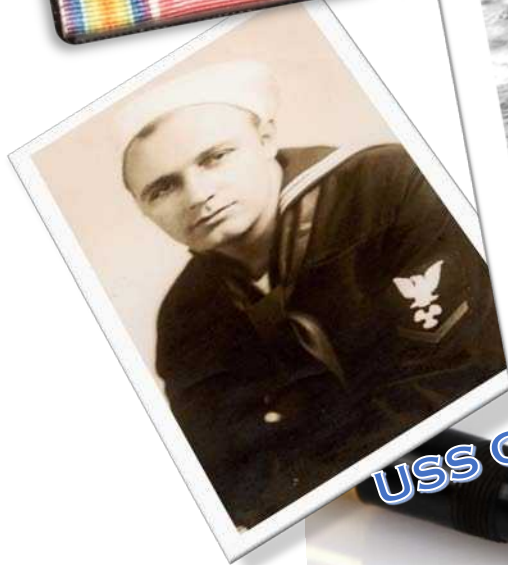
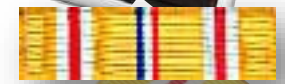


# CHARLES T. DONNELLY

U. S. NAVAL SERVICE JOURNAL  
June 1, 1944 to September 28, 1945



USS COGSWELL - DD651



## Dad's Navy Journal (Diary)

The journal has always been around. I remember seeing it as a child, it wasn't hidden away somewhere. I just never picked it up and read it. My dad never talked about his time in the navy much. He'd mention a few things here and there but never went into any great detail. I never asked him much about it. I knew he was in the Second World War. He was on a [destroyer] ship named the USS Cogswell (we had a picture of it). His ship was one of the first at Pearl Harbor but not for the Dec. 7 attack, some other important event. He received medals because he let me wear the ribbon bars on my play army uniform. He didn't explain what the ribbons and stars signified or if he had the actual 'medals' the bars represented. I never asked.

An older friend saw the ribbon bars in a 'junk box' with some matchbox cars and things, I had tossed them in there when my 'play army' days were over since Dad said he didn't need them back. "You should really take those out of there and put them away. Someday you'll want to have them" he told me. Not quite understanding why, I did.

May, 2015 – My wife and I had just returned from attending a ceremony at my oldest son's High School honoring his military service. He had recently retired from a 22 year Army career. I was looking over a Bio-Sketch of the highlights of his service that I'd asked his wife to send me so I could put it in the family records. When I got the paragraph that contained his military awards and decorations, they were just letter abbreviations, so I began to Google each one to see what it was. As I was doing this, I started to think about Dad's medals. What were they for? Why didn't I ever ask? Too late now, he passed away in 2008. It's been 50 years since I took the ribbon bars out of the junk box, where would they be? I looked up the WWII History of the USS Cogswell, pretty impressive! The quest begins.

I found one bar in the attic with 3 different ribbons and was able to identify the awards but I knew there was more. After a two day search, I found the other bar in a box in the attic with two of the actual medals and the journal.

I was just going to scan and file the journal to preserve it because it was so brittle. Then I began to read it, for the first time! It is an almost daily account of my dad's naval service in WWII, where he is facing death and risking his life almost 24/7 for 15 months. I felt it should be shared.

The only photo in the original journal is the model of ship on the first page. I have added the others at key points to hopefully enhance the story. In most cases each image was carefully researched to match the exact entry and may quite possibly be the exact scene he saw when he was there.

ALTHOUGH IT'S TOO LATE, I THANK MY DAD FOR HIS SERVICE AND INSPIRING ME TO SHARE HIS STORY.

