

## A History of the USS Calvert. Research notes for the period August 24, 1945 to November 16, 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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### Introduction

This document contains chronological research notes covering the details for the period August 24, 1945 to November 11, 1945.

During the period covered in this document the USS Calvert:

- \* Departure for service in the Occupation of Japan, August 24, 1945, following her conversion to a Relief ACG, Amphibious Force Flagship in Bremerton, WA.
- \* Participated in the Occupation of Japan, including time anchored near Hiroshima and crew members ashore, for the period September 16, 1945 to November 7, 1945.

### 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.
- \* When necessary, certain details are corrected or corroborated by official Navy records.

### Primary sources for this volume, August 24, 1945 to November 16, 1945

- \* A History of the USS Calvert (APA-32), David B. Cullen
- \* Various Calversion newsletter editions, originally published by John Cole
- \* War Diary and Muster Rolls for the USS Calvert, via the National Archives for the months covered in this document:
  - \* August: War Diary - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77500553> | Muster Rolls - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395>
  - \* September: War Diary - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/83573517> | Muster Rolls - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395>
  - \* October: War Diary - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77557399> | Muster Rolls - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395>
  - \* November: War Diary - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77588142> | Muster Rolls - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/125656395>
- \* Occupation Reports, various units of the Central Occupation Group:
  - \* Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11 - Report of surrender and occupation of Japan and Korea, 1946
    - Online: [https://archive.org/stream/AtomicBombingOfJapanAndOccupationPlans/World+War+II+Japan+Occupation+Plans/Report+of+Surrender+and+Occupation+of+Japan\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/AtomicBombingOfJapanAndOccupationPlans/World+War+II+Japan+Occupation+Plans/Report+of+Surrender+and+Occupation+of+Japan_djvu.txt)
  - \* War diary, ComPhibGrp 14, September 1945 - Commander Amphibious Group 14
  - \* War diary, ComPhibGr 11, September 1945 - Commander Amphibious Group 11
  - \* Commander Amphibious Group Four (ComPhibGrp 4), Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative
  - \* Commander Amphibious Group Four (ComPhibGrp 4), Report of operations in the occupation of Western Japan, October 4, 1945 - November 8, 1945
  - \* COMTASKUNIT 54.15.1 - Report of operations in the occupation of Kure - Hiro Wan Area, Honshu, Japan, 10/7-8/45 - <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77522792>
  - \* Report of Surrender and Occupation of Japan, Commander in Chief, US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, February 11, 1946 - <https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a438971.pdf>

