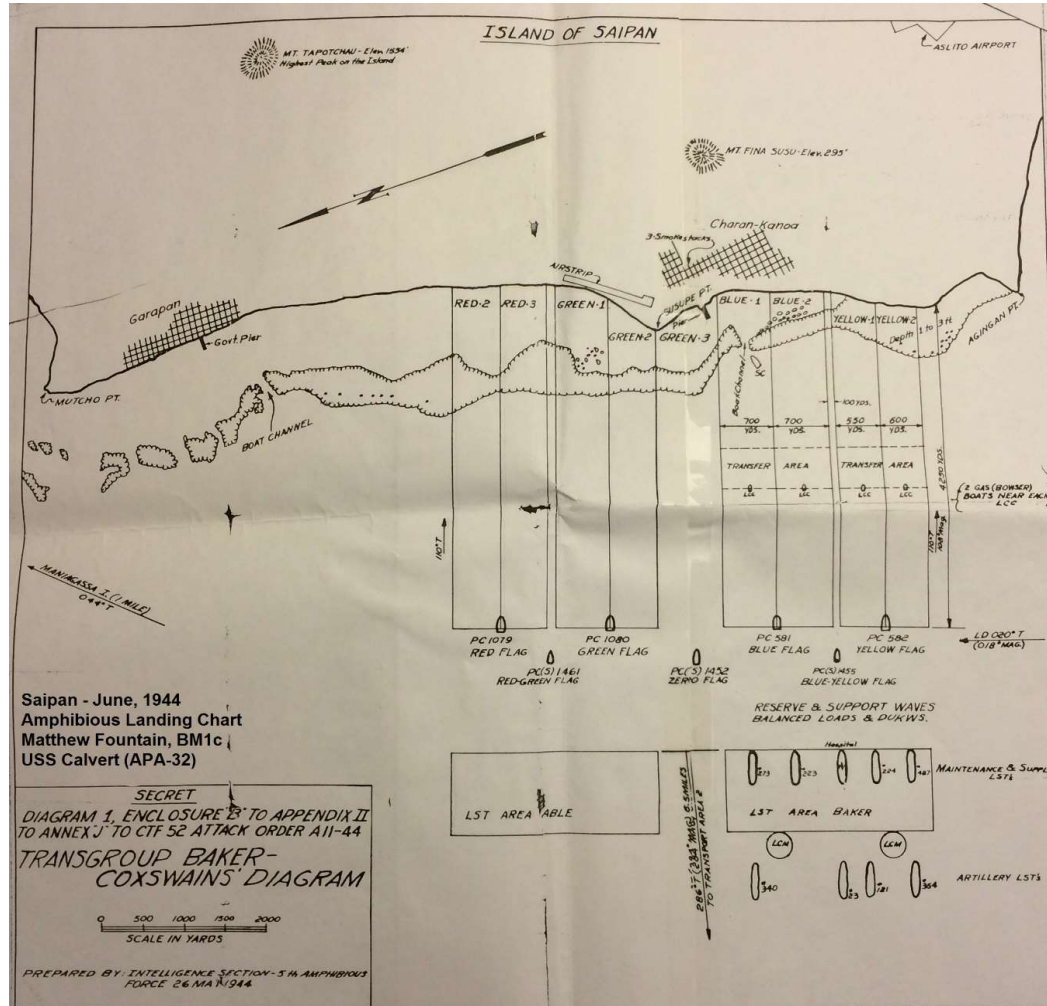
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<p><b>On Call Readiness, "Priority Ship Number One" in the Division</b></p> <p>1100 Rejoined Transports Group Baker in Transport Area Three to await the call to debark troops and equipment.  1105 The call came at 1105 to boat the Landing Team.  12 boats lashed to the rail were immediately lowered.  14 boats were pre-loaded and davit boats were rail loaded with troops.</p> <p>1215 all 4 assault waves were debarked. Much of the gear which would normally have been pre-loaded had to be hand lowered due to the boat's participation in the earlier Diversionsary Demonstration.  22 minutes spent lowering hatch boats  33 minutes required to lower 12 davit boats  15 minutes spent lowering 2 LCMs</p> <p>6 LCV(P)s per wave, each wave with approximately 200 men and their assault equipment.</p>	
1944	June	15	Saipan, Transport Area 3		USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
				<p><b>Commence Debarkation</b></p> <p>For Lieutenant Stott and others who fretted at missing the battle, the notion was "quickly dispelled" as the ship's PA system crackled to life. "In the space of a moment, the loudspeaker called out, lay below for debarkation; prepare for debarkation; commence debarkation." he wrote. "We crammed sandwiches in our pockets, grabbed our gear."</p> <p>PFC John C. Pope had his ears pricked for the loudspeaker all morning. At the first command, the designated boat guides – two dozen trustworthy PFCs and NCOs, including Pope – hurried off to their designated davit, hatch, or net. Pope was assigned to the fifth boat in the fourth wave (Boat 4-5), which was stowed for the voyage on one of the Calvert's forward hatches. On the second command, the decks came to life as platoon-sized teams shoved and hustled to stand by their stations. Thirty-five men of the 81mm mortar platoon gathered beside Boat 4-5, including assistant platoon leader 1Lt. James R. Donovan, section leader Sergeant Woodrow Barfield, two full squads lugging their heavy weapons, telephone operators with their comms equipment, and ammo carriers dragging two-wheeled carts laden with high explosive. At the third and final order, the loading started. Some Marines swung their legs over the Calvert's rail and climbed down cargo nets, while others had the comparative luxury of loading on deck to be lowered by davits.</p>	
1944	June	15	Saipan, Transport Area 3		Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a> PFC John C. Pope HQ/1/24th Marines
				<p>Pope was thoroughly pleased to have a davit boat assignment – climbing down the nets with heavy weaponry was dangerous, and a mechanical winch sounded like "fun" by comparison. Everything went smoothly until the crew went to release the lowering hook.</p> <p>It got caught on the ramp cable on the way back up and lifted the boat full of Marines by one corner almost high enough to dump the entire platoon in the ocean before they could get it stopped.</p> <p>Boy, that would have been as bad as it gets. The entire platoon would have drowned in a matter of seconds. No chance of rescue because we were dressed in full battle gear, which would take even the strongest swimmer under before he could shed any part of that weight. We never wore life jackets in the landing boats.</p> <p>When the boat settled, the coxswain gunned the engine and raced off to the assembly area, "just as if nothing had happened."</p>	
1944	June	15	Saipan, Transport Area 3		Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a> PFC John C. Pope HQ/1/24th Marines

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Saipan, Transport Area 3	PFC David C. McEwen took a few moments to look around as he waited to embark. "The whole Navy was there," he recalled. "I said, boy, this must be it! The battleships are blasting now; you can hardly hear your conversation with friends. They were big shells, as big as they can make 'em, and they're landing on Saipan." Soon it was his turn to go down the cargo net. "Of course, the boat was bouncing off the ship and back, ten, fifteen feet. I was concerned about getting between the ship and getting my leg hurt, getting my body damaged, but I got down. We went about ten or twelve men at a time, got into the landing craft, and said goodbye to the Navy. What a wonderful place [a ship] is, you've got lunch and dinner and a bed every night – now I've got nothing!"	Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a>
1944	June	15	Saipan, Transport Area 3	1) 1500 Casualties began arriving aboard on D Day. A total of 18 were received aboard this day.  2) "I was a Hospital Corpsman with the Marines and 35 years ago today we invaded Saipan. I went in from an L.S.T., somewhere between the first and fourth waves. By late afternoon I was a casualty aboard the Calvert. D2 Med was my Hospital Company and they were aboard. I remember the large forward hatch and the day the lone Jap plane flew over. They threw everything but the sink at him. When the five inch gun at the bow went off everyone went topside because we thought she'd been hit. I went back in when the Hospital Section went ashore and then to Tinian before being transferred back to the Navy. I remember the Calvert as a fine Cargo Transport., one of the best I've ever been on." - W.L. Donaldson	1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas  2) W.L. Donaldson - LaHabra, California - Calversion Vol 5, pg. 3.
1944	June	15	Saipan, Line of Departure	"Circling endlessly"  The Calvert launched four waves of boats – six LCVPs carrying 200 men with all of their assault equipment – with an average time of 25 minutes per wave. All boats were away by 1215 and headed for an assembly area, where they milled about, "circling endlessly, awaiting orders as to where and when to land," griped Lieutenant Stott. "Four tedious hours of pitching and rocking passed before we were ordered ashore." The twenty-four boats carrying the assault troops were joined by nine others. Four LCMs carried anti-tank guns from the Regimental Weapons Company; four LCIs packed a mix of signal, medical, and naval personnel. A "free boat" served as the miniature flagship of the battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Maynard C. Schultz, who was free to land at his discretion.	Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a>
1944	June	15	Saipan, Line of Departure	After ninety minutes of circling in the transport area, the landing team was rushed to the line of departure – only to endure another hour-long wait, torturing the nerves and stomachs of the seasick.  At 1540 hours, a late-breaking change of plan decreed that instead of transferring from boats to LVTs at the reef, BLT 1-24 would land directly from the LCIs. The only way through the coral was a narrow channel, discovered and marked by UDT #7 the previous day. It was sure to be pre-sighted by Japanese guns, but there was no time to argue. The first wave of six boats began its run for the beach at precisely 1553 hours, followed by additional waves at three-minute intervals. <sup>[21]</sup>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
1944	June	15	Saipan, Line of Departure	1540 Orders to belay all plans of transferring to LVTs and to proceed through the boat channel and head south inside the coral reef to a point as close to Yellow Beach I as could be safely reached without too severe damage to the boats.	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Saipan, Beaches	Assault Waves: Wave 1: Left RA at 1553, Hit beach at 1624 Wave 2: Left RA at 1556, Hit beach at 1632 Wave 3: Left RA at 1559, Hit beach at 1645 Wave 4: Left RA at 1602, Hit beach at 1702  7000 yards distance from Line of Departure to Beach.	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

**Landing Craft Coxswain Landing Chart, Saipan**

1944 June 15 Saipan, Beaches



Mark Fountain, son of Matt Fountain, BM1c  
 Online:  
<https://www.usscalvert.com/2014/04/11/landing-charts-sicily-roi-namur-saipan/>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Saipan, Beaches	LCV(P)s landed on the beach after going through boat channel. Enemy resistance was encountered in the form of mortar fire while waves were proceeding through the boat channel. No damage suffered to personnel or material, at this stage.	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
1944	June	15	Saipan, Beaches	The boat crews were on their way toward Blue Beach 1 through Charan Kanoa channel. However, the Calvert's boats could not immediately enter the beach area due to considerable coral obstructions and heavy enemy artillery fire. This was the heaviest enemy fire that Sterling had yet to encounter during a landing.	Funck, p61
1944	June	15	Saipan	<p>After being keyed up for so long, many Marines in BLT 1-24 found the actual landing on Saipan somewhat anticlimactic. PFC George A. "Gunga" Smith, a machine gunner with Able Company, was jostled as his boat glanced off a coral outcropping but recalled no other disruptions on the way to the beach.[24]"There was very little small arms fire," commented PFC Robert E. Tierney.[25] "The beach landing went better than expected," concurred John Pope. "There was some firing, but not at all what we expected. We got a foothold fairly easily." [26]</p> <p>...</p> <p>Lieutenant Stott, a liaison officer arriving in the fourth wave, "saw numerous splashes along the beach line and six hundred yards out on the reef... For some unknown reason, probably a lack of familiarity, we did not identify the splashes as enemy artillery and mortars." This brief glimpse of Japanese firepower barely registered as a deterrent. "The shelling ceased as we neared the shore, and all landed safely, many without wetting their feet."</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a></p>
1944	June	15	Saipan	<p>Although most men in BLT 1-24 were technically combat veterans, their previous battle experience was very brief – less than two days on Roi-Namur, facing a heavily outnumbered and outgunned enemy confined to a tiny island. A handful of men had been at Pearl Harbor, the Coral Sea, Guadalcanal, and the Russell Islands, but the average Marine in LtCol. Schultz's battalion had spent only about forty hours under fire. ...</p> <p>In just under forty minutes, the entirety of BLT 1-24 was ashore – and "oblivious to what might occur," in the words of Lt. Stott, "we formed up in a series of semi-massed companies, found all men present, and commenced to move off to our designated assembly area. In movement, we deployed, finally ending our high target priority."</p> <p>As they moved south through Charan Kanoa towards a designated road junction, Stott noted that "the actual ground appeared differently than it had in the aerial photographs and on the maps, and we were experiencing difficulty locating our assembly area [as] assigned on the map." This snafu was a reality check. "Suddenly came the realization that it was again battle, and that this time our supporting ships and planes were not overwhelming."</p> <p>The Japanese chose this moment to demonstrate the power of their artillery. ...</p>	<p>Quoted directly, from Geoffrey Roecker's The First Battalion, 24th Marines: Battle Narrative, No One Thought Of Failure, Shipping Out For Saipan Online: <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/dday/</a></p> <p>See <a href="https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/">https://1-24thmarines.com/the-battles/saipan/</a> for the c1/24th Marines' brutal experience on while fighting to gain control of Saipan for the rest of June and through July 13th.</p>
1944	June	15	Saipan	"After the assault troops hit the beaches they start discharging the cargo and equipment. I am below decks getting ready to go top-side, when all at once, over the loud speaker system comes: Beach Party lay up on top and prepare to disembark. When I heard that, my heart really started pumping and the adrenaline went through all my body and my nerves were at a really high pitch. I was scared to death, but I can't let the other members of the beach party see the fear that I have. When I got up on top-side and to the place I was supposed to be, I was watching some of the troops go down the side. ... Then all at once four Japanese airplanes came out of nowhere and flew over the convoy. Two of the planes dived and dropped their bombs. One of the bombs landed not too far from our ship and made a big splash. The other bomb dropped, but didn't hit any of the other ships or anything. Two other planes stayed really high, causing the Navy to shoot up a lot of shells. The Jap planes didn't get hit, they just zig zagged and flew off, causing a lot of excitement."	Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p1-2

