

12-16 Steaming as before. 1224 c/c to 310. 1235 c/c to 315. 1236  
Commenced recovering a/c. 1237 c/c to 310. 1254 Completed recovering a/c,  
having recovered (3) SH3A, (5) S2D. 1255 c/c to 270. 1425 Commenced  
launching a/c. 1437 c/c to 310. 1439 Completed launching a/c having  
launched (4) S2D, (1) SH3A, (1) E1B. 1440 c/c to 270.

P. T. Laffey  
Lt, y USNR

16-20 Steaming as before 1556 c/c to 320° 1600 Launched two SH3A  
1602 Commenced recovery of aircraft 1603 c/c to 325° 1608 Completed  
recovery of aircraft having recovered (1) E1B, (4) S2D, (2) SH3A  
1610 c/c to 000° 1646 c/c to 270° 1756 c/c to 325° 1800 Commenced  
recovering launching a/c 1805 Completed launching a/c having  
launched (2) SH3A, (1) E1B, (3) S2D 1808 Recovered (2) SH3A  
1812 c/c to 270°, c/s to 9 Kts 1845 c/c to 340° 1850 Launched (1)  
S2D 1852 c/c to 270° 1920 c/c to 350, c/s to 10 Kts 1925 Launched  
(1) SH3A 1928 Launched (1) SH3A 1929 Commenced recovery  
of a/c 1947 c/c to 352° 2002 Completed recovery of a/c having  
recovered (1) E1B, (3) S2D, (2) SH3A.

W. Sheppin, Jr.  
LEDR USN

20-24 Steaming as before. 2003 Recovered (1) S2D. 2011 c/c to  
270, c/s to 9 Kts. 2023 c/c to 025 c/s to 12 Kts. 2130 Commenced  
launching A/c. 2140 Completed launching A/c having launched  
(1) E1B, (5) S2D's, and (2) SH3A's. 2145 Recovered (1) E1B and (2)  
SH3A's. 2152 c/c to 265. 2156 c/s to 15 Kts. 2208 c/c to 255.  
2215 Fire broke out on #3 A/c elevator starboard side. One  
(1) S2D (side # 38) burst into flames. (1) A/c, (1) Tractor # 3  
A/c elevator, and (5) men reported overboard starboard side.  
Sounded Fire Quarters, Man Overboard, and Plane Overboard  
on ship's 1MC and Primary Tactical Circuit. Sounded (6) short  
blasts on ship's whistle, turned on pulsating Man Overboard  
lights. USS HOLDER (DD 814) in R/D station #1 and (2) SH3A's  
maneuvering to recover survivors. Position of USS RANDOLPH  
(CVS-15) 32 55N 73 37.6 W 2218 Maneuvering to place  
fire down wind, steadied 070. All Engines stop. Ship dead  
in the water. USS HOLDER (DD 814) reported sighting and  
picking up three (3) men: LAMANTIA VALLEY and  
MATTHEWS. 2229 Mustered the crew on stations.  
Received muster report, following men reported missing:  
HILL Phillip George 592 76 98 AA USN  
LAMANTIA Robert (W) 598 54 9A AA USN  
MATTHEWS Donald R. 593 35 67 AA USN  
REYNOLDS Charles Edwin 536 69 78 AN USN  
VALLEY Robert Albert 598 61 23 AA USN  
2348 Recovered (1) SH3A. 2310 Launched (1) SH3A. USS FOX (DD 779)  
USS VOGELGESANG (DD 862) joined to assist in search for  
two (2) remaining men overboard. 2335 Secured from five

APPROVED:

EXAMINED:

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 927605

U. S. N. COMMANDING.

U. S. N. NAVIGATOR

TO BE RETAINED ON BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS