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ACTION REPORT

ORIGINAL

USS ABBOT

DD 629

SERIAL 03345

31 MARCH 1945

ACTION REPORT, FORWARDING OF.

COVERS BOMBARDMENT ON 26 MARCH 1945 IN SUPPORT OF INITIAL LANDINGS FOR V-2 OPERATION AT TALISAY POINT SOUTHWEST OF CEBU CITY, CEBU, PHILIPPINES, IN TASK GROUP 74.3.

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Reg. No.	<u>617</u>
R. S. No.	<u>4 01733</u>

DD629/A16-3(3)  
Serial 03345

U.S.S. ABORT (DD629)

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Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,  
31 March 1945.

**From:** The Commanding Officer.  
**To :** The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
**Via :** (1) Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE.  
(2) Commander Task Group 74.3.  
(3) Commander Task Group 78.2.  
(4) Commander SEVENTH Fleet.

**Subject:** Action Report; Forwarding of.

**Reference:** (a) CinCPac & POA Conf. Ltr. 1CL-45.

**Enclosure:** ✓ (A) CO ABORT (DD629) Action Report for 3-25-45. - p.2

1. In accordance with the directive contained in reference (a), enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

F.W. ENGLISH.

**Copies to:**  
Cominch (1) Advance ✓  
CinCPac (3) Direct  
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ComDesRon 48 (1) Direct  
ComDesDiv 42 (1) Direct

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U.S.S. ABBOT (DD629)

ACTION REPORT FOR 26 MARCH 1945

PART I.

A. GENERAL NARRATIVE.

On 26 March 1945, the period covered by this report, this ship was a unit of the Cruiser Covering Group assigned the general task of providing cover and support for the amphibious landings by the Americal Infantry Division at TALISAY, Cebu Island. This ship participated only in the pre-arranged bombardment which preceded the landings.

PART II. PRELIMINARIES.

A. Composition of Task Group.

T.G. 74.3 - Cruiser Covering Group, Rear Admiral BERKEY

PHOENIX, BOISE and HMAS HOBART,  
NICHOLAS, O'BANNON, TAYLOR, ABBOT,  
FLETCHER and JENKINS

T.U. 74.3.1 - Fire Support Unit ONE, Captain DUNCAN

PHOENIX (CL46)  
NICHOLAS (DD449)  
O'BANNON (DD450)

T.U. 74.3.2 - Fire Support Unit TWO, Captain DOWLING, RAN.

HMAS HOBART  
TAYLOR (DD468)  
ABBOT (DD629)

T.U. 74.3.3 - Reserve Covering Unit, Captain DOWNES

BOISE (CL47)  
FLETCHER (DD445)  
JENKINS (DD447)

B. This ship departed from SUBIC BAY in company with Task Group 74.3 on the morning of 24 March. The trip to the objective was uneventful. The Reserve Covering Unit was detached during the afternoon of 26 March and proceeded to MANGARIN BAY, Mindoro.

C. The mission of this ship was to provide scheduled shore bombardment and cover for minesweepers working in the channels. Little or no resistance was anticipated from enemy air or surface forces.

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PART II. PRELIMINARIES. (Cont'd)

D. Ships of this group took assigned stations 2000 to 3000 yards to the Southward of the landing beaches. On completion of bombardment this ship screened to seaward of the HOBART for the rest of the day.

E. No enemy forces were encountered.

PART III. CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD OF EVENTS.

Weather during this operation was excellent. All times given are ITEM and all bearings TRUE.

26 MARCH 1945

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
0537	Directed by Commander Task Group 74.3 to proceed independently and cover minesweeping unit.
0615	Lying to in BOHOL STRAITS covering Minesweeps.
0618	Manned Battle Stations preparatory to bombardment.
0703	Cruisers commenced bombardment.
0704	Proceeded to assigned fire support station.
0728	Lying to on Station 1500 yards due South of LAGUNDI SHOAL.
0745	Commenced scheduled bombardment at targets in and behind the town of TALISAY.
0825	Ceased firing. Ammunition expended: 705 rounds of 5"/38 Cal. AA Common.
0830	The 132nd and 182nd Regiments of the Americal Infantry Division landed on Green Beach near TALISAY.
0843	Relieved as fire support ship by SMITH (DD378) and proceeded to screen HMAS HOBART. Patrolled for rest of day to seaward.
0850	Set Condition II.
1635	Reported to CTG 78.2 for duty.
1728	Took station in screen of Night Retirement Group.
1900	Designated as OTC of first returning echelon. Formed group consisting of amphibious craft and departed for LEYTE.

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PART IV. ORDNANCE.

A. PERFORMANCE OF OWN ORDNANCE MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT.

1. Ship's gunnery.

a. Ammunition expended, by caliber and type:

5"/38 Cal. AA Common - 705 rounds.

Three hundred eighty-four (384) of these projectiles were fuzeed with Mk. 29 Mod. 3 fuzes, 139 with steel nose plug and the balance with Mk. 18 Mod. 3 fuze.

b. Direct fire was used with range and deflection spots applied to provide the area coverage desired. Parallax was kept on "zero" in the mounts to increase deflection pattern.

c. As several ships were firing into the same area at the same time, it was not possible to accurately evaluate the results of firing.

d. A critical situation existed in the upper handling room of gun three due to the presence in the air of large quantities of asbestos dust, which was dislodged from the insulation of the engine room exhaust trunk by the shock of gunfire. The projectile hoist stopped several times because of the accumulation of asbestos dust in the hoist mechanism. Personnel were able to breathe only with great difficulty during the entire period of the bombardment. An alteration has been approved to replace the metal sheathing with fibre glass. The experience of this ship indicates the urgency of such an alteration.

B. PERFORMANCE OF ENEMY ORDNANCE.

None observed.

PART V. DAMAGE.

A. This vessel sustained no damage.

B. None inflicted on the enemy.

PART VI. SPECIAL COMMENTS.

None.

PART VII. PERSONNEL PERFORMANCE AND CASUALTIES.

Personnel performance was satisfactory. There were no casualties.

PART VIII. LESSONS LEARNED, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

None.

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ENCLOSURE (A) TO CO ABBOT LTR. DD629/416-3(3), SERIAL 03345 of 3-31-45.

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