### Departure for service in the Occupation of Japan

1945	August	24	Degaussing Range, Point Jefferson, Kingston, WA	<p>1) "We put to sea August 24, 1945 for the South Pacific, with stops at Pearl Harbor and final at the very southern tip of the Philippines, a place called Zamboanga."</p> <p>2) Calvert completed her conversion as the war ended in the Pacific, and on 24 August 1945 cleared for the Philippines to lift troops to Hiro Wan for the occupation of Japan.</p>	<p>1) Calversion, Vol 6, p9 - C. G. Clauss</p> <p>2) USS Calvert, Wikipedia entry <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Calvert_(APA-32)">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Calvert_(APA-32)</a></p>
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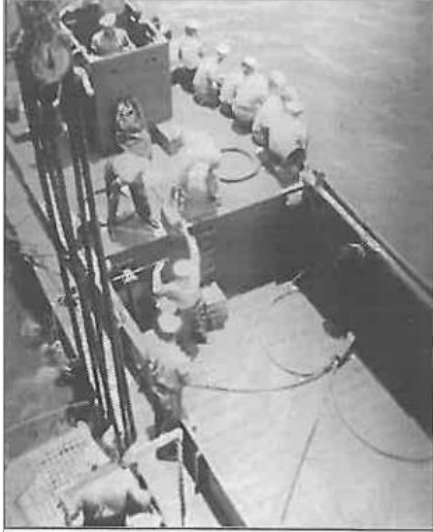
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	August	24	Point Jefferson, Kingston, WA Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	1115 - Set standard speed at 16 knots and proceeded out to sea. 1155 - Passed No Point abeam to port bearing 253 T; distance 0.9 miles 1200 - Off No Point, Puget Sound, Washington 1901 - Took departure with Strait of Jan De Fuca.  Underway for Pearl Harbor, T.H. to embark additional staff of Commander Amphibious Group Fourteen (ComPhibGro 14).	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	25	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 16 knots.	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	26	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 16 knots.  Weather: Wind: North to N.W. increasing to 30 knots   Sea: Very rough decreasing in the P.M.   Swell: Long rolling in from N.N.W.   Sky: Threatening - Visibility Moderate	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	27	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 15 knots. 1106 - Test fired all guns. Conditions satisfactory  Weather: Wind: Westerly gentle breeze   Sea: Light, N.N.W changing to N.E   Swell: Gentle, reducing to 0.   Sky: Signs of storm brewing - Very cloudy.	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	28	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 15 knots.  Weather: Wind: S to S.E. Light air to gentle breeze.   Sea: Slight, breaking from the east   Swell: None.   Sky: Squally turning clear and bright in evening.	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	29	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 14 knots. 0800 - Changed course to 220T and speed to 13.5 knots.  Weather: Wind: Westerly, velocity 5 to 12 knots.   Sea: Smooth, without crests   Swell: None   Sky: Slightly cloudy with occasional squalls	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945
1945	August	30	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 13.5 knots. 0715 - Changed speed to 13 knots. 2045 - Changed speed to 10 knots. 2130 - Picked up Oahu Island by radar, bearing 200, distance 70 miles.  Weather: Wind: Steady S.W., fresh winds.   Sea: Short choppy, breaking from the east.   Swell: Low, increasing to moderate.   Sky: Clear with occasional clouds.	War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	August	31	Steaming to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Berth A-12, Pearl Harbor, T.H.	<p>Steaming independently for Pearl Harbor, T.H., speed 10 knots. 0445 - Changed speed to 6 knots. 0601 - Kaena light abeam to port, distance 5 miles.</p> <p>0726 - Changed course to 090 T in order to rendezvous with tow plane south of Pearl Harbor for A.A. practice at 0745. 0745 - Commenced A.A. gunnery exercises steaming various courses at 5 knots until 0915 when A.A. gunnery was secured and ship set course 122 T., speed 15 knots Weather: Wind: Fresh easterly breeze.   Sea: Light confused sea.   Swell: None.   Sky: Clear, visibility good</p> <p><b>Arrival at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii</b> 1047 - Passed Barbus Point light house abeam to port distance 3.2 miles. 1207 - Pilot came aboard and ship proceeded through the channel entrance to the assigned berth. 1250 - Moored to berth A-12, Pearl Harbor, T.H., Reported to Adcomphibspac.</p> <p>1, 2) Received aboard personnel from Waipio Amphibious Training Base for duty. 1415 - Commenced taking aboard passengers for Kwajalein and Leyte.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, August 1945</p> <p>2) Muster log, Report of Changes, USS Calvert, August 1945</p>
<b>1945-September</b>					
1945	September	1	Pearl Harbor Berth A-12, Pearl Harbor, T.H. Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	<p>1) The Calvert sailed for Kwajalein to debark her 600 passengers.</p> <p>2) Moored to berth A-12, Pearl Harbor, T.H., in company of other Pacific Fleet Units. The ship has aboard 600 casualties for Kwajalein and 250 casualties for Leyte in accordance with CINCPAC PEARL despatch 310244 August.</p> <p>The USS Calvert is unassigned transport of the Pacific Fleet and flagship of Commander Amphibious Group Fourteen, Rear Admiral R.P. Briscoe, USN. The Rear Echelon aboard, Rear Admiral RP Brisco with the Advance Echelon located in Manila, PI.</p> <p>0700 Underway from berth A-12. 0832 Sortied from Pearl Harbor, T.H., proceeding independently, speed 15.5 knots for Kwajalein, Marshall Islands. Sortie was in accordance with Commander Hawaiian Sea Frontier despatch Serial 01376 of 31 August 1945. 1618 Changed speed to 15 knots.</p> <p>Weather: Variable light winds, smooth sea and no swell were experienced throughout the day.</p>	<p>1) Cullen, p18</p> <p>2) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945</p> <p>Note: "casuals" i.e., Soldiers, airmen, or sailors who are awaiting orders, or clearances, or are otherwise between jobs.</p>