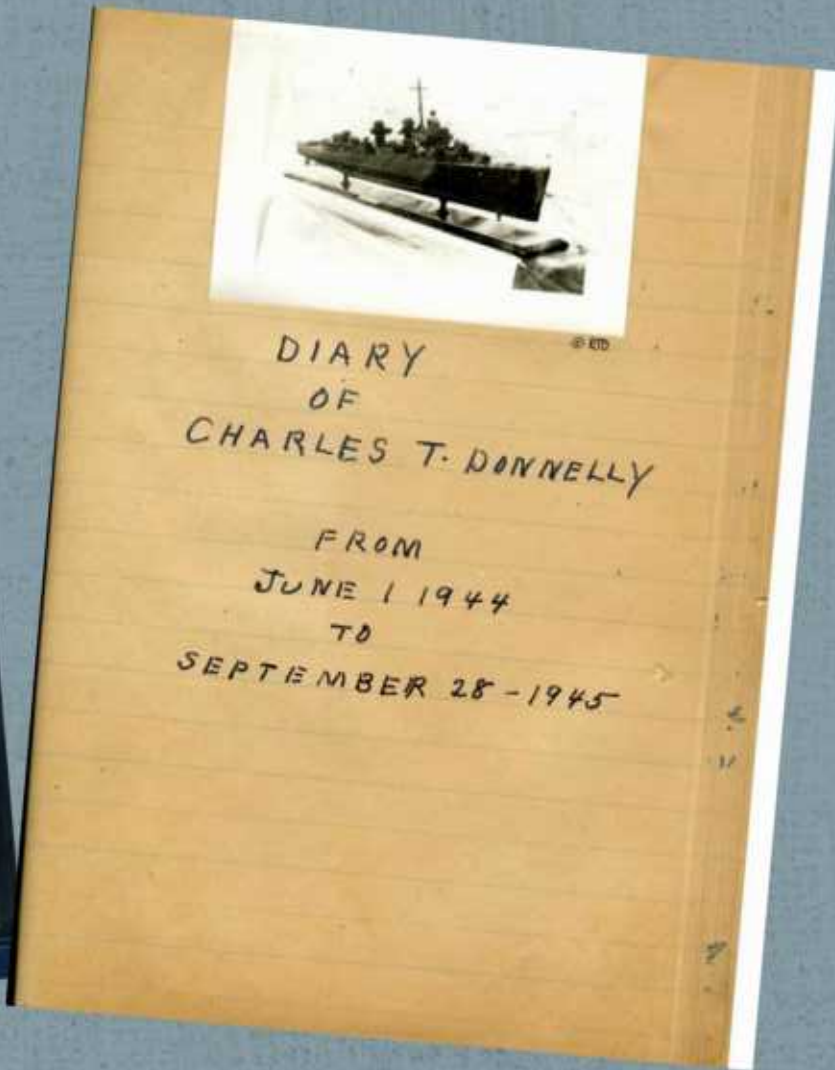
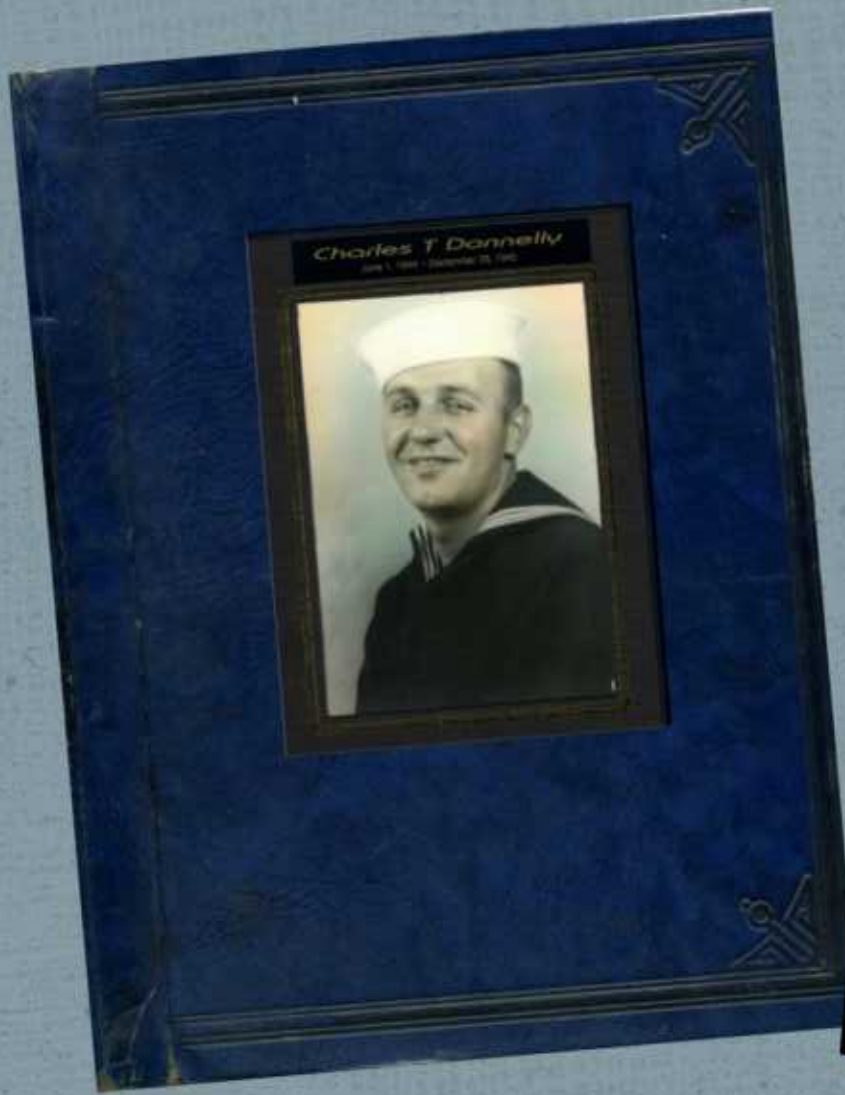
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO MY SON, GEORGE. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION FOR OUR COUNTRY. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDREN HEAR YOUR STORY FROM YOUR LIPS AND NOT YOUR NOTES.



- Bob Donnelly

AUG. 2015





DIARY

I

June - 1 - 1944

Entered service in the  
U.S. Navy. Left for train-  
ing at "Boot camp in  
Bainbridge, Maryland.



sea duty. Was assigned  
mess cook while waiting  
to be called.