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	15	Saipan, Beaches	<p>By the end of D-day "only a small portion of equipment which accompanied assault waves were unloaded." Sterling recalls encountering heavy swells, strong tides, coral obstructions, and heavy enemy fire all throughout the landings.</p> <p>The Marines on the beaches weren't having an easy time either. The Japanese were putting up strong resistance. Casualties were heavy and much effort was expended getting the wounded off the hostile beaches, into landing craft, and back to the transports for medical attention.</p>	Funck, p61
1944	June	15	Saipan	<p>1) 1805 Transports underway for Night Retirement. The majority of the ship's boats were loaded and left to be discharged during the night.</p> <p>2) 1819 Underway from Transport Area 3.</p> <p>3) 1830 The mortar fire over the boat channel was so intense that boats were forbidden entrance until 1000 on D+1 Day. These loaded boats lay idle; consequently were not available at the ship. Because no boats could enter Yellow Beach due to coral obstruction, the need of LVTs was over prevalent. Boats were forced to lay off awaiting LVTs for long hours. LVTs were not available in large enough numbers for transferring and yet an eye witnessed fact is that many LVTs were lying useless on the beach when they were urgently needed.</p> <p>2) 1837 General Quarters, enemy planes sighted dive bombing screen.</p> <p>1) 1847 Four enemy VF attacked units of this force near the beach. No damage was sustained by Transports.</p> <p>2) 2003 Secured from General Quarters.</p> <p>4) The Calvert, a member of Retirement Group Two, underway at sea overnight.</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>3) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>4) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	15	Saipan	<p>D-Day Summary</p> <p>Combat Cargo: Only 18 1/2 tons of equipment, which accompanied the assault waves, were discharged (1 hour to unload from 3 of 6 holds). Boats were employed to land the troops and their gear.</p> <p>Unloading: Three material casualties occurred during the unloading phase. The starboard boom No. 3 hatch was out of operation 31 minutes; a link of the hook bridle chain on number one hold parted; and the wire on the heavy duty boom hook which piled crooked causing a few minutes delay in unloading. No personnel casualties occurred on board ship during unloading.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<b>D+1</b>	
1944	June	16	Saipan	<p>1) 0312, General Quarters, enemy aircraft reported in vicinity. 0540, secured from General Quarters.</p> <p>2) After maneuvering during the night the Group returned to the objective at 0655 with all hands at Condition One Able.</p> <p>3) Transports returned to Transport Area 3 near Charan-Kanoa beaches at 0650. Boats were immediately lowered, those boats which had unloaded during the night returned to the ships and unloading of troops and supplies continued. The congestion of boats at the reef continued because of the limited beach usable at high tide and the fact that boats could not reach the beach at low tide.</p> <p>2) Discharging of cargo began at 0715 "on call". All boats were ordered to report for clearance to the Control Vessel off Yellow Beach. After 10 1/2 hours of discharging from all holds, except Number four hold, there were 38 LCV(P) and no LCM loads for 78 1/2 short tons of cargo despatched to the beach. Only Calvert boats were employed.</p> <p>3) 1530 Beach Parties joined their respective advanced echelons which went in with the first waves and became established ashore. Landed on Yellow Beach I at 1630 June 16. Also working Yellow Beach I were four Beach Parties. Because the nature of the cargo was the main consideration, there was no discrimination as to which ship's would be unloaded first.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>3) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	16	Saipan	<p>"I and my team was assigned T.A.D. to the Calvert as a Beach-masters communication team (4 navy radiomen - 5 Marine signalmen) and we went ashore at Saipan in the 2nd or 3rd wave. Dug a fox hole and set up the radio equipment we backpacked ashore to allow the Beachmasters all necessary communications with the invasion forces."</p> <p>James R Cobb, RM2C.</p>	<p>Calversion-Vol-No-25-1991 - P2 James R Cobb, RM2C</p> <p>Editor's note: Presumed to be D+1, not D-Day.</p>
				<b>A breach in the hull of an LCVP</b>	
1944	June	16	Saipan	<p>In the early hours of D-plus one Sterling found himself in a rather uncomfortable situation with a team of Marines that he was to take ashore. Earlier in the evening on D-Day he was informed that he was to take over Joe McDonald's boat and assist in the transport of Marines to the beaches. He prepped the LCVP, however he was rushed and did not spend much time inspecting the craft. It was one of the few times that Sterling hadn't inspected a craft before taking charge of it.</p> <p>Approximately thirty Marines boarded the boat at the rail. As the boat was just about to hit the water Sterling realized that there was a considerable breach in the hull at the waterline on the starboard side. He tried to get Lt. Osborne's attention and point out that the boat was damaged. However, he was ordered to continue on. As soon as the craft hit the water Sterling threw the throttle full forward. While the LCVP was still a considerable distance from shore it became clear to Sterling, and the Marine officer aboard, that they were in trouble. The Marines began to bail water with their helmets as the pumps worked their best to keep the craft afloat. The Marine officer ordered Sterling to return to the Calvert, but Sterling continued to run for the beach. Finally the Marine Lieutenant pulled his side arm and ordered Sterling back to the Calvert. Sterling obliged and turned the craft around.</p> <p>The ship's carpenters took a considerable amount of time to repair the craft and Sterling didn't hit the water until well into the next day. Looking back he is amazed that the craft didn't sink. His one thought today is that he might have been able to have the Marines stuff a bunch of lifejackets into the hole to help keep some of the water out of LCVP.</p>	<p>Funck, p61</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes	
1944	June	16	Saipan	<p>1) Medical: 98 casualties received aboard the Calvert on D+1 Day.</p> <p>2) "During the invasion of Saipan, the Calvert was a casualty ship. I was taken aboard your ship June 16, 1944 as a casualty and treated for a head wound and back injury. I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the excellent treatment I was given aboard your ship 35 years ago."</p> <p>3) 1753 Commenced Night Retirement.</p> <p>4) 1813, Underway from Transport Area 3.</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) Calversion, Vol 4, Page 2. Henry G. Barch, Columbia, PA</p> <p>3) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>4) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Calvert's Beach Party Heads to the Beach</b></p>						
1944	June	16 - 20	Saipan	<p>"So now it is our turn to go over the side and down the nets into a waiting Amtrack. We rendezvous and then off to the line of departure. Our beach party is supposed to hit one of the red beaches, and be in the fifth wave. As we are going to the line of departure, I am standing up looking around and I never saw so many Amtracks in my life. There were hundreds of them and they were all throwing up rooster tails (wakes of water) at the rear of them. When we reached the line of departure, orders were to load and lock and get your head down. About three hundred feet from the beach that Amtrack started to hit coral on the bottom and if one side of the track hit some coral it would jerk the Amtrack around really fast. Those amtracks are terrible at getting over reefs. We finally got over that damn reef and up onto the beach. When our Amtrack stopped up on the beach the Japanese were dropping mortars all over the place; what a scary feeling! When I jumped out of that Amtrack, I landed in the sand right by a medium tank that had been blown wide open. It seemed to me that the first few waves of men hadn't moved to far off the beach.</p> <p>...</p> <p>The beach party worked their asses off all afternoon, and when it started to get dark, a lot of ships left, but a few were still brining in stuff. About midnight some Army division came in and then all hell broke loose. The Japanese started to over-run the red beaches and were pushing us back. Our beach party got all of our equipment and started up the beach moving fast toward a little town called Garapan. About halfway between Garapan and the red beaches we dug in and stayed about four days.</p>	<p>Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p1-3</p>	
<p>Like I said earlier, the fox hole that I had dug was a good one in an L shape. The reason for the L shape is in case of an air attack. If a plane is strafing in one direction, you can move around to the other side and so forth. It seems just about every night when it got dark this one airplane would come over and strafe the beaches. You could hear him coming. We called him "Washing Machine Charlie," because his plane sounded so terrible like was just about to fall apart. They must have had the sparks retarded. Well, anyway when we heard him coming, everyone would say "here comes washing machine Charlie." Everyone would run and get into his foxhole. He would strafe up and down the beach area, and I don't think he ever hit anything or anybody. The Navy would shoot up the sky and the anti-aircraft guns would be blazing away and with all those tracer bullets; it looked like the Forth of July. I don't think anyone hit "Washing Machine Charlie;" he just didn't show up after a period of time."</p>						<p>Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p1-3</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<b>D+2</b>	
1944	June	17	Saipan	<p>1) Returning to the objective, after retiring for the night, Condition One Able was set at 0610. First Cargo loaded boat left the ship at 0611 "on call".</p> <p>2) 0710, Anchored in Transport Area 3 off Saipan Island.</p> <p>3) In spite of the congestion on the limited beach, the unloading progressed favorably.</p> <p>1) Only four holds, of 6, operated to discharge 47 1/2 tons of cargo or 19 LCV(P) loads before securing at 1500. 2.5 hours to unload from 4 of 6 holds. Only Calvert boats were employed.</p> <p>1) 1200 Beach Party moved to Blue Beach II. Also working Blue Beach II were three other Beach Parties. Because the nature of the cargo was the main consideration, there was no discrimination as to which ship's would be unloaded first.</p> <p>4) A burial site was established on Beach Yellow One.</p> <p>1) Medical: 41 casualties received aboard the Calvert on D+2 Day.</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>3) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>4) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion &amp; Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	17	Underway, near Saipan	<p>1) 1735, underway from Transport Area 3 in accordance with CTF 52 Attack Order A11-44.</p> <p>2) 1745 The Transports of Task Group 52.4 commenced Night Retirement. As the ships were leaving the beach area, several enemy planes attacked beaches and ships near the beach area. No damage to ships of this group.</p> <p>1) 2000 15 deg, 22'N, 147 deg, 42'E</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
				<b>D+3</b>	
1944	June	18	Underway	<p>1) Cruised all day in Retirement Area between Latitudes 15 deg -30'N and 16 deg - 30'N and Longitudes 146 deg - 30'E and 148 deg - 00'E.</p> <p>The beach area was still under occasional mortar and artillery fire, but the beach situation as regards enemy fire improved.</p> <p>2) The Calvert's war diary references positions, but there are no other remarks for this day: 0800 16 deg, 08'N, 147 deg, 51'E 1200 16 deg, 05'N, 148 deg, 28'E 2000 16 deg, 19'N, 147 deg, 42'E</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>D+4</b>					
1944	June	19	Underway, Retirement Area, North East of Saipan	<p>1) Continued cruising in Retirement Area.</p> <p>2) The Calvert's war diary references positions, but there are no other remarks for this day: 0800 15 deg 50'N, 146 deg, 56'E 1200 16 deg 09'N, 147 deg, 51'E 2000 16 deg 07'N, 147 deg 08'E</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>
<b>A Japanese Shell Sinks the Calvert's LCM #2</b>					
1944	June	19	Saipan, Yellow Beach Area (presumed)	<p>1) Only one boat was lost due to enemy fire causing it to sink. The crew was rescued.</p> <p>2) LCM #2 (Tank Lighter) sunk by Jap shell. Replaced with LCM #4 "Dad lost his LCM due to a direct hit from a Japanese shell. It was as close as Dad came to getting killed. He was okay though. I once asked him if he ever had a Samurai sword, and he answered, "Yah, as a matter of fact, I once had three of them at one time!" I asked what happened to them as I'd never seen them. "Well, I'll tell ya, I was coming back to the ship from Saipan and I had a seabag full of stuff, swords, helmets, everything. One of the swords was in great shape and was all enameled on the scabbard with gold. Someone who read Japanese told me that it was over two hundred years old! On the way back to the ship, a shell hit my tank lighter, sinking it and the bag with the loot in it in about half a mile of water!" I piped up and said, "Didn't you try to save the stuff?" "Hell no," Dad declared, "All I wanted to do was get back to my ship!" You can see in his memorandum book where he crossed out the number of his tank lighter, originally a 2, and replaced it with a 4. No. 2 still lies off of Saipan on the ocean bottom.</p>	<p>1) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) Mark Fountain - "Matt - A Fond Appreciation of Matthew S. Fountain" - 1999, p61-62</p>
1944	June	19	Saipan, Yellow Beach Area (presumed)	<p>"Joe was off Saipan when a Japanese plane dropped a bomb on the boat next to him. "I said let's get the heck out of here quick. I backed my boat down, turned it around, and saw the whole front of my boat was gone." It quickly sank, leaving Joe and the other men bobbing in life preservers for hours in shark-infested waters. Several men had been hit by shrapnel, including Joe. "I didn't even know I was hit until I hit the salt water and it stung like hell." They finally made it to an intact boat and headed back to the USS Calvert. The doctor told Joe he had a bomb fragment lodged next to his spine and ordered him to lie still in a bunk.</p> <p>The fragment finally moved away from his spine just enough for the doctor to cut the wound open and pull it out. "I called that doctor every dirty name I could think of," Joe laughs. He saw many men die, and many others wounded. I ask him how he dealt with that emotionally. He says he was always a happy-go-lucky guy. "If I got killed I got killed. Everybody's going to die. You just don't know when. So it never bothered me about dying." He's got 16 medals, including the Purple Heart. He grins and says "All those medals won't even get me a cup of coffee."</p> <p>He's humble about the role he played in the U.S. victory over Japan. "It's just a job," he says. "You get one done, you go on to the next one." It was tough duty. There were no showers on the boats, so they'd skinny-dip to bathe, and dry off in the sun. The food was pretty bad, too. "You go out to the ship, they lower your bucket. And there's Spam sandwiches, cheese sandwiches and coffee and grapefruit juice that if you put it on your car it'd take the paint right off it. You couldn't drink it. That's your meal three times a day."</p>	<p>All Those Medals Won't Even Get Me a Cup of Coffee Yakima Herald Joe Gordon</p> <p>Online: <a href="https://www.yakimaherald.com/valley_vet/veterans_stories/all-those-medals-wont-even-get-me-a-cup-of-coffee/article_dba90f3e-e47c-11e8-b72f-736fca7d6fd.html">https://www.yakimaherald.com/valley_vet/veterans_stories/all-those-medals-wont-even-get-me-a-cup-of-coffee/article_dba90f3e-e47c-11e8-b72f-736fca7d6fd.html</a></p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>D+5</b>					
1944	June	20	Underway, Retirement Area, North East of Saipan	<p>1) Continued cruising in Retirement Area.</p> <p>2) The Calvert's war diary references positions, but there are no other remarks for this day:  0800 15 deg 54'N, 147deg 56'E  1200 16 deg 09'N, 147 deg 23'E  2000 15deg 39'N, 146deg 59'E  NE of Saipan @ 16.32, 147.7</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>
<b>D+6</b>					
1944	June	21	Underway, Retirement Area, North East of Saipan	<p>1) Continued cruising in Retirement Area.</p> <p>2) The Calvert's war diary references positions, but there are no other remarks for this day:  0800 15deg 38'N, 146 56'E  1200 15deg 39'M, 146deg 56'E  2000 ?, 147deg 15'N</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>
<b>D+7</b>					
1944	June	22	Underway, Retirement Area, North East of Saipan	<p>1) Continued cruising in Retirement Area.  0845 USS Newcomb of screen made first attack on definite submarine contact, second attack on positive deep contact at 0928. Third attack completed at 1002 resulted in oil and air bubbles. Fourth attack completed at 1017. At 1022 the Newcomb felt and heard two underwater explosions almost directly under ship. Resulted in large quantities of oil and debris including pieces of deck planking, cork and internal fittings with Japanese characters burnt on them. Position of sinking: 15? - 15 N, 147 - 08 E.</p> <p>2) The Calvert's war diary references positions, but there are no other remarks for this day:  0800 15 deg 51'N, 147 deg 00'E  1200 16 deg 11'N, 147 deg 34'E  2000 15 deg 33'N, 147 deg 02'E</p>	<p>1) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landing on Saipan Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>D+8</b>					
1944	June	23	Underway	<p>1) 0205, General Quarters, unidentified aircraft in vicinity. 0258, secured from General Quarters.</p> <p>2) TG 54.2 returned to Transport Area off Saipan at 0710 and continued unloading. Unloading progressed favorably over the reef and through the channel.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) Commander Task Group 52.4, Report of Operations, Period 6/15-24/44 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
			Anchored, Berth B-72, Saipan	<p>1) 0700 Anchored in Berth "B 72", Saipan Island.</p> <p>3) Remaining away from the Transport Area for five days, the Group returned at 0830 this date. From 0900 to 1820 six holds operated 9 hours and 20 minutes to discharge 256 1/2 tons of cargo or 117 LCV(P) and 3 LCM loads. Boat employment included boats from Calvert, Harris, Bell, Clay, Custer and a pontoon barge from the beach. 14.8 hours to unload from 6 of 6 holds.</p>	
			Underway for night retirement	<p>3) Medical: 4 casualties received aboard the Calvert on D+8 Day.</p> <p>1) 1822 Got underway from Berth "B 72 " in accordance with CTF 52 Attack Order A11-44.</p>	
<b>D+9</b>					
1944	June	24	Return to Saipan	<p>1) 0755, anchored in Berth "B 72", Saipan Island.</p> <p>2) 0910 The first cargo boat was dispatched to the beach.</p> <p>2) 1200 The Beach Party was relieved and returned to the Calvert.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
			Anchored, Berth B-72, Saipan	<p>2) 1500 Began transfer of casualties to Hospital Ships Relief, Samaritan, and to the beach. All but 268 casualties and 2 dead were transferred when ships of Task Group 52.4 sailed. 1500 Beach Parties and Control Group reembarked.</p> <p>2) 1700 125 LCV(P) loads, or 209 1/2 tons were discharged leaving the ship 100% unloaded. Boat employment included boats from Calvert, Harris, Bell, Clay, Custer, Cavalier, Winged Arrow, Livingston, and LCT 965. 18.7 hours to unload from 5 of 6 holds.</p> <p>1) Medical: 7 casualties received aboard the Calvert on D+9 Day.</p>	



