

1 October 1945.

ENCLOSURE (A)

HISTORY OF U.S.S. ANDERSON (DD411)

After commissioning on 19 May 1939 and shakedown in the Carribbean this vessel reported to the Pacific Fleet in April of 1940 and served with that force until the summer of 1941, at which time she reported again for duty in the Atlantic. Three convoy trips to Iceland and to Mid-Atlantic rendezvous with British escorts were made before 7 December 1941. At the declaration of the war the ANDERSON, with BatDivTHREE, proceeded to the Pacific, and commenced operations with Carrier Task Forces in the Battles of MIDWAY, CORAL SEA, and SANTA CFUZ, which operations were punctuated with the sinkings of the LEXINGTON, YOPKTOWN, WASP, and HORNET. From these carriers the ANDERSON picked up almost 1000 officers and men. During this period there were four destroyers from this vessel's squadron sunk. The ANDERSON also covered the landing of the initial Army troops on Guadalcanal. She bombarded Japanese positions there during the crossing of Benegi River which resulted in the complete capture of Guadalcanal three days later.

In March 1943, the ANDERSON returned to Mare Island for overhaul.

The ANDERSON next participated in the Aleutian Campaign where she bombarded Kiska. The ANDERSON then proceeded to New Zealand and escorted the 2nd Marine Division to Tarawa and rendered close fire support. She then returned to San Diego and escorted the 4th Marine Division to Kwajalein but enroute while bombarding Wotje she was hit by a 155 MM shore battery killing the Commanding Officer and five others, and wounded eighteen more. The ANDERSON struck an uncharted pinnacle in Kwajalein lagoon while transferring wounded and had to be towed to Pearl Harbor for repairs.

Upon completion of repairs in June of 1944, the ANDERSON joined the Seventh Amphibious Force which operated as part of the Seventh Fleet and participated in the Sansapor, Morotai, and Leyte operations. During the latter operation she was heavily damaged when a Japanese bomb-carrying plane crashed on deck killing thirteen men, five missing in action, and twenty-one wounded. The ANDERSON then returned to Hunter's Point, San Francisco, California, for repairs.

Upon completion of overhaul the ANDERSON reported to the Ninth Fleet, operating in the Aleutian area, where she participated in five anti-shiping sweeps in the Okhotsk Sea and in five bombardments of the Kurile Islands. After the cessation of hostilities the ANDERSON participated with the North Pacific Force in the Occupation of Northern Honshu, Japan.

During this period the ANDERSON claims 16 enemy aircraft destroyed.

There have been 32 awards of the Purple Heart, 6 awards of the Bronze Star Medal, and 9 Commendation Ribbons received by personnel of this vessel during this period.

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