JULY

II

- July - 13

Finished training and  
was granted a nine day  
leave.

- July - 22

Returned to Bainbridge  
and was put on draft  
immediately.

- July - 25

Left Bainbridge for  
Camp Elliot, San Diego,  
California.

- July - 31

Arrived Camp Elliot  
was put on draft for



AUGUST

III

- August - 12

Draft was called.  
To left for Lee Base, San  
Higo. Stayed over nite.  
To left at 0300 for dock.  
Was put aboard U.S.V.  
U.S.S. Catehill.

- August - 14

To left for Pearl Harbor T.H.

- August - 20

Arrived at Pearl Harbor.  
Was assigned to barracks to  
wait for draft to be  
called for a ship.

SEPTEMBER

IV

- September - 5

Draft finally called. Went  
aboard Troop ship U.S.S.  
General O.H. Ernst.  
To left for rendezvous with  
fleet to be assigned  
permanent duty on ship.  
Had a hard time catching  
up with fleet.

- September - 19

Arrived at Guadalcanal.  
Fleet not in. To left for New  
Guinea to let troops off.

- September - 21

Arrived at New Guinea.  
Still no fleet.

V

- September - 26

Arrived at Manus Island,  
in the Admiralty group,  
fleet reported to be there.

Still no fleet. What is  
this, a game??? Stayed  
few days.

- September - 29

Left for Ulithi in  
Caroline group. Ran into  
hurricane on the way.  
Very bad.



OCTOBER VI

- October - 1

Arrived at Ulithi. No fleet  
but it is reported on its  
way in.

- October - 4

Ah!!! at last. Fleet has  
arrived. Was assigned to  
Destroyer U. S. S. Cogswell, D. D. 651.

- October - 5

Went aboard Cogswell  
and was assigned bunk,  
locker, etc.

- October - 7

Left Ulithi with Carrier  
Task Group.



VII

- October - 12

As part of a carrier task group, took part in a series of air strikes against Formosa and was under heavy enemy air attacks for two days.

- October - 13

The U. S. S. Canberra, a cruiser was hit at night by an aerial torpedo. We were assigned to escort her to safety.

- October - 14

The U. S. S. Houston, a cruiser, was also hit by an aerial torpedo and it was

joined to our group.

VIII

- October - 15

Still close to Formosa with cripples. Enemy air attacks all night.

- October - 16

Attacked at dawn by Jap torpedo planes. One got thru and put another fish in the Houston.

Two planes were shot down. We had hits on both and got credit for one.

- October - 17

We gave fresh water to the Canberra. It took five days to bring both ships

IX

out of range of land based Jap Planes. During this time we were bait for the Jap fleet which was reported to be in that area, but they refused to bite.

For this work all hands received a well done and the Skipper received the Silver Star.

- October - 18

We returned directly to the task group and took part in support in air operations covering the assault and occupation islands in the Visayas in the Philippines.





X

- October - 23 - 24

Enemy fleet sighted by  
and followed by our Subs  
and planes.

- night of October - 24

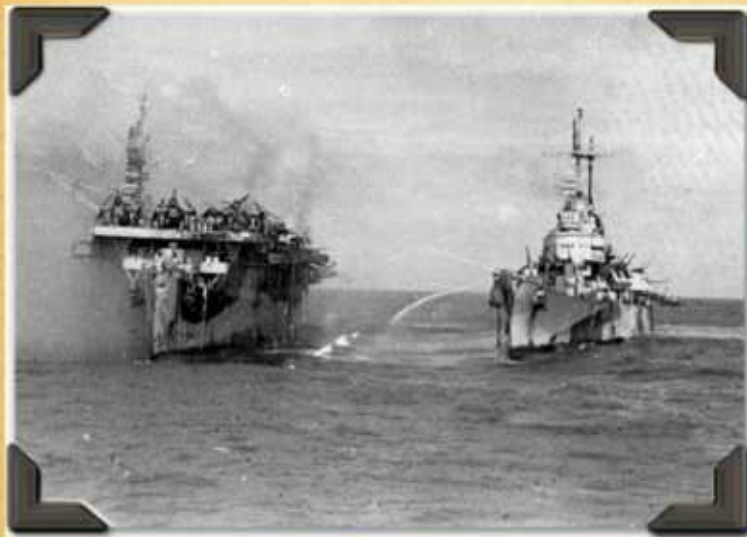
Japanese planes attacked group  
and hit U.S.S. Princeton,  
a carrier, with torpedoes. She  
later exploded while the  
light cruiser Birmingham  
and several destroyers from  
our squadron were along  
side her fighting the fire.  
Several hundred men were  
killed and wounded.

Later on the Princeton was  
sunk by our own guns  
and fish.

USS Birmingham comes along  
side the burning USS Princeton



Princeton burns as destroyer  
approaches from right.





Destroyer comes along side  
burning USS Princeton

XI

October - 25

We caught up with a  
crippled Jap carrier which was  
hit by our torpedo planes.  
We sank her with gun fire.