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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Transfer of wounded Marines to hospital ships



USS Calvert APA 32 1944 Color 16mm Footage  
Online:  
<https://youtu.be/R6n-ZcSfmt8?t=1356>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	June	Late	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p><b>Wounded Marines' experience aboard the Calvert</b></p> <p>My father mentioned the wounded coming aboard, and that many of them would also get seasick on top of being injured or sick. He said the waves and the drop of the ship could be a quite a rolling motion.</p>	Email 2014, Suzy Schneider, daughter of crew member Laudell Dupree who was aboard at this time as a member of the Shipfitter's crew.
1944	June	24	Saipan	<p><b>The Calvert's Beach Party Reembarks</b></p> <p>Our beach party has been on Saipan now for about ten days and we now have everything pretty well secured on our end. So our beach master tells us to get everything ready to load up because we are going back to the Calvert. Boy, am I glad to hear that! I haven't had a bath for about 10 days; just washed off in the salt water. An LCVP pulls up to the beach and drops her ramp. We load all our gear and equipment into her and up goes the ramp. The coxswain backs her off the beach and we on our way back to the ship.</p>	Beach Party. Billy Bell. Chapter 15, p2-3
1944	June	24	<p>Anchored, Berth B-72, Saipan</p> <p>Underway for Eniwetok</p>	<p><b>Departure for Eniwetok</b></p> <p>1) At 1755 on 24 June 1944, this vessel as a unit of the newly formed Task Unit 51.18.15 received orders to sail from Saipan to Eniwetok to await further orders.</p> <p>2) 1912, underway from Berth B-72. 1920, General Quarters, enemy aircraft in vicinity, commenced laying smoke. 1950 Ceased making smoke; Secured from General Quarters.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Summary Reports, Saipan Operation</b>					
1944	June	15-24	Saipan	<p>1) The Calvert remained at Saipan supporting the ground operation until 24 June, when she sailed back to Eniwetok in preparation for the next phase of Operation Forager, the capture of Tinian. This movement was required not only for the logistic support of the ships scheduled to participate in that operation, but for the Marines as well.</p> <p>Captain Sweeney summed up the Calvert's role at Saipan in his Action Report: "Marine-Navy cooperation and teamwork was at its best. All the officers and men under my command performed their duties in an exemplary manner. Their spirit, courage and devotion to duty was of the highest order."</p> <p>2) "The invasion of the Island of Saipan in the Marianas Islands. This was to take us the longest of any landing as we started 15 June we were not released until 24 June 1944." C.L. Schooler, CDR. USN Ret.</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p> <p>2) Calversion Vol 7, P3</p>
<b>Summary Report: Combat Loading</b>					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	<p>It is believed this operation was the first actual test of the "on call" type of discharging cargo. Only cargo requested by the land forces was dispatched. This resulted in piece-meal type of discharge often times proving difficult for the material requested was stowed under a lost priority.</p> <p>An example of what an "on call" ship can expect to discharge, this vessel was required to discharge the following cargo in the order indicated: Diesel Fuel, Tank Ammunition, Water, Carbine and Mortar Ammunition, Telephone Wire, Radio Batteries, Ambulance Jeeps, Rations, Artillery Ammunition, Signal Equipment, High Octane Gas, Office Equipment.</p> <p>Cargo tickets made their innovation in this operation. All cargo leaving this vessel was assigned a cargo ticket. Interviews with coxswains reveal that Control Vessels and Shore Party members oftentimes refused to accept the cargo tickets and gave appearances of failing to understand their purpose.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
<b>Summary Report: Hatch Parties</b>					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	<p>The Marines provided a crew of 53 inexperienced men to work all hatches. Because these men were overworked and the cargo was not being worked fast enough, an "all hands Navy" evolution to complete the task of unloading was called. This necessitated taking away men from their One Able stations.</p> <p>Recommendation: That sufficient trained troop personnel (at least 72 for this vessel) be assigned for this all-important task.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<p><b>Summary Report: Casualties Received Aboard During the Operation</b></p> <p>1) Casualties were evacuated to the transports pending the arrival of the hospital ships on 18 June. Fortunately, the Calvert's Medical Department consisted of 6 surgeons and 56 Corpsmen and of the 168 casualties received by the Calvert, 51 were returned to duty ashore.</p> <p>2) 168 casualties received aboard and treated for the period June 16 - 24.</p> <p>Disposition of Casualties:  51 Returned to beach for duty.  69 Transferred to USS Samaritan.  38 Transferred to USS Relief.  6 Retained aboard (Ship's Company).  5 Deaths resulted. Four were buried at sea, one sent to Grave Registration on the beach.</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	16 - 24	Saipan	<p><b>Summary Report: Beach Party Medial Activities</b></p> <p>One doctor and four corpsmen cared for approximately 75 casualties and over 500 civilian women and children.</p>	<p>USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	<p><b>Summary Report: Boat Crew Casualties</b></p> <p>1) During the operations, several of the Calvert's boats were hit by mortar and small arms fire, resulting in the wounding of several crew members who were awarded Purple Hearts therefore on 1 October 1944.</p> <p>2) Seven boat personnel were wounded by enemy fire during the unloading phase of the invasion. These seven are being recommended for the Purple Heart Award.</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Summary Report: Salvage Operations</b>					
The Calvert's Assistant Boat Group Commander became the Salvage Boat Officer after the Assault Waves were landed and continued to service all needy boats landing on Beaches Blue and off the reef on Yellow Beach.					
While a good number of broached boats were towed off the beach, in only a few instances did these operations interfere with loaded boats. Several times during the early stages of the invasion enemy fire harassed salvaging operations.					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	<p>Summary of boat casualties: Hull: 12 bent rudders. 2 injured steering columns, 16 holes in Hull repaired. 27 broken frames (beading), 3 bent skeg shoes.</p> <p>Engineering: 4 adjustments and repairs to Governors. 5 clutches repaired. 4 throttles repaired. 21 screws replaced. 14 twisted rudder shafts. 1 injector repaired. 5 cutlers bearings replaced. 1 transmission drained and flushed.</p> <p>During darkness it was planned to tie up boats alongside LCTs and LSTs to prevent drifting, and to exercise control and discipline over the crews. With the exception of LST 128 which permitted boats to tie up alongside and the crews to come aboard for showers and meals, there was definite reluctance on the part of LCTs and LSTs to cooperate in this regard.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
<b>Summary Report: Boat Control and Discipline</b>					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	<p>One method of effecting control and discipline over boats and crews during inactive hours (i.e., when unloading is secured at night, etc.) is to provide for their tying up to LCTs and LSTs in the vicinity. This will prevent boats from drifting aimlessly and crews from getting beyond the reach of discipline. The reluctance of several LCTs and LSTs to grant this accommodation prompts this recommendation.</p> <p>Recommendation: That LCTs and LSTs be directed to accommodate all boats requesting permission to tie up alongside. If possible and if practicable boat crews should be invited aboard for hot food.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
<b>Summary Report: Boat Pool Activities</b>					
1944	June	Mid-to-Late	Saipan	<p>Detached to the Tinian Boat Pool were one officer, 14 men and four LCV(P) boats. (ComfifthPhib Ltr. AL24-44) When the Calvert's LCM became stranded it was necessary to assign this boat also and its three man crew to the Boat Pool.</p>	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Summary Report: Radar</b>					
Radar types employed: SG-2 for medium range air search. SG for surface search and station keeping.					
With only seven men available, it proved a hardship to guard both air and surface watch with the men standing watch.					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	It was found by experience that LCV(P)s can be tracked, normally, to approximately 6000 yards provided the radar equipment is in normal working operation. The echoes which are received from a formation of LCV(P)s is small, fluctuating pip and it requires considerable experience on part of the radar operators to recognize the echoes and be able to read them to make an accurate track. It is an especially difficult problem when there are a large number of other small craft in the vicinity. We have found it necessary to place a lookout on the signal bridge who is instructed to notify the radar plot when the waves depart for the beach and to give radar plot an initial bearing on the boat waves. In this way, the radar operator is coached on to the LCV(P) waves and from then on it is a matter of experience in reading and plotting.	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
<b>Operation Report, Concluding Remarks</b>					
1944	June	15 - 24	Saipan	"The cooperation of troop officers and the discipline of troops, in accordance with Ship and Troop Regulations, was excellent." J.A. Patreson  "Marine-Navy cooperation and team work was at its best. All the officers and men under my command performed their duties in an exemplary manner. Their spirit, courage, and devotion to duty was of the highest order. The individual cases of exceptionally meritorious service and conduct are being mentioned in a separate letter." E.J. Sweeney	USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 6/15 - 6/24 - Landings on Saipan Island, Marianas
<b>Underway for Eniwetok</b>					
1944	June	25 - 27	Underway for Eniwetok	1) The Calvert's war diary lists positions for these days, but no additional entries.  2) Underway for Eniwetok. Three column formation.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944  2) COMTRANSDIV 30, Report of Operations During the Invasion & Occupation of Saipan Island, Marianas
1944	June	28	Underway for Eniwetok  Anchored, Eniwetok Lagoon	1) 1247, Anchored in Berth 230, Eniwetok Lagoon. 1845, underway proceeding alongside the USS Gembok.  2) 2045 - Commenced discharging fuel oil to U.S.S. Calvert moored to starboard side. 2215 - completed discharging fuel oil to U.S.S. Calvert, having delivered 2m718 barrels.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944  2) War Diary, USS Gembok, June 1944 <a href="https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78521731">https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78521731</a>
1944	June	29	Eniwetok Lagoon	0553 Underway from the USS GEMSBOK, proceeding to berth 230.	War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944
1944	June	30	Eniwetok Lagoon	Anchored in berth 230, Eniwetok Lagoon	War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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Ship Fitters Crew, and Fubar (the Calvert's four-legged mascot) June 1944