1945	September	2	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	<p>Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 15 knots.</p> <p>Weather: Weather continued to hold as fair with light variable winds, no swell, and smooth sea.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	3	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	<p>Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 15 knots.</p> <p>0907 Passed Johnson Island abeam to port distance 17 miles. Weather: Moderate easterly breeze, moderate sea with a slight swell from S.E.E.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	4	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	<p>Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 15.5 knots.</p> <p>Weather: Winds continued with gentle breeze from the east and skies mostly cloudy. Sea was smooth with no swell.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Crossed the International Date Line; Entered the Domain of the Golden Dragon</b>					
1945	September	5	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	1) 0000 Changed to -12 zone time and East Longitude making the date 6 September. 2) With the crossing of the International Date Line the Calvert and crew entered the Realm of the Golden Dragon and earned the "unofficial but highly coveted award of the United States Navy ... entering the dragon's empire by sailing west, where Asian nations celebrate the power of the dragon."	1) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945 2) Domain of the Golden Dragon, Wikipedia Online: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_of_the_Golden_Dragon">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_of_the_Golden_Dragon</a>
1945	September	6	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 15 knots. Weather: Variable light winds, smooth sea and no swell are experienced throughout the day.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	7	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands	Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 15 knots. 1404 Sighted Megit Island bearing 29 T, distance 14 miles. 1802 changed speed to 13.5 knots. 2057 Likiep Island abeam to starboard (by radar) at 17.5 miles. 2130 changed speed to 13 knots.  Weather: Variable winds from 060 to 180 force 3 to 15 knots were recorded during the day. Sky partly cloudy. Sea having a low swell from S.E.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	8	Steaming to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands  Anchored, Kwajalein, Marshall Islands  Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	1) Steaming independently enroute to Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, speed 13 knots.  0330 Radar picked up Kwajalein Island bearing 260 T, distance 20 miles. 0500 Steaming on various courses and at various speeds. <b>Arrived, Kwajalein Atoll</b> 0646 Entered Gea Island pass to Kwajalein Atoll. 0741 Anchored in berth K-19 and commenced debarking 600 passengers to Navy #824. 1054 A fuel barge came alongside and the ship took aboard 2000 barrels of fuel oil. 1315 Completed debarking of passengers and made preparations for getting underway. Fuel barge cast off.  1330 Underway for Leyte, PI. 1425 Took departure upon passing #2 red buoy close aboard to port and set speed 15.5 knots. 1448 Changed course to 296 T.  Weather: Fine and clean with small sea swells.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	9	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 15.5 knots. 1812 Increased speed to 16.5 knots to overtake two ships before dark. 1840 Decreased speed to 16 knots.  Weather: Cloudy throughout the day. Moderate easterly breeze. Light sea with no swells.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	10	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 16 knots. 0720 changed speed to 15.5 knots. Weather: Light breeze from NWW average force 11 knots. Still cloudy, sea remaining light with 1 to 2 swell.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	September	11	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 15.5 knots. 0800 Changed speed to 15 knots.  Weather: Wind from NNW velocities ranging from 8 to 16 knots, sea moderate with few swells.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	12	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 15 knots. 1815 Sighted Fais Island, distance 18 miles. 2054 Maneuvering around Ulithi Islands by radar navigation. 2147 Passed Mog Mog Island abeam to port distance 2 miles.  Weather: Mostly cloudy all day with small North Westerly sea and swell. Occasional rain squalls passed over.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	13	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 15 knots.  Weather: Strong WNW winds during the morning diminishing to 12 knots in the evening. Moderate sea and swell. Partly cloudy.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	14	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 15 knots. 0700 changed speed to 14 2/3 knots.   1230 changed speed to 14 knots. Weather: Moderate westerly winds were met as we approached Leyte. Sky partly cloudy visibility good.