Later that nite we  
contacted a Jap light cruiser  
and started a torpedo run  
but she eluded the fish.  
She was caught later on  
in the nite and we sank  
her with gun fire.

October - 27

As part of a carrier task  
group we held air strikes  
against Leyte, in support of  
U.S. troops invading the  
island.

XII

October - 30

Anchored in Ulithi



NOVEMBER - XIII

- November - 1

Left Ulithi for strike on Philippines.

- November - 3

We were steaming steady with a carrier task group, when the A.A. Cruiser, U.S.S. Reno was hit by a ??? mine or torpedo.

- November - 4

Given job of seeing Reno to safety. She had a bad list so we took about 150 men on board from her.

November 3-14

- November 3-14

Underway for Ulithi

XIV

- November - 14

Left Ulithi with task group 38.2 to meet our own group 38.3.

- November - 15

Met fleet. It was on its way back to Ulithi. Joined it and returned to Ulithi.

- November - 19

Arrived at Ulithi.

- November - 20

At dawn five Jap midget subs snuck into the

anchorage where our fleet  
was. They sank one oil  
tanker.

We sank all five  
subs also <sup>the</sup> mother sub  
which was laying outside  
Ulithi.

XV

- November - 20 - 22

Took on stores and  
ammunition

- November - 22 - 25

Left Ulithi for the  
Philippines.

- November - 22 - 25

Underway for Luzon  
Philippines.



- November - 25

While fueling at sea  
from the Carrier U.S.S. Essex,  
she was hit by a Jap  
suicide plane.

She started launching  
planes within ten minutes

XVI

- November - 25 - 26 - 27

As part of a carrier task  
group, held air strikes  
against Manila Bay.

- November - 28 - 30

Underway for Ulithi.



XVII

DECEMBER.

- December - 1  
Arrived at Ulithi.
- December - 1-11  
Took on stores, fuel  
and ammunition.
- December - 11  
Left Ulithi for Luzon
- December - 14  
As part of a carrier task  
group, renewed air strikes  
on Philippines.
- December - 15-18  
Held air strikes against  
Jap held Mindoro Islands

while U.S. troops in-  
vaded it.

XVIII

- December - 18  
A bad typhoon came up.  
We rolled "49." Three  
destroyers and one destroyer  
escort were sunk.
- December - 19  
Storm started to die  
down and we continued  
looking for survivors.
- December - 20  
We picked one man  
off the U.S.S. Hull. He had  
been in the water for  
48 hours.

- December - 20 - 24  
Underway for Ulithi.

XIV

- December - 24  
Arrived at Ulithi. Plenty  
of mail and Packages, but  
none for me, too bad!  
We had a Christmas tree  
and party on deck that  
nite. Very good.

- December - 25  
Christmas day - first  
holiday in Port. Good Meal.

- December 26 - 30  
Left Ulithi for the  
Philippines.

- December - 31

As part of a Carrier  
task group, held air strikes  
against Formosa and Luzon  
prior to invasions of Luzon.



JANUARY XX 1945

- January - 1  
New Year's at sea.
- January - 3-4  
Held air strikes against  
Formosa.
- January - 5, 6, 7  
Held air strikes on  
Luzon.
- January - 9  
Our task force enters  
the China Sea. First  
over to do so since  
the war started.

January - 10  
While in the China  
Sea, held air strikes on  
Saigon, Cape St. James and  
Camron Bay, in Indo-China.

XXI

- January - 12, 13, 14  
Held air strikes on Hong  
Kong and Shanghai, giving  
invading troops on Luzon  
air superiority.
- January - 15, 16, 17  
Renewed raids on  
Formosa and Luzon.
- January - 19  
More strikes on  
Luzon.





- January - 20

While passing thru  
Balik Channel out of the  
China sea, was under heavy  
air attack by Japs.

- January - 21 XXII

Held air strikes on  
Formosa and Okinawa  
300 miles from Japan.  
Under enemy air attack  
all day and nite.

The U.S.S. Ticonderoga,  
a carrier was hit by a  
bomb, then hit again  
by a Jap suicide plane.

The Destroyer U.S.S.  
Maddox was also hit by  
a suicide plane.

During the day 245

Jap planes were shot  
down.

- January - 22

We retired to Ulithi  
with crippled ships.

It was a long hard  
month.

- January - 25 XXIII  
Entered Ulithi.

- January - 30

Left Ulithi for Pearl  
Harbor and eventually  
the states.



Kamikaze plane crashes  
near USS Ticoneroga

- FEBRUARY - XXIV

- February - 10

Arrived at Pearl Harbor.  
First liberty since Aug. 10, 1944

- February - 12

Left Pearl Harbor for  
the United States.

- February - 19

Arrived in San Pedro,  
Calif: for over haul.  
First leave party left  
for home with 21 days  
leave. Rest of us stayed  
aboard to help yard  
workers over haul ship.  
We did most of the work  
Liberty every other nite.

MARCH - XXV

- March - 12

First leave party re-  
turned. Second leave party  
left for home with 21 days  
leave.