1) Calvert Marine Museum Online:  
<https://www.usscalvert.com/2013/09/17/ship-fitters-crew-1944/>

Additional information, provided by Hoyt Worthington and William "Hunky" Habrat, September 2013, Des Moines IA, Calvert Reunion.

"Pops" was in charge of issuing paint from the ship's paint locker. He was also Fubar's owner.

Notice the varying shades of "blue" of the sailors' "dixie cup" cap. Many sailors would dye their brand new white caps a dark blue.

All crew members in this photograph are wearing their work uniform, dungarees. Several of the crew are wearing "tube" life belts.

Laudell Dupree enlisted in the Navy in May of 1943 and was honorably discharged as a Metalsmith Second Class (M2c) in March 1946. While aboard the Calvert, Laudell was a welder. He is originally from Perryville, Arkansas.

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July			July 1 - 15 Anchored, Eniwetok Lagoon July 15 - 19 Underway for Saipan July 19 - 23 Saipan, preparing for the invasion of Tinian Island July 24 - 25 Amphibious operation, Tinian Operation July 25 - 27 Anchored, Saipan July 27 Embarked 420 Japanese and Korean prisoners of war and casualties. July 28 Departed Saipan and underway for Eniwetok.	

### Additional Sources for July 1944

- \* War Diary, USS Calvert, June 1944, National Archives: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78579422>
- \* Muster Roll and Report of Changes, USS Calvert, July 1944, National Archives: [https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=690 - 729](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=690-729)
- \* War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78582028>
- \* USS Calvert, Report of Operations, 7/19/44 - 7/28/44 - Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78626736>
- \* War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30 (COMTRANSDIV 30), July 1944: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78582028>
- \* Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78582685>

1944	July	1	Anchored, Eniwetok Lagoon	1) Attached to Transport Division THIRTY, Task Group 52.4, anchored in Berth 230 Eniwetok Lagoon.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
1944	July	2-14	Anchored in Berth 230 Eniwetok Lagoon	1) There are no remarks in the USS Calvert's war diary for these dates. 2) During the first two days this Division effected transfer of smoke equipment to LST 485, completing transfer on 2 July. Ships were provisioned with dry and frozen stores, completing provisions on the 4th. Casualties were transferred to designated vessels, completing on the 4th.  July 8, 1330 ComTransDiv 30 conducted a logistics conference for Commanding Officers of TransDiv 30.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944 2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	Early-to-mid	Anchored in Berth 230 Eniwetok Lagoon	<b>Swimming Party; Beer for Sale</b>  The crew spent the first half of July awaiting supplies for the next phase of Operation Forager while the Calvert underwent general maintenance and repairs. Fortunately for the crew not every moment of their time was spent working. On several occasions they held swimming parties. At a party held in celebration of July 4th each sailor received two cans of beer. Sterling sold his to the highest bidder for \$10 a piece. At another party Sterling almost drowned:  I used to have a good time at some of the parties, but I almost drowned one day. We were having a swimming party and guys were jumping off of the deck into the water, but I could never swim that good, so I crawled down on of the nets they had out for guys to get back aboard the ship. Well I slipped off of the net and fell flat on my back and knocked the wind out of me. The safety boat, you always two or three landing craft out with crews in them watching for somebody to get into trouble, fished me out. They kidded me about it the rest of the time aboard the ship.	Funck, p62



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	15	Underway for Saipan	<b>Underway for Saipan, in preparation for the invasion of Tinian Island</b> 1257 Underway from Berth 230 Eniwetok Lagoon to Saipan.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
1944	July	16	Underway for Saipan	The Calvert's war diary lists positions for this date, but no additional entries.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
1944	July	17	Underway for Saipan	The Calvert's war diary lists positions for this date, but no additional entries.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
1944	July	18	Underway for Saipan	1) The Calvert's war diary lists positions for this date, but no additional entries. 2) 2330 Starshells and gunfire flashes observed bearing 240 deg T., distance 32 miles, in the general direction of Saipan Island.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944 2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	19	Saipan	1) 0707 Anchored in berth B67, Saipan Anchorage. 2) To the transports fell the task of loading the 2nd Marine Division. The 4th Marine Division was simultaneously embarked in landing ships and craft.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944 2) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 9, 10
1944	July	20	Saipan	The Calvert's war diary lists positions for this date, but no additional descriptive entries.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
1944	July	20 - 22	Saipan	Transfer of provisions to various small ships was effected and ships furnished with water during the succeeding three days by Transport Division 30. On the 20th advance details were embarked aboard ships of this division in preparation for embarkation of troops.	War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	21	Saipan	1) 0530 Underway from Berth B67 to Berth C10. 2) 0750 Commenced loading cargo into #1, #2, #3, and #4 holds from Charan-Kanoa. 2) 0935 Loading completed. A total of 35.6 tons of cargo received. 2) 1225 Commenced embarking 1st Battalion, 8th Marines. 2) 1430 Completed embarking troops; received a total of 12 officers and 806 men. 1) 1647 Underway from Berth C-10 to Berth B67. 1) 1745 Anchored in Berth B67, Saipan Anchorage.	1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944 2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
1944	July	21	Saipan	On the afternoon of 21 July, ships moved to the vicinity of Tanapag Harbor, northern Saipan, and embarked troops and equipment as follows: Calvert: LT 1, RCT 8, 2nd MarDiv.  All loading was completed by 1700, 21 July. Ships proceeded independently to Charan-Kanoa anchorage.	Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
1944	July	21	Saipan	TransDiv 30 proceeded to anchorage off Garapan, Saipan Harbor, to facilitate loading of vehicles and troops. Loading of vehicles and equipment was conducted during the morning commencing at 0800, completing at noon. Throughout the afternoon troops were embarked via LCI's and LCVP's from Saipan, consisting of Second and Eight Regimental Combat Teams of the Second Marine Division as Support Unit for Tinian assault. Upon completion of troop embarkation ships proceeded independently to assigned anchorages off Charan Kanoa.	War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944

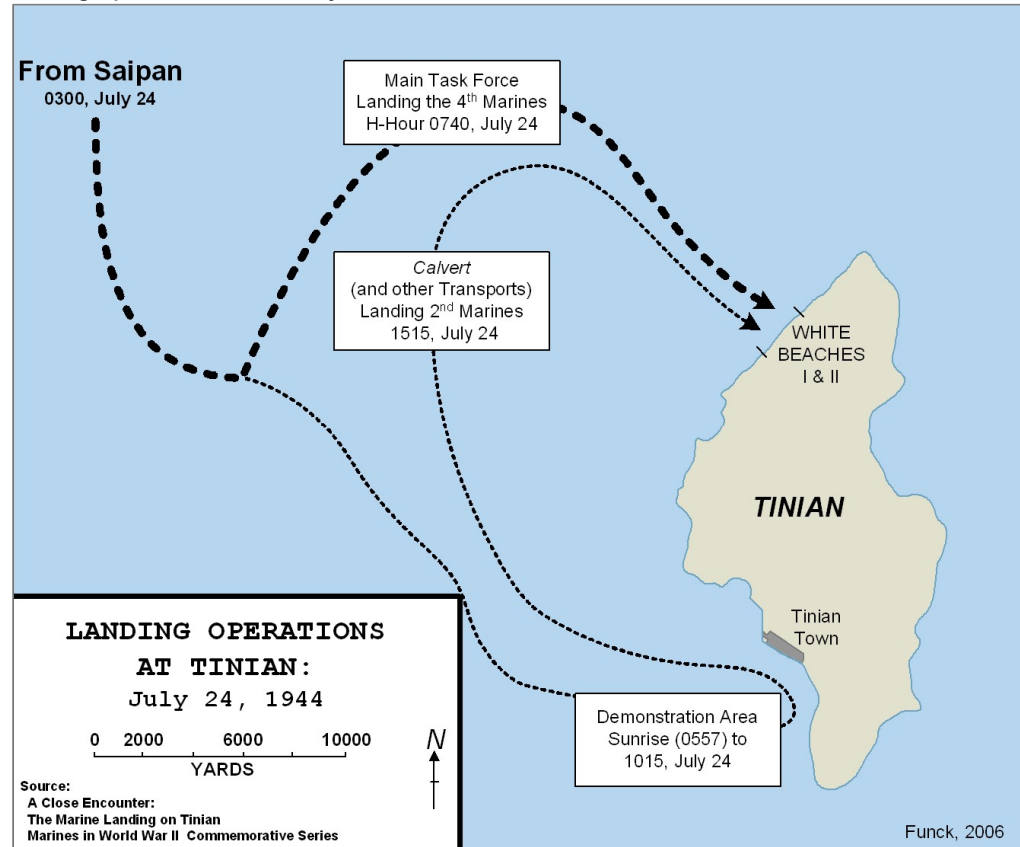
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	22	Saipan	<p>1) There are no remarks in the USS Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) At 1500 on the 22nd a conference for all commanding officers of Task Group 52.8 was conducted by Commander Transport Division 30 on board the USS Knox.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>
1944	July	23	Saipan	<p>1) 1235 Underway from Berth B67. 1323 Anchored in Berth B57, Saipan Anchorage.</p> <p>2) From 21 July to 23 July: Abandon ship and debarkation drills were held daily for troops.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>
1944	July	23	Saipan	<p>1) Task Group 52.8, Demonstration Group, formed: Knox (F), Calvert, Fuller, John Land, J.F. Bell, Heywood, Winged Arrow, PC 581, PC 582.</p> <p>2) All units of the Task Group were, on the night of JIG minus One Day, assembled in assigned anchorages off Charan-Kanoa, Saipan, distance about 20 miles along the approach track to the Demonstration Area.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>
<b>Jig Day, Tinian Island – Monday, July 24th, 1944</b>					
1944	July	24	Saipan Underway for Tinian	<p>In the early hours of Monday, July 24th, the task force departed Saipan and crossed the narrow three-mile channel to Tinian. Aboard the Calvert were approximately 900 Marines of the 1st Battalion, 8th Regiment, 2nd Division.</p> <p>The Calvert along with several other transports and fire support vessels were assigned to execute a diversionary maneuver the morning of Jig-Day (Jig being the name given to D Day at Tinian) with the objective of diverting the Japanese ground forces away from the primary landing zones. The diversionary maneuver would take place along the southwestern beaches of the island near Tinian Town. While the primary landing beaches, designated White Beach I and White Beach II, were located along the northwestern of the island.</p> <p>2) This vessel, as a unit of Task Group 52.8, Transport Division 30, in company with the Knox, Fuller, J.F. Bell, Heywood, John Land and the Winged Arrow, conducted a diversionary demonstration by means of simulated landings on Blue Beach, Tinian Island, in order to deceive the enemy regarding the primary point of attack and to immobilize his reserves.</p>	<p>1) Funck, p62, 63</p> <p>2) 2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>Note: Landings on Tinian were designated Jig-Day</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Landing Operations, Tinian, July 24, 1944**

Funck, p63

1944 July 24 Tinian



1944 July 24 Anchored, Saipan Underway to Tinian

- 0330 Transport Division 30, underway from anchorages Charan Kanoa, Saipan Island, as Task Group 52.8 (Demonstration Group), Commander Transport Division 30 as O.T.C. forming column to proceed to Transport Area #2, Tinian Town, Tinian Island to participate in simulating a demonstration landing of troops on beaches on southwestern part of Tinian Island to divert enemy troops for main assault of northwestern part of island.
- 0345 Underway from Berth B-57 Saipan to Transport Area 2, Tinian Island.
- Underway for Transport Area 2 off Tinian. Standard speed 15 knots, course 244 T. Steaming in company with TransDiv 30, column formation. USS Knox OTC and Fleet Guide.
- Wind force increasing to force 5 after 0300 from ESE were encountered with gusts up to 25 knots.

- War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
- War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944
- Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
- Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas

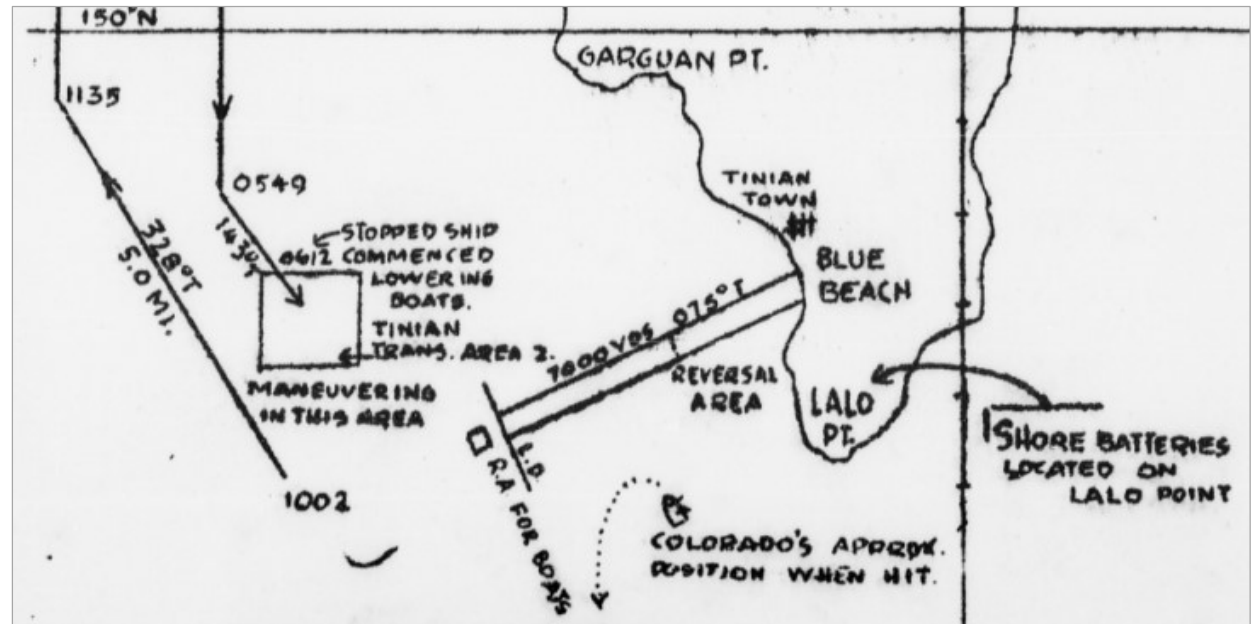
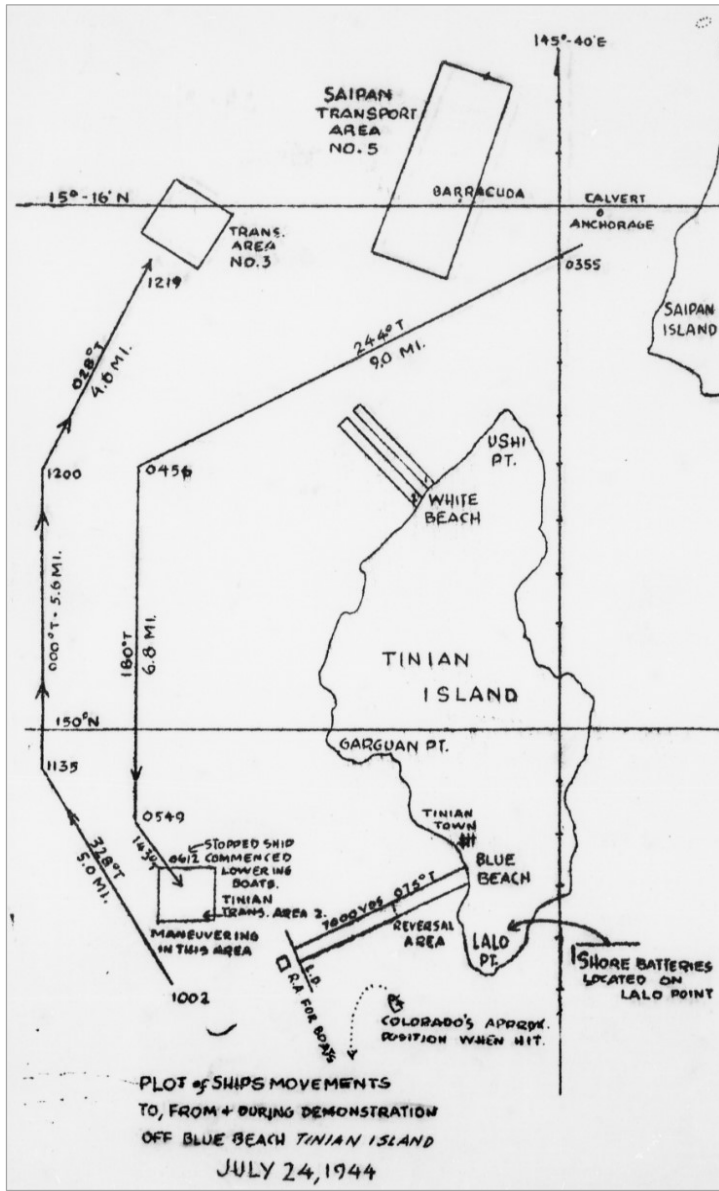
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p>1) 0530 Fire Support Unit was observed firing in area surrounding Blue Beaches.</p> <p>2) 0540 Set Condition 1-A.</p> <p>2) 0549 Entered Transport Area 2 located 5 miles, 270 T from Tinian Harbor.</p> <p>3) 0557 Sunrise.</p> <p>2) 0558 Prepared landing craft for lowering.</p> <p>1) PC's 581 and 582 proceeded to station at Line of Departure.</p> <p>2) 0610 Commander Transport Group 52.8 issued order "Land the Landing Force" all boats lowered into water and loading of troops into boats simulated on port side only.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>3) Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p>1) 0612 Stopped the ship. Commenced lowering landing craft. Simulated debarkation of landing team.</p> <p>2) The debarkation was simulated during the demonstration phase by Marines in full battle dress, six appearing at each debarkation station. Groups of three men alternately descended and ascended the nets to give the impression that Marines were on the nets at all times when the boats were alongside.</p> <p>1) 0630 All 22 landing craft water borne.</p> <p>3) Shortly thereafter Army and Navy aircraft began strafing and bombing runs while the fire support vessels, including the battleship Colorado, the light cruiser Cleveland, and four destroyers pounded Tinian Town and surrounding hills.</p> <p>2) 0637 USS Calvert dispatched boats to Rendezvous Area.</p> <p>1) Landing craft dispatched for Rendezvous Area located 4 miles, 255 deg T, Blue Beach, Tinian. Boats left in two waves of 10 boats each.</p> <p>2) 0655 Control Boat directed by CTG 52.8 to hold departure of first wave until all other waves are in position in Rendezvous Area.</p> <p>1) 0700 Boats were reported in the Rendezvous Area.</p> <p>2) 0700 H Hour delayed ten minutes until 0740 by CTF 52. Air strike observed on Blue Beaches and surrounding areas.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p> <p>3) Funck, p62, 63</p>
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p>0700 - 0800 Cloudy with light rain squalls.</p> <p>Temperature: 83 degrees F.</p> <p>Sea: Moderate with slight chop. No moon, visibility good: Average 12 miles reducing to 2 miles during rain squalls.</p>	<p>Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p><b>Demonstration Group, First Run Towards Blue Beaches</b></p> <p>0718 1st Wave crossed line of departure.  0722 2nd Wave crossed line of departure.  0726 3rd Wave crossed line of departure.  0730 4th Wave crossed line of departure.  0734 5th Wave crossed line of departure. Intense enemy mortar and artillery fire was observed at the waves proceeding toward Blue Beach.</p>	War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p><b>The Demonstration Group Draws Fire</b></p> <p>1) The demonstration group (boats) drew fire from enemy coastal defense batteries. The boats, operating in a choppy sea and a strong current, were under mortar fire from their initial approach of 2000 yards from the beach until they were approximately 3500 yards away. None of the boats was damaged or personnel injured although several pieces of shrapnel entered some of the boats.</p> <p>The wind was from 120 T, force 5; Sea was choppy with low swells from ESE; Sky was intermittently overcast; Visibility was 7.</p> <p>2) Concurrent with fire in the boat lanes, the Colorado and Norman Scott were taken under heavy fire, both being heavily hit. One shot landed between the Colorado and the Knox and the transports were retired about 1,000 yards.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, Commander Task Group 52.8, Period 7/16-26/44, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p>The demonstration group's fire support force also drew strong fire from the coastal defense batteries. The battleship Colorado took heavy fire and suffered heavy casualties. As recounted by Robert Countryman:</p> <p>"The order comes out that several boats will make a diversionary run to the beach but will not land. So we form up our circle off the bow of the ship until all boats are ready &amp; then we form our V formation &amp; head for the shore. When we get a certain distance from the beach we form our line &amp; proceed all of a sudden all hell breaks out! The shells start bursting in the water all around us. Geysers of water &amp; mud fly up into the air. We turn around &amp; high tail it out of there at full throttle &amp; a zigzag course. But! On station here is an older type battleship, painted black &amp; white cameo. This ship is firing her starboard guns at the beach over our heads. This ship takes a direct hit on the deck, which starts a fire. The battleship makes a turn to starboard &amp; opens up with her portside guns just like nothing happened to her. We, in the boats were so close to her that we had to get out of her way when she turned, or we would have been smashed like a matchstick. The fire was put out in short order &amp; we returned to the ship. ... None of our boats were hit or anyone hurt-but I am sure we were all scared for a while. But then it was back to normal again."</p> <p>The destroyer Norman Scott (DD-690) joined in to protect the Colorado. The ship engaged the Japanese shore batteries, took considerable fire, and sustained damage on deck and on the bridge. The Norman Scott's Captain was killed and Lt. Commander Tully, formerly the Calvert's Gunnery Officer, assumed command of the ship.</p>	<p>Funck, p63</p> <p>Calversion, Vol 29, p3 Robert Countryman</p>
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area, Off Sunharon Harbor	<p>0800 Three shell splashes from large caliber shells were seen 1500-2000 yards off our starboard quarter. This vessel (Calvert) was not damaged and nothing occurred to hinder its part in the operation.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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Chart of Approach, July 24, 1944 - USS Calvert | Blue Beach Diversionary Operation, Chart of Approach