- March - 16

Arrived home. Spent  
twelve of the sweetest  
days of my life home.

- March - 29

Left home to return  
to ship at San Pedro.



Charles, Ellen  
& Carol



APRIL

XXVI

- April - 2  
Arrived at San Pedro.
- April - 13  
Left San Pedro for San Diego to try out ship and get new torpedos.
- April - ~~18~~ - 19  
Left San Diego for Pearl Harbor.
- April - 14  
Arrived at San Diego.
- April - 25  
Arrived at Pearl Harbor. So busy again.

MAY

XXVII

- May - 2  
Left Pearl Harbor for Ulithi.
- May - 8  
Celebrated V-E day at sea.
- May - 14  
Arrived at Ulithi and was put in destroyer pool for further assignment.
- May - 23  
Left Ulithi with 15 ship convoy of reinforcements for Okinawa.

- May - 27

XXVIII

Arrived at Okinawa,  
but could not enter because  
harbor was under enemy  
air attack.

- May - 30

Entered harbor at Okinawa,  
and anchored.

Forty odd destroyers  
supposed to be beached  
to save them from  
sinking.

Results of enemy air  
attack while on radar  
picket duty.

JUNE

XXIX

- June - 1

Assigned to radar picket  
duty. Crew drew up their  
last will and testament;  
because we will probably  
end up where the other  
destroyers did, on the  
beach.

One of the destroyers  
assigned to go with us  
had seventy two attacks  
made on her in six days  
while on picket duty.

- June - 3

Still afloat. Longest  
time any ship ever went  
without being attacked.



XXX

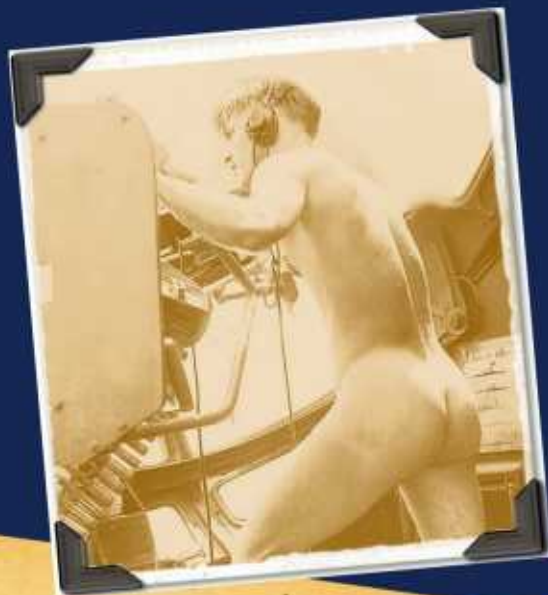
That afternoon we were attacked by Jap planes of the suicide corps.

Two just missed our sister ship. One made a dive on us, and one of the gun crew copped in his drawers and had to man his gun without pants, it was pretty close.

We shot down twenty two Jap planes.

There was only us and two other destroyers

We had four L.C.T.'s along, but they were just sent along to pick up survivors when we



<sup>was</sup> hit, so they kept well clear of us.

- June - 4

We were relieved of picket duty by two other destroyers so we could go back to Okinawa for fuel, supplies and ammunition, we were nearly out.

We will return to picket duty after fueling, etc.



- June - 5

In 3 hours at anchor.  
Taking on fuel, stores, and  
ammunition, we are hoping  
that there is some mail  
here for us. We haven't

had any for over a  
month.

- June - 6, 7 -

Still at anchor. They  
towed in the destroyer  
that relieved us in  
picket duty. She was  
hit by a torpedo and  
a suicide plane, if we  
hadn't been relieved  
it would have been  
us getting towed in.  
Under air attack in  
port all night.

- June - 8

We got underway  
at 1530 this afternoon

for the same picket  
station we were on  
before. Hope we are as  
lucky as we were before.

- June - 9

On picket station  
with five other cans and  
four L.C.T.'s. At general  
quarters most of last  
nite, under air attack.  
No casualties. Called to O.D.  
four different times  
during the nite. At O.D.  
three times during the  
day.

- June - 10

Still on picket duty.  
at 0815 the U.S.S. Porter,



a destroyer along side  
of us was hit by a  
Jap suicide plane, she  
sank at 11 20, three  
hours after being hit

- June - 11

Picket duty, we were  
attacked by two suicide  
planes; they tried to  
dive on us. We shot  
them both down, one  
went over our super  
structure and hit an  
L.C.S. along side.

- June - 12

Underway for  
Okinawa; fueled ship  
Pretty quite today.



Boogie\*, but not too close.

- June - 13

Anchored at Okinawa.  
They are still fighting  
like hell on the southern  
tip of the island. It sure  
looks funny to stand  
on deck and watch  
them fighting within  
a few hundred yards.  
Sometimes shells  
burst right overhead.

- June - 14

Still at anchor. Took  
on supplies.

\* Unidentified planes,  
presumably enemy.





- June-15

We got underway to fuel this morning then returned to the Harbor for further orders.

During the night Jap bombers attacked us and dropped two bombs on us. They landed on each side of us about one hundred feet away. Shrapnel flew all over the deck and hit some of the men. No casualties.

- June-16

Still anchored, expect to get underway some time today. 1530 under-

way for Radar picket duty. We were assigned to picket station 16, about twenty miles closer to Japan than our last station. We went to dusk G. L. Everything quite the rest of the night.

The U. S. S. Swigg a destroyer that was with us was hit by torpedo planes and sunk during the night while enroute to another picket station.

- June-17

Still on Radar picket duty. Rogies on the



screen all day but none  
close enough to fire on.

- June - 18  
Still on picket duty.

- June - 19  
On picket duty, no  
actual combat this trip.  
Bogies within three  
miles but did not  
fire on them.

- June - 20  
Our relief came out  
this morning at 0715.  
Underway for Ka. Gushu  
Jima to fuel. After  
fueling underway for  
main island of

Opinana for further orders.

- June - 21

At anchor in Opinana.  
Three days along side  
tender for repairs.

- June - 22, 23

Still along side tender.  
Planes attached us on  
22nd in Harbor. Hit  
seaplane tender U.S.S.  
Curtis. Quite a few  
men killed. Also hit  
an L.S.T. sank same.  
All enemy planes  
shot down.

- June - 24

Underway for Rogu



Peter 16. One of the L.C.S.<sup>15</sup>  
along side us was  
under attack two nites  
ago and shot down  
nine planes. Commended  
for her heroic deed by  
our Commodore.

- June - 25

Still on Roger Peter 16  
Bogies all nite last nite.  
Thirty-six enemy planes  
came in, sixteen shot  
down by ships five  
and twenty by our  
C.A.P.\*

We lost two C.A.P.  
planes

A few Bogies came  
(\*Combat Air Patrol)

in during the day but  
not close enough for us  
to fire. Flamm it.

- June - 26

Still on Roger Peter 16.  
Bogies all nite long.  
The closest was nine  
thousand yards from  
us. We did not fire  
on it as we didn't  
want to disclose our  
position if we could  
help it. Moon was on  
the half eclipse. C.A.P.  
shot down all enemy  
planes within range.

Our relief came out  
this morning and we  
were ordered to go in



to Okinawa.

After we entered port we fueled ship and were ordered to go to the main island of Okinawa, the Gushi Jima.

Here we were given some good news.

We are going back with the Carrier task group again.

They probably figured that being we survived picket duty for so long we needed a change.

They are correct in their assumption cause the crew is a

nervous wreck by now. I don't think we could have stood much more of it.

At 1800 we got underway for Leyte in the Philippines to meet the task group. It will take about two days to get there.

- June - 27

Still underway for Leyte, held general field day all day. The ship really needs a good cleaning. We couldn't do much turning to while on picket duty because we



were standing four hours on watches and four hours off and most of the time we were supposed to be off we were at G.D. and the rest of our off hours, what little was left was spent in getting some much needed sleep.

- June - 28

Still underway for Leeyte, expect to arrive at 0400 tomorrow. Turned to all morning. We received off social reports of the number of ships it cost us

180 of them were destroyers on  
Picket duty

to take Okenawa,  
2-33 sunk, and 1037  
damaged.

- June - 29

Arrived at Leeyte this morning. Took on fuel and supplies. Anchored.

- June - 30

Went on recreation party over on island today. Just like all the rest of the islands out here, sand, trees and underbrush, except there are some natives here that you can talk to. Learned a word in



Philippines - Pong-Pong

JULY

- July - 1  
Underway with  
carrier task group.  
Twenty carriers, twelve  
battle ships, twenty  
cruisers and seventy-  
two destroyers. We  
must be going on  
something big.
- July - 2  
Learned our destination  
today, Tokyo. We are  
going to bombard  
Tokyo proper. It will be  
the first time ships

have bombarded it. It  
will be quite a sur-  
prise for the Japs to  
look out of their  
windows and see us  
in their Harbor.

- July - 3  
Still underway for  
Tokyo. Learned some  
more particulars about  
our mission. We are  
going in pretty close  
to bombard four to five  
miles off of Tokyo.
- July - 4, 9 -  
Still underway for  
Tokyo. We are fueling  
ship every morning.



There is supposed to be  
a light Jap naval  
unit around.

We took on supplies  
and ammunition at  
sea on the 8th, it is  
the first time they  
ever did that at  
sea. We are sup-  
posed to make our  
first strike on the  
tenth and continue  
bombarding until  
Aug. 15 when we  
are due to return  
to Seyte, if we  
survive.

- July - 10  
Arrived at Tokyo

at dawn this morning.  
Made our first strike  
immediately. Continued  
strikes all day. At 8.2.  
all day, from dawn  
till dusk. A few Jap  
planes came out  
after us but they  
were shot down  
before they could  
do any damage.