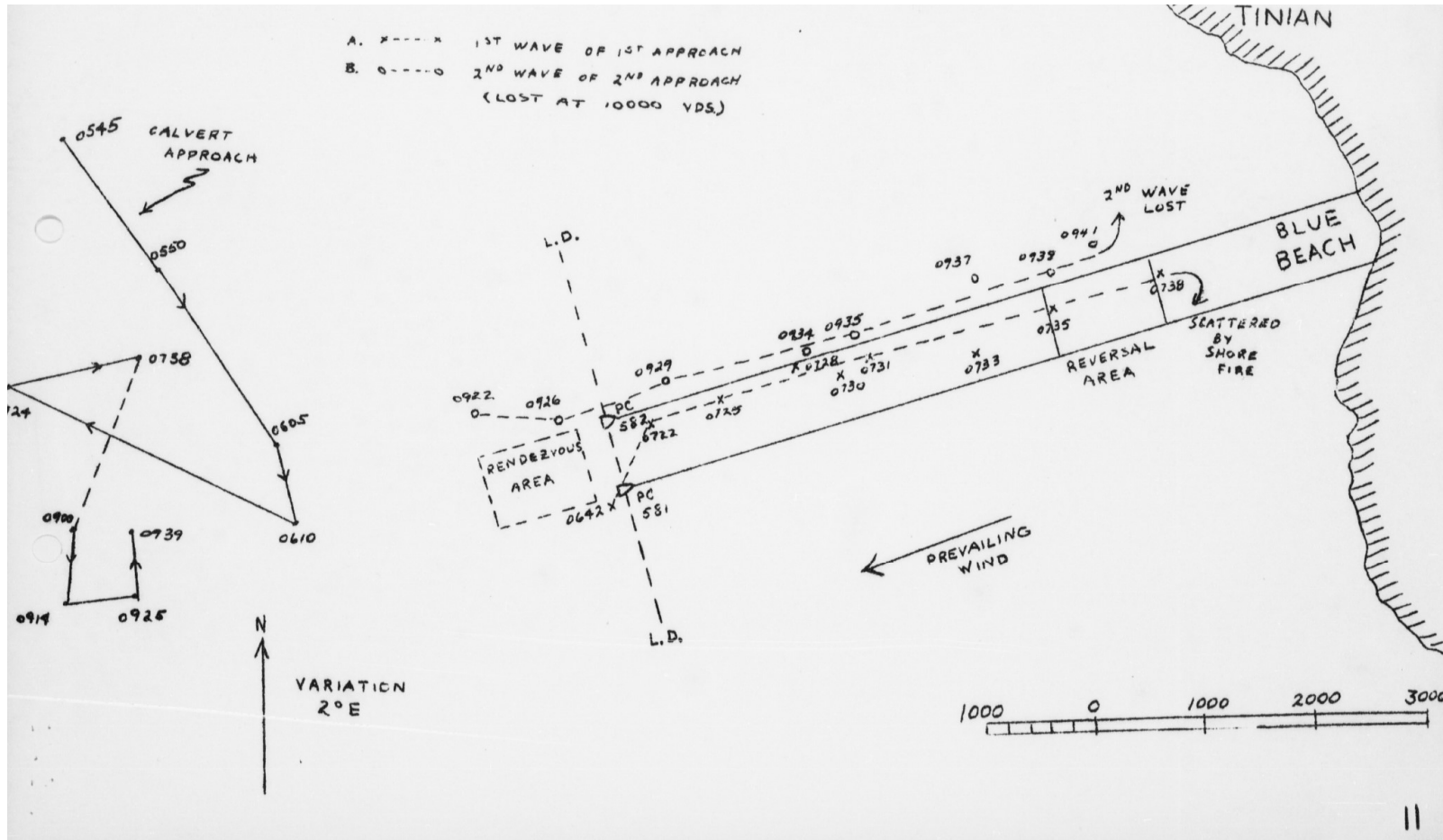
Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas, p9



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Blue Beach Diversionary Operation, Chart of Approach**

Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas, p11



**Operation Report: Radar, Diversionary Operation**

1944 July 24 Tinian, Demonstration Area

The reliable average range which can be obtained on a group of LCVPs is approximately 6000 yards. During the diversionary landings off Blue Beach, a plot of up to 10,000 yards was obtained. Beside the mechanical efficiency of the equipment and the proficiency of the radar operators the chief variable in the ability to track boat waves is the condition of clear radar "line of sight" between the ship and the beach. In the diversionary landing all of the conditions were fulfilled and, therefore, a good plot was obtained.

Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>2nd Demonstration Run</b>					
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area	0904 CTG 52.8 directed that a second demonstration run be made. 0912 1st Wave crossed Line of Departure. 0915 2nd Wave crossed Line of Departure. 0918 3rd Wave crossed Line of Departure. 0920 4th Wave crossed Line of Departure. 0924 5th Wave crossed Line of Departure. 0929 Boat Waves commenced reversing course to return to Line of Departure.	War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area	0938 One salvo of enemy fire observed directed at returning boat waves, falling short approximately 1000 - 2000 yards. No other enemy fire encountered. Boat Waves were directed at Line of Departure to return to parent vessels to be hoisted aboard.	War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	24	Tinian, Demonstration Area	0952 Landing craft returning to ship from demonstration.  1000 Commenced hoisting boats. Maneuvered to make lee while hoisting boats.  1100 All landing craft hoisted. Secured from Condition 1-A. Ten hatch boats were left at the rail and the first boat in each davit was held at the rail, promenade deck level. Marine gear going in the assault waves was pre-loaded.	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
1944	July	24	Tinian, Underway to Transport Area 3	1115 Left Transport Area 2 in company with other ships of Demonstration Group, speed 15 knots, course 000 deg T.  1230 Arrived Transport Area 3, located 7 miles, 310 deg T from White Beach, north end of Tinian Island to await orders to debark troops and equipment.	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
1944	July	24	Tinian, Transport Area 3	1) 1429 Received orders to close Beach White I and land troops. 1) 1430 Proceeded to close beach enroute to Transport Area 1. Set condition 1-A, troops prepared for debarkation. 2) 1645 USS Calvert took station closer to Beach White-1 to facilitate landing of troops. 1) 1700 Arrived in Transport Area I, located 3 1/2 miles, 310 T from White Beach.	1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas 2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944
1944	July	24	Tinian, Transport Area 3	1702 Lowered all landing craft. Commenced debarkation of Battalion Landing Team 1/8. 1726 All landing craft water borne. 1735 Completed debarkation of landing team in LCV(P)s (awaiting LCMs). 1740 Dispatched waves to Line of Departure off White Beach with orders to report to Control Vessel. 1745 Commenced discharging combat equipment in LCMs.	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes															
<b>Landings, White Beaches</b>																				
1944	July	24	Tinian, Transport Area 3	<p>During the debarkation of the landing team, four boats (145) were pre-loaded at the rail in davit boats. All assault gear going in the first four waves was pre-loaded.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Wave</th> <th>Formed</th> <th>Dispatched</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>1737</td> <td>1740</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>1728</td> <td>1745</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>1755</td> <td>1800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1805</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: The LCMs in the 3rd and 4th waves did not arrive at the ship until 1745 thus delaying the forming of these waves, as gear could not be pre-loaded.</p> <p>The USS Calvert landed its troops on White Beaches but the great number of LSTs, LCTs, LCIs and other craft between the ship and the beach made it impossible to obtain a reliable plot.</p> <p>No radar reliable plot was obtained in the landing off White Beaches.</p>	Wave	Formed	Dispatched	1	1737	1740	2	1728	1745	3	1755	1800	4	1800	1805	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
Wave	Formed	Dispatched																		
1	1737	1740																		
2	1728	1745																		
3	1755	1800																		
4	1800	1805																		
1944	July	24	Tinian, Transport Area 3	<p>1755 Finished discharging equipment assigned to waves.  1825 Landing craft returning from beach and hoisted on board upon arrival.  1845 Receiving casualties from beach by landing craft. 23 patients from troops embarked were retained on board.  1855 Secured from Condition 1-A. Two landing craft missing.  1930 One casualty was received from the beach at Tinian.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas															
<b>Jig+2 Day</b>																				
1944	July	25	Tinian, Transport Area 1	<p>1) The Calvert remained in Transport Area 1 during the night.  0540 Set condition 1-A.  0555 Lowered all boats and commenced discharging marine cargo (combat equipment).</p> <p>2) 0613 Commander Transport Division 30 directed USS Calvert to dispatch two boats at a time as they are loaded to land on Beach White 1 two abreast reporting to control vessel of White 1 enroute.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>															
1944	July	25	Tinian Underway for Saipan	<p>1) 0726 Discharge of combat equipment completed (35.6 tons).  2) 0730 USS Calvert reported all vehicles and equipment boated.  2) 0842 USS Calvert reported vehicles 100% loaded ready to be dispatched.</p> <p>1) 1100 Dispatched boats to White Beach.  2) 1120 Commander Transport Division 30 directed Calvert to send only water-proofed vehicles to beach until further orders.  1) 1130 Secured from Condition 1-A.</p> <p>1) 1506 Receiving casualties from Landing craft. 71 casualties were received on board.  2) 1600 Calvert 100% unloaded. Unloading of boats very slow due to congestion at Beach White-1.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>															

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Summary Reports, Tinian Operation</b>					
1944	July	24 - 25	Tinian	<p><b>Operation Report: Battle Damage</b> No battle damage was sustained by this vessel.</p> <p><b>Operation Report: Performance of Ordnance</b> No ordnance was fired by this vessel. Smoke doctrine as called for in the Operation Order was made clear to smoke boat crews and gunner's mates. Deck Security Patrol and augmented machine gun squad was established. Ordnance equipment and personnel performed excellently.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
<b>Operation Report: Communications</b>					
Approximately 600 communications were handled during the twelve day period proceeding and during the operation; 20 of these were by "NAN" method.					
Difficulty was experienced in locating merchantmen in the anchorage. It is believed that some means of ready identification such as the painting of a large number on the merchantmen's bows would assist. As a whole voice discipline was greatly improved on all circuits.					
1944	July	24 - 25	Tinian	<p><b>Operation Report: Navigation</b> No difficulties were experienced. Radar was employed throughout the night to plot the ship's course and position. Hull (C&amp;R): No damage to ship or rigging occurred during either loading or unloading.</p> <p><b>Operation Report: Supply</b> During this operation this vessel issued the following supplies to 1 BB, 2 DDs, 1 APD, 11 LCTs, and the Saipan Boat Pool: Ship's Store Stock: 4,000 lbs. GSK Stores: 3,000 lbs. Provisions - Dry: 16 1/2 tons; Fresh: 2 1/8 tons; Frozen: 7 1/2 tons. All excess stores, provisions, etc., were disposed of prior to departure from the forward area.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
<b>Operation Report: Medical</b>					
1944	July	24 - 25	Tinian	<p>The medical section of the Beach Platoon was transferred 9 July 1944, for service with CTD 7 during the Tinian Operation. All dressing stations were re-supplied and checked before the beginning of the operation.</p> <p>The General Quarters and Condition 1-A stations were modified to permit the stationing of a trained surgical operating team at the forward Battle Dressing Station.</p> <p>A total of 95 Marine casualties for the Tinian Operation.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Operation Report: Personnel Performance</b>					
1944	July	24 - 25	Tinian	<p>The following officer personnel were assigned special duties away from the ship during all or part of this operation:            7 - Flank wave commanders, to guide LTV assault waves into beach.            1 - Boat group commander to serve in the Control Vessel.            1 - Beach Party consisting of 2 officers and 45 men, assigned to CTD7.</p> <p>The Commanding Officer is proud to affirm that all officers and men under this command performed their duties meritoriously and in a highly commendable manner.</p>	Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas
1944	July	25	Underway for Saipan Anchored, Saipan	<p><b>Underway for Saipan</b></p> <p>1) 2045 Underway for Saipan anchorage. Standard speed 15 knots.            1) 2150 Anchored in Berth B-46, Saipan.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>
1944	July	26	Anchored, Saipan	<p>1) No remarks in the USS Calvert's war diary for this date.</p> <p>2) Casualty cases requiring more than two weeks hospitalization were transferred to the USS John Land.            1715 Transferring 38 marine casualties to John Land.            1845 Completed transfer of casualties to John Land.</p> <p>3) Ships of TransDiv 30 transferred water, excess frozen and dry provisions during the ensuing three days to vessels in need of same.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>3) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>
1944	July	27	Anchored, Saipan	<p>1) There are no entries for this date in the Calvert's war diary.</p> <p>2) 0740 Transferred 56 marine casualties to Charan-Kanoa Pui, Saipan.</p> <p>2) 54 cases requiring less than two weeks hospitalization were transferred to the Second Marine Division hospital, Saipan on J plus 3.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Embarkation, Japanese and Korean Prisoners of War</b>					
1944	July	27	Anchored, Saipan	<p>1) 0945 Received 20 Japanese casualties. 1030 Commenced embarking POWs. 1240 Completed embarking POWs. Received on board 277 Koreans, 124 Japanese. POWs were placed in #3 hold under guard.</p> <p>Careful search made for concealed weapons and other unauthorized articles. Received Marine Guard with prisoners.</p> <p>The prisoners-of-war sent to this command were examined topside for vermin and contagious diseases. Many were observed to have been wounded. Sick call was conducted for these casualties and necessary treatment instituted.</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, designated as POW Ship for prisoners of war and prisoners of war casualties.</p> <p>3) 420 Japanese and Korean Prisoners of War. P.O.W.s are quartered in #3 hold on 2nd and 3rd decks. Guard unit aboard for POWs consists of 3 Officers and 50 men of the Marine Air Warning Squadron 5, USMC.</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p> <p>3) 1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 10</p>

**Embarkation, Japanese and Korean Prisoners of War**

USS Calvert APA 32 1944 Color 16mm Footage  
Online:  
<https://youtu.be/R6n-ZcSfmt8?t=1132>

"Your mention of film on the Calvert sounded interesting and that reminds me that when I served on the Calvert we had a JG who was the official Navy photographer taking stills and movies every time we went in on an invasion. I recall when we came back from Saipan to Pearl we had close to 450-500 Jap prisoners aboard and this guy took pictures of them coming aboard, getting searched for weapons, going below to #3 hold, the whole bit."  
Ed O'Brien, Calversion Vol 7, P4

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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### Searching the Prisoners

"I was on the search party this time. The Japanese prisoners were made to climb up the landing nets, unclothed except for skivvies. They were strip searched several times before they ever even got to the ship. But being in the search party aboard ship you still found contraband, pieces of glass, anything they could get a hold of they would. But honestly, the biggest thing I was scared of was the trigger-happy Marines standing on the upper deck. But anyhow, this one guy came aboard, and I signaled to him to spread his arms and legs so I could do the search. He said, "May I ask you something" or something to that effect. I said "What", cause he could speak better English than I could. He said "I have a locket here of my wife and children. Would you take it from me so it don't get thrown away." How he ever got it aboard, where he hid it, I'll never know because it was about 3 inches by 2 inches, or bigger. So I called the officer over that was on duty for the search party, and I showed him the locket that the Japanese fella still had in his hand. The officer said "Yeah, you can take it from him, but first he has to open it for you." You see, they would have everything rigged as a bobby trap. He told him to back away and open it. I was allowed to keep it.

That Japanese prisoner was very appreciative that the picture of his wife and daughter didn't get discarded. The guy's story was that he graduated from the University of Chicago and had gone home to Japan to bring his wife and children back to the United States. Before he was able to return to the United States the war broke out. He was conscripted and sent to the Marianas. I know I brought that locket back home from the war, but to this day I don't know where it is, or whom I would have given it to."

1944 July 27 Anchored, Saipan

Funck, P65

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	28	Anchored, Saipan Underway to Eniwetok	<p><b>Underway to Eniwetok</b></p> <p>1) 1655 Underway from Berth B46, Saipan anchorage.</p> <p>2) When the island was secured, and the garrison troops took over, the CALVERT assisted in back-loading the combat Marines to Saipan, then sailed for Eniwetok.</p> <p>3) Task Unit 51.18.3, underway, speed 13 knots. Three columns: Left: Fuller, John Land, Thuban, Ashland Center: Cavalier, Bell, Heywood Right: Knox, Calvert, Winged Arrow, Belle Grove</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 10</p> <p>3) War Diary, Commander Transport Division Seven, July 1944</p>
				<p>1) The Calvert's war diary lists positions for these days, but no additional entries.</p> <p>2) 1025 Commenced emergency turns exercise, completing at 1050.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 30, July 1944</p>
1944	July	29	Underway to Eniwetok	<p><b>Burial at Sea</b></p> <p>1) One Japanese casualty died on July 29, 1944 and was buried at sea.</p> <p>2) "There were several who were in sickbay. Two of the Japanese prisoners died one night. I can distinctly remember that there were two of them, although I think some guys only thought there was one.</p> <p>I was assigned the job of sewing them up with a five-inch shell between their legs. That is what you did for burial at sea, put them in a canvas bag and usually had a 5-inch shell between the legs to serve as weight to put them to the bottom. But anyhow, I was the one who had to sew the men up for burial at sea. Sickbay was in our division at that particular time, and for some reason I was selected for this duty.</p> <p>It was an eerie feeling. I pitied them. Normally when you were shooting at someone from a ship, or someone was shooting at you on the ship, it was not a personal thing. If I can make that plain enough to understand, it wasn't as though there were two guys standing on a corner having a street brawl. They were shooting at us, we were shooting at them. But then when you are selected for a duty like that, I'd say that was one of the most meaningful, serious, moments that I had put in during the war. That put it at a personal relationship as far as I was concerned. Now I imagine for someone in the Army or Marines that was in face-to-face combat, well they would have a different perspective. But from a ship, and I have never talked to a sailor, or anybody who was on a ship in combat, including some that had been on ships that were sunk, such as Gilgallan. It wasn't personal to him until he found himself floating in the water. You felt like it was just machine against machine. But I sort of picked up that feeling, not of resentment, and yet it was sort of resentment because this guy was a Japanese soldier, but also a feeling of pity."</p>	<p>1) Report of Operations, USS Calvert, Landings on Tinian Island, Marianas</p> <p>2) Funck, P65-66</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	July	Late	Underway to Eniwetok	<p>"By the time we got aboard the Calvert, I was so sick I was taken right to sick bay, where I stayed for a while. I am told I have contracted Malaria. ... I was feeling a little better and had to get out of sick bay for a little while. I would put my robe on and go up top-side and get some air. While I was wandering around, I found out that we had taken aboard about Japanese war prisoners and put them in hold number three. I walked over and looked down and what a gruesome sight! They were a miserable bunch of misfits and ragged guys that I had ever seen. We had Marine guards standing with guns all around the place.</p> <p>While I was in sick bay I talked to one Japanese prisoner. He could speak English and told me he had been to the United States, San Francisco. He was interesting to talk to. He asked all kinds of questions and he acted like he was glad that he had been taken prisoner. He told me he was in the Navy and that his ship had been torpedoed and that he had been in the water for three days before he was picked up by the Americans."</p>	Beach Party, Billy Bell. p57 (Chapter 18)
1944	July	30 - 31	Underway to Eniwetok	The Calvert's war diary lists positions for these days, but no additional entries.	War Diary, USS Calvert, July 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	August			<p>August 1 Underway for Eniwetok, arriving 2nd, and departed on the 3rd.            August 3 - 11 Enroute to Pearl Harbor, in company with Task Unit 57.19.14.            August 11 - 21 Pearl Harbor.</p>	

#### Additional Sources for August 1944

\* War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944 - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78625762>

\* Muster Roll and Report of Changes, USS Calvert, June 1944 - [https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=730 - 757](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395?objectPage=730-757)

\* War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944 - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78602108>

1944	August	1	<p>Underway for Eniwetok.</p> <p>Anchored, Eniwetok</p>	<p>1) Task Unit 51.18.3: 0000 Speed 14.5, Zig zag plan 6.            0200 Ceased zig zag.            0608 Entered Eniwetok.</p> <p>2) This ship in company with TU 57.18.3 arrived off Eniwetok Atoll Deep Passage at 0630, thus ending the voyage from Saipan Island, Marianas Group.</p> <p>0710, entered Deep Passage and at 0755 anchored ship in Berth 230 - 30 fathoms of water. T.U. 51.18.3 was dissolved upon arrival at this port. This ship under command of CTD 30 in U.S.S. KNOX APA46 - Captain C.A. Misson, USN.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p>
1944	August	2	Anchored, Eniwetok	<p>1) No remarks for this date.</p> <p>2) Transfer of stores, supplies, and ammunition to Eniwetok and ships remaining in the Forward Area.</p> <p>3) "We discharge a lot of our provisions (food) to the USS Goldsborough (APD 32) and we also give her a lot of fuel oil and also give a lot of provisions to LST 276."</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944</p> <p>3) Beach Party. Billy Bell. p57 (Chapter 18)</p>