- July - 11  
"5" day plus one -  
we layed out of  
Tokyo about 150 miles  
to fuel today.  
A Jap sub was seen  
by one of our planes.  
Laying mines in front



of the fleet. The Admiral dispatched us and another destroyer to go and get it. We looked all day but couldn't find it. We were underway to bomb a few hundred miles north of Tokyo, and the sub was mining our path all along.

- July - 12

Still looking for sub. I guess we will have to chase it right into Tokyo. Our orders are not to return till we get it or it



gets us, as it is  
endangering 147 ships  
It has to surface  
to recharge  
batteries. I hope we  
see it before it sees  
us. G. I. all day.

- July - 13

Still searching for  
sub. Detonated three  
mines today.

We caught tail  
end of typhoon. Had  
one June 5th, that  
damaged 21 ships.  
Knocked bow off of  
Cruiser Pittsburg, tugs  
towed her in then  
came out after bow

and towed it in.  
G. I. all day.

- July - 14

Still searching for  
sub. We bombarded  
northern Honshu and  
southern Hokkaido today.  
Target, large steel  
mill on Honshu, enemy  
installation on Hokkaido.  
G. I. all day.

- July - 15

Still searching for  
sub. Held strike on  
Tokyo again today  
also other parts of  
Jap mainland. Target  
rail centers.



- July-16

Gave up search for sub. Meet tankers and took on supplies and fueled ship.

- July-17

Held air strikes on Tokyo again, bombarded northern Honshu island. It is reported that our raids have cut Japan in half as far as communications and transportation is concerned; also that they have raised hell with Jap. morale. They still aren't giving us much opposition. A. D. all day.

- July-23

Underway last nite for strike on Tokyo. Division of destroyers went right into Tokyo harbor. No word from them yet this morning.

- July-24

Ran into pretty bad typhoon again today, couldn't hold any strikes until late this afternoon, then we struck at Tokio.

- July-25

Jap fleet consisting of four carriers, three



battle ships, several  
cruisers and forty  
destroyers was found  
in Tokio harbor this  
morning, our planes went  
in and got several  
hits on them. We were  
supposed to go into  
the harbor tonight on an  
anti-shipping sweep,  
but all operations  
have been cancelled  
for twenty four hours.

- July - 26

The Japs gave us  
the first opposition today.  
They sent out about  
fifty planes, all were  
shot down.

- July - 27

We are going to  
rendezvous with the  
tankers this morning  
to fuel ship and  
take on supplies  
and mail.

- July - 28

We made a raid  
on Kobe naval base  
all day today, put  
practically all of the  
Jap fleet out of com-  
mission, sank two  
battle ships and  
several cruisers and  
destroyers and damaged  
the rest of their fleet;  
also shot down several

of their planes, and  
destroyed over fifty on  
the ground. A good  
day's bag.

- July - 29

Lo ayed off of Tohir  
a couple of hundred  
miles. We didn't  
hold any strikes today,  
just cruised around.  
Probably waiting for  
word of the surrender  
terms we sent them

- July - 30

We were supposed  
to strike today, but a  
storm came up and  
we couldn't. Just

cruised around trying  
to avoid storms.

AUGUST.

- August - 1-4,

Left Tohir area to  
rendezvous with tankers.  
Fueled ship, took on  
supplies and mail,  
also took on some  
replacement pilots  
and took them along  
side Bessington, etc.  
for transfer to carriers.

- August - 5

We were supposed  
to strike again today  
but they called it



off again. we had  
anti aircraft firing  
all day.

- August - 6

Fueled ship, took  
on supplies and mail.

- August - 7

Stormy and foggy  
again today, strikes  
cancelled.

- August - 8

Held strikes on  
southern Honshu. Very  
little enemy opposition.  
at 5 P. M. E. W. T. today  
Russia declared war  
on Japan.

- August - 9

Held air strikes  
again today. Had  
quite a bit of opposition,  
shot down several  
planes that came  
over fleet. One of  
our destroyers on  
picket duty was hit  
by a suicide plane.

- August - 10

Held air strikes on  
northern Honshu and  
Tokio today. not  
much opposition.

Washington has  
rumor war will be  
over in a few hours,  
hope they are true.



but probably airt.

- August - 11

Stayed out to rendezvous with tankers to fuel fleet and take on provisions and mail.

We were assigned to take the Independence, a carrier to Iwo Jima, then to return to the fleet again; we didn't get a chance to get any provisions or mail.

- August - 12

Still underway with Independence, ran into a typhoon on <sup>the</sup> way.



- August - 13

Struck Honshu again today. The Japs sent about fifty planes out after the fleet, we splashed them all, but they shot down several of our planes also.

- August - 14

Returned to fleet with Independence.

- August - 15

We held air strikes on Honshu again today until 0750, when our strikes were called off.



Japan signs Surrender  
on USS Missouri



and the President gave us official word that the war was over.

We were given first choice to go into Tokyo Harbor and make a landing. Our skipper accepted it and we will go in as Flagship and leading ship, the first to enter Tokyo Bay after their surrender.

Fifteen men volunteered to go ashore from our ship.