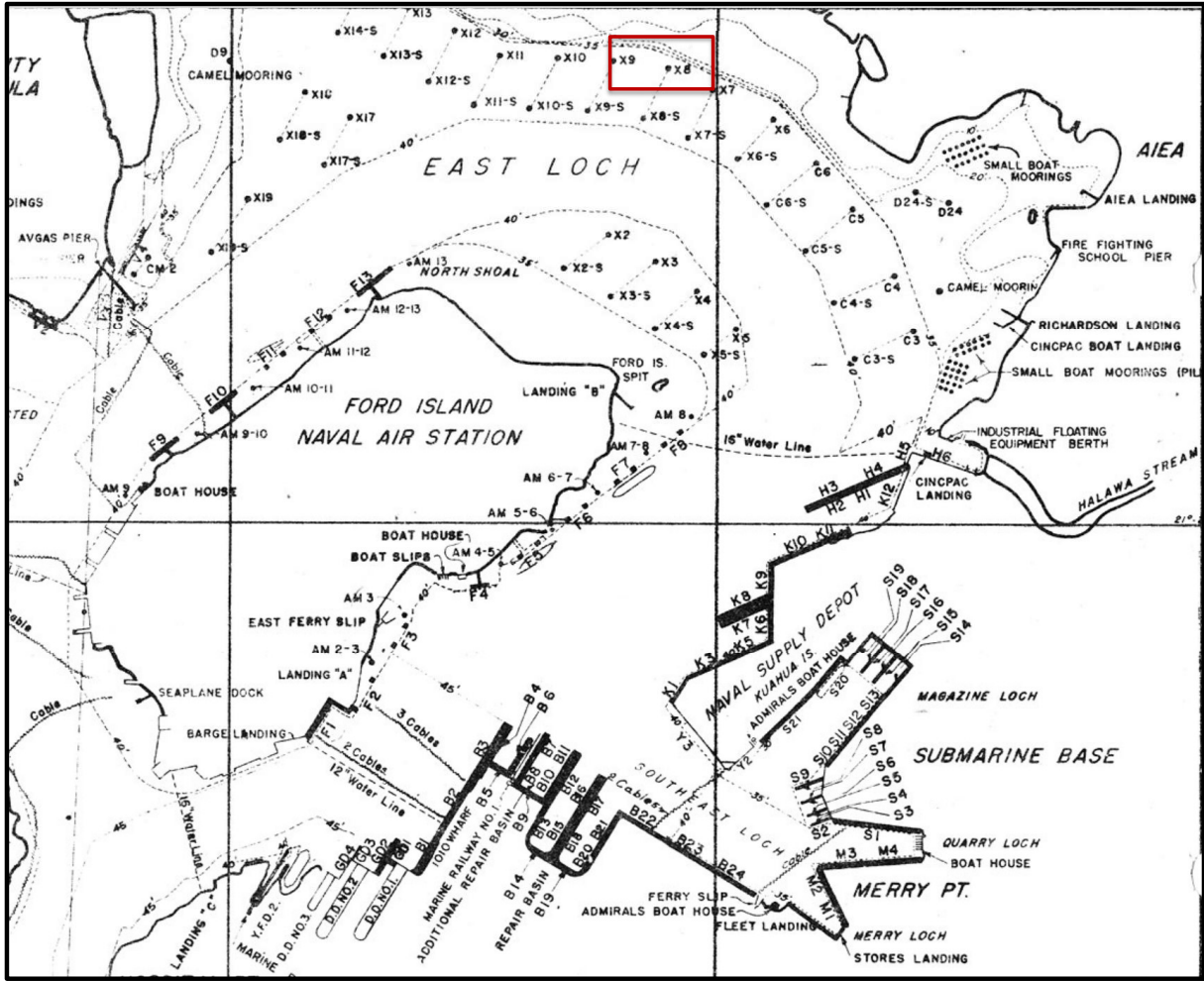
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Underway for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii</b>					
1944	August	3	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) In company with units of TU 57.19.14, the CALVERT sailed on 3 August for Pearl Harbor, carrying 420 prisoners of war guarded by personnel of Marine Air Warning Squadron FIVE.</p> <p>2) 0609 Underway from berth 230 Eniwetok Lagoon. 0640 Passed through deep passage channel and commenced forming Cruising Disposition 3AL as per Sortie Plan. Upon Sortie and assuming formation; Standard speed 14 knots; Zigzag plan 6.</p> <p>Frequent and heavy rain squalls prevailed throughout the day and night.</p> <p>Continued zigzag through night of August 3 and 4 due to full moon.</p> <p>3) Task Unit 57.5.1 redesignated to 57.19.14. Destination Pearl Harbor. Convoy comprised of: Calvert, Cavalier, Knox, Heywood, F.F. Bell, Winged Arrow, Belle Grove, Ashland, Thuban</p>	<p>1) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 10</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>3) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944</p>
<b>Japanese and Korean Prisoners' Experience Aboard</b>					
1944	August	3 - 10	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) 420 Japanese and Korean Prisoners of War. P.O.W.s are being given frequent periods topside are given them; weather and circumstances permitting.</p> <p>2) Sterling remembers that Captain Sweeney treated the prisoners quite well. Much to the consternation of the ship's crew Captain Sweeney held the ship's store of ice cream in reserve strictly for the prisoners. The prisoners were also given frequent visits topside, weather and circumstances permitting.</p> <p>3) "My Dad recalled the prisoners and having to take some food down to them. He said that an MP kept watch with a machine gun, but that my dad had to go in unarmed. But he said the prisoners were cooperative and glad to have food &amp; care. He said that any prisoner who died was buried at sea with a small ceremony."</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>2) Funck, P65</p> <p>3) Email 2014, Suzy Schneider, daughter of crew member Laudell Dupree who was aboard at this time as a member of the Shipfitter's crew.</p>
1944	August	4	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>0000 Steaming as before in cruising disposition 3AL on course 099deg T standard speed 14 knots; Zigzag plan no. 6</p> <p>Passed Alinginae Atoll (Marshall Islands) abeam to port, distance 12 miles. Passed Rongelap Atoll (Marshall Islands) distance 15 miles.</p> <p>0705 - Fresh to strong ENE winds, moderate ENE sea and swell prevailed throughout the day. 2000 - Ship was clear of the Marshall Islands.</p> <p>Surface Radar employed to ascertain these distances but low elevations of the Islands and Heavy Rain squalls made it difficult to ascertain accurate ranges.</p>	<p>War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Typhoon Conditions</b>					
1944	August	4	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Sterling did not know it at the time, but a strong storm was heading towards the Marshall Islands, from the southwest. The crews aboard the transports were about to experience some of the worst weather during their service. Although the convoy was heading east, they could not escape the tail of the typhoon. For more than twenty-four hours rough seas and strong winds battered the Calvert. Sterling was nearly as scared during the storm as he had been during assaults on enemy beaches. Sterling describes the experience:</p> <p>"We got caught in a typhoon and the waves were that high that it tore off our life rafts, the 30-to-40 man life rafts way up on the side of the ship, tore them clean off, just ripped the welds and plates right off. And on the inside of the ship it tore the lockers loose from the stanchions, knocked them to the floor, and it tore the bunks off of the hull."</p> <p>2) Wind velocity increased from 15 knots in the early afternoon to 30 knots at 1600, and then moderated to 16 knots by midnight.</p> <p>3) See USS Calvert, film of heavy seas: <a href="https://youtu.be/R6n-ZcSfmt8?t=1825">https://youtu.be/R6n-ZcSfmt8?t=1825</a></p>	<p>1) Funck, p64</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Heywood, August 1944 <a href="https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78102265?objectPage=8">https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78102265?objectPage=8</a></p>
1944	August	5	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before on course 074deg T. Standard speed 14.0 knots, zigzag plan 6. Sea and wind has been moderating, ENE sea, small swell and fresh ENE breeze.</p> <p>2250 crossed 180deg meridian into west longitude at 14 deg - 43'N latitude, date became 5 August 1944.</p>	War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944
1944	August	6	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before, standard speed 14 knots on zigzag plan 6. Partly cloudy sky, steady barometer, moderate sea and swell from ENE and a fresh E x N wind prevailed throughout the day.</p> <p>Diary Note: Although the standard speed is 14.0 knots average RPM's indicate an average speed by wheel of 14.7 to 15.0 knots being made the last few days. Slippage due to headwinds and seas and zigzag. Average speed made good over the ground since departure is 12.35 knots.</p>	War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944
1944	August	7	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before, standard speed 14 knots on zigzag plan 6.</p> <p>Fresh to strong Easterly winds, rough sea and moderate swell with partly cloudy skies prevailed throughout the day. Winds moderated somewhat during the day.</p> <p>1950 Ceasing zigzag. 2320 Moonrise. 2350 Commenced zigzag on plan #6.</p>	War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944
1944	August	8	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before, standard speed 14 knots on zigzag plan 6.</p> <p>Increasingly NE'ly winds and increasing head seas as ship proceeds eastward. Cloudy sky prevails.</p>	War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	August	9	Underway to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Steaming as before on course 083deg T at standard speed 14.0 knots. Zigzag plan #6.</p> <p>Increasingly NE'ly winds and increasing head seas as ship proceeds eastward. Cloudy sky prevails.</p> <p>2) 0955 - 1031 Emergency turns. 1930 Ceased zig zagging.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>2) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944</p>
<b>Arrival, Pearl Harbor   Assigned to Transport Division 30</b>					
1944	August	10	Underway to Pearl Harbor Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	<p>1) 0000 Steaming as before on course 083deg T at standard speed 14.0 knots. 0025 Standard speed increased to 14.5 knots. 0350, 0419 Course adjustments. Task Unit proceeding direct to Pearl Harbor. 0800 Preparing to enter port. 1107 Ship made entry into Pearl Harbor passing through anti-sub net. 1225 Secured alongside U.S.S. CUSTER, APA40 at berth X-Ray 9.</p> <p>2) "She returned to Pearl Harbor in August carrying 420 Japanese and Korean prisoners of war."</p> <p>3) Calvert and other transports relieved from TransDiv 7. Reassigned to TransDiv 30 along with Knox, Custer, Rixey, Chara, and Ashland, for loading of 17th RCT, 7th Infantry Division.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>2) A History of the USS Calvert - David Cullen - p. 10</p> <p>3) War Diary, Commander Transport Division 7, August 1944</p>
<b>Debarkation of the Prisoners</b>					
1944	August	10 or 11 (presumed )	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	<p>1) "We moored to the starboard side of the USS Custer. It isn't much longer until an L.C.T. came along our port side to remove the prisoners of war. They are all lined up in a single file and are all blind folded and marched off the Calvert onto the LCT. Each man has his hand on the other man's shoulder that is in front of him. The Marine guard detachment also left the ship."</p> <p>Editor's notes: * There are no mentions of the debarkation of the prisoners in the Calvert's War Diary records or Crew Muster Roll records for the month of August. The same applies to the Marine detachment aboard assigned to guard the prisoners.</p> <p>* It is presumed that the prisoners were transferred to "Camp Iroquois" prisoner of war camp located at Ewa Beach (to the west of Pearl Harbor). Alternately, they may have been transferred to Hono'uli'uli Internment Camp located near in Kunia, Oahu.</p> <p>2) "In the Ewa Beach – Puuloa area was a Japanese Prisoner of War compound of significance to winning the Pacific War but remained so Top Secret that only documents found at the University of Colorado reveal the extent of the facility. ... Japanese POWs expected tough treatment and were not cowed by harsh handling. By surrendering they had entered a separate new existence. They had expected torture and beatings but instead were shown kindness, offered chocolate, cigarettes and invited to talk about their families and where they came from. This treatment was so shocking that many Japanese POW's completely opened up and divulged valuable military information that helped save both American and Japanese lives."</p>	<p>1) Beach Party. Billy Bell. p58 (Chapter 18)</p> <p>2) Hawaii's Top Secret Japanese Prisoner of War Camp – Camp Iroquois, Ewa Beach Online: <a href="https://ewabattlefield.blogspot.com/2016/02/hawaiis-top-secret-japanese-prisoner-camp.html">https://ewabattlefield.blogspot.com/2016/02/hawaiis-top-secret-japanese-prisoner-camp.html</a></p> <p>Note: Additional information on the Hono'uli'uli Internment Camp may be found at: Korean Prisoners-of-War in Hawaii During World War II. Yong-ho Ch'oe, University of Hawaii at Manoa Online: <a href="https://apijif.org/-Yong-ho-Ch'oe/3266/article.html">https://apijif.org/-Yong-ho-Ch'oe/3266/article.html</a></p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1944	August	11 - 21	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	<p>A period of upkeep and liberty</p> <p>1) "Now it is time for some good liberty!"</p> <p>1) Moored at berth X-Ray 8, Pearl Harbor. No further remarks. (Note: Applies for the entire period August 11 - 21.)</p> <p>2) 15 August to 21 August: Repaired motor generator set and starting control panel for 5"/38 and 40mm guns.</p>	<p>1) Beach Party. Billy Bell. p58 (Chapter 18)</p> <p>2) War Diary, USS Calvert, August 1944</p> <p>3) War diary, Commander Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, August 1944, p221</p>

The Calvert's berthing location, X-9 and X-8, indicated by red rectangle. Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T.H. Mooring and Berthing Chart



Pearl Harbor Mooring Plan, 1946  
 World War II Database  
 Online:  
[https://ww2db.com/image.php?image\\_id=20160](https://ww2db.com/image.php?image_id=20160)

Related online sources, corroborating static berthing and mooring locations during the early 1940s:  
<https://www.geographicus.com/P/AntiqueMap/pearlharbormooring-usnavy-1944>  
<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/archives/digital-exhibits-highlights/action-reports/wwii-pearl-harbor-attack/pearl-harbor-mooring-and-berthing-plans.html>

End of research notes for the period May 1, 1944 to August 21, 1944.