- August - 16-27

Loayed off of the Japanese coast waiting for word to go in.

Nearly all opposition has ceased, however, a few of our patrol planes have been shot down.

- August - 27

We entered the bay of Sagami Wan today. We were at O.R. expecting trouble, but nothing happened. It was as if we cruised into one of our own bays back home.



- August - 28

Still anchored in Sagami Wan. No trouble as yet. We lit all the lights on the ship tonight, as I guess they don't expect any. We saw Mt. Fujiyama today, it certainly is high.

We are going to have movies for the Forecastle tonight, it looks like it's really over at last.

- August - 29

Still anchored in Sagami Wan.



- August - 30

We covered the landing of the first occupation forces today.

There was no trouble at all.

- August - 31

We were assigned the task of patrolling the mouth of the harbor to check on incoming and out going ships.



## SEPTEMBER

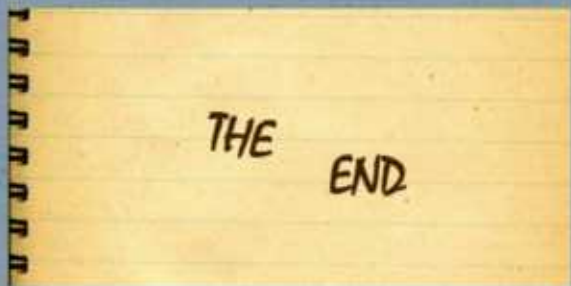
- September - 1

We got underway for Tokyo Bay this morning, anchored there about 1100, right across from the Kure Naval base. Saw the Jap battle wagon that our first fleet sighted on July 18th and we tried to sink.

- September - 2 - 28

Routine patrolling of Tokyo Bay and vicinity. Anchored most of the time making

necessary repairs to ship and repainting it.



Charles Donnelly  
Date/Location: Unknown



Charles (Rt.) with  
Unidentified Friends



Journal Back  
Cover  
[Inside and Out]







## Imperium Neptuni Regis: Shellback Certificate

The ceremony of "Crossing the Line" ("Line" being the Equator) has been a part of Naval culture in military maritime practice for 100 years or more. This rite is commemorated with several initiation "exercises"

CHARLES T. DONNELLY  
NAVAL MEDALS AWARDED 1944 - 1945



European Campaign  
American Campaign Medal  
WWII Victory Medal  
Asiatic-Pacific Medal

Rank: Machinist's Mate  
Petty Officer - 3rd Class







# USS COGSWELL DD 651 - WWII HISTORY

Aug. 1943 to Jan. 1946

The USS Cogswell was a general purpose Destroyer, built by the Bath Iron Works of Bath, Maine. She was commissioned in Boston, Massachusetts on 17 August 1943. The ship was named after Rear Admiral James K. Cogswell, a Spanish-American War hero, and his son Captain Francis Cogswell, who distinguished himself in combat during World War I.

Displacing a full load weight of about 2,900 tons, she was 376 feet long, with a beam of 39 feet. Her 60,000 horsepower propulsion system was capable of speeds in excess of 35 knots. Her missions included naval gunfire support, anti-submarine warfare, escort, convoy and rescue duties.

After commissioning the Cogswell underwent shake down training off Bermuda and then she steamed through the Panama Canal and joined the Pacific Fleet where she was to participate in many of the major naval campaigns for the remainder of World War II. In December 1943, she joined task force 58 for the assault on the Marshall Islands and was part of the initial assault force on Kwajalein Atoll. Following this, she participated in the strikes against Truk, Palua, Ponape, Yap and New Guinea. In June 1944, she supported the amphibious assaults in the Marianas against Guam, Saipan and Tinian.

From there the Cogswell moved to Iwo Jima, Chi Chi Jima as well as Mindanao and Luzon in the Philippines for air and surface strikes. In October 1944, the Cogswell was assigned to task force 38 providing support for strikes against Okinawa, Formosa, Indo China, Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland.

Later she participated in raids against the Japanese home islands. She was also involved in sinking several Japanese war ships and she destroyed several key installations on the Japanese homeland.

The Cogswell was one of the first warships into Tokyo Bay and was present at the signing of the Japanese surrender.

She was decommissioned and placed in the fleet reserve in January 1946.









World War II Memorial Monument  
Wash. DC

*Thank You To All Of The Men And Women Who Have  
Served, Are Serving or Will Serve In Every Branch  
Of The Military, In Every Corner of the Globe,  
To Keep Us A Free Nation.*

*- Bob Donnelly*



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As stated before, with the exception of the one photograph of the ship model at the beginning, the original journal only contained the hand written account of my father's daily experiences in the US Navy during his WW II service. Each page was scanned and reproduced as it was in the journal. I tried to research the events as I went along and insert some images to enhance the story. In most cases the photos are as accurate to the actual times and events as possible and may be very similar to scenes my father was watching as he wrote his book. There are several images such as the kamikaze photo composite that were added to show the general feeling and intensity of the war. The intent of this book is for educational and historical information and not for any monetary gain.

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