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	15	Steaming to Leyte, Philippines  Anchored, berth 262, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, PI	Steaming independently enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 14 knots. 0600 Proceeding, speed 15 knots, to anchorage. 0855 Entered anchorage channel; proceeding on various courses at various speeds. 0935 Passed Mariquitiaquit Island abeam to port. 1045 Moored alongside USS Brazos, AO-4 to fuel ship, in berth 107. 1216 Completed fueling ship and got underway for berth 262. 1307 Anchored in berth 262. Making preparations to debark passengers and to provision ship.  Weather: Several rain squalls during the day moderate winds and swell.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	16	Anchored, berth 262, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, PI  Underway for Zamboanga, Mindanago, PI	1) Anchored in berth 262, San Pedro Bay, Leyte, PI with other ships of the Pacific Fleet and allied Merchant ships. 0651 Underway to change berths.   0721 Anchored in berth 11. 1215 Completed disembarking of all passengers and made preparations for getting underway. 1228 Underway for Zamboanga, PI   1328 Took departure, speed 16 knots.  Weather: Strong currents were encountered with moderate sea and swell. Winds variable due to land masses. Frequent rain squalls.  2) Debarked 250 casualties at Leyte	1) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945, p8  2) Cullen, p18  Note: "casuals" i.e., Soldiers, airmen, or sailors who are awaiting orders, or clearances, or are otherwise between jobs.
1945	September	17	Underway for Zamboanga Harbor, Mindanago, PI	1) Steaming independently enroute to Zamboanga, PI, speed 16 knots. 0213 Passed Silina Island light abeam to port, distance 7.5 miles. 1330 Steaming on various courses and at various speeds proceeding into Zamboanga anchorage.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>The USS Calvert - Flagship, Commander, Amphibious Group Eleven   Commander, Central Occupation Group (Japan) - Task Group 54.11</b>					
1945	September	17	Zamboanga Harbor, Mindanago, PI Anchored Berth 39, Zamboanga Harbor, Mindanago, PI	<p><b>Occupation of Southern Honshu, which included the Kure Naval Base, Hiro Prefecture, the city of Matsuyama, and Hiroshima</b></p> <p>1) The Calvert reached Zamboanga and "donned two hats" as flagship of 1) Commander Amphibious Group Eleven, and 2) Commander, Central Occupation Group - Task Group 54.11</p> <p>2) 1442 Moored alongside USS Henry T. Allen AG-90, in berth 39, Basilan Straights, Mindanao. 1500 Commenced transfer of the Rear Echelon of the staff of Commander Amphibious Group Fourteen to the USS Henry P. Allen 1500 Received aboard Commander Amphibious Group Eleven, Rear Admiral B.J. Rodgers, USN. 1955 Completed transfer of staff and cast off lines from USS Henry T. Allen. 2000 Anchored in berth 39, Zamboanga</p>	<p>1) Cullen, p18</p> <p>2) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945</p>
1945	September	Mid	Zamboanga Harbor, Mindanago, PI	<p>Commander, Amphibious Group Eleven (ComPhibGrp 11) - Additional information</p> <p>1) "ComPhibGrp 11 was assigned to the FIFTH Amphibious Force to take over the landing of X Corps troops."</p> <p>2) "In order to provide ComPhibGrp 11 with a properly equipped flag-ship for the contemplated landing operations ComPhibsPac approved the transfer of ComPhibsGrp 11 to the USS Calvert (APA 32), flagship of ComPhibsGrp 14, upon that vessel's arrival in the Philippine Islands. The entire remaining staff of ComPhibsGrp 14 was then to transfer to the Henry T. Allen (AG 90) for the performance of rear echelon duties with Commander Fifth Amphibious Force."</p>	<p>1) Report of surrender and occupation of Japan and Korea, 1946 - Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p> <p>2) War diary, ComPhibGrp 14, September 1945 Note: Entry dated September 14, 1945</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Liberty party aboard an LCM, Zamboanga P.I. 1945</b>					
1945	September	17 Presumed	Anchored Berth 39, Zamboanga Harbor, Mindanago, PI		Calversion, Vol 33, P5 No record of who submitted the photograph to John Cole.  Online: <a href="http://www.usscalvert.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Calversion-Vol-No-33-1995.pdf">http://www.usscalvert.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Calversion-Vol-No-33-1995.pdf</a>
1945	September	18	Anchored Berth 39, Zamboanga, PI	Anchored in berth 39, Zamboanga Anchorage, Mindanao.  1855 Underway. 1903 Sortied from Zamboanga, Mindanao for Bugo, Macajalar Bay, Northern Mindanao. Set speed, 16 knots.  Weather: Winds variable in direction and force, no swell, smooth sea.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	19	Steaming to Bugo, Macajalar Bay, Northern Mindanao	Steaming independently enroute to Bugo, Mindana, speed 16 knots. 1120 Steaming in Macajalar Bay on various courses at various speeds. 1150 Anchored in Macajalar Bay off Bugo to load aboard troops.  Weather: Fair with light variable winds, no swell, and calm sea.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	20	Anchored in Macajalar Bay, Bugo, Northern Mindanao	Anchored off Bugo, Macajalar Bay, Mindanao. LCT's alongside loading aboard troops and cargo for scheduled operations.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>US Army X Corps embark the USS Calvert</b>					
1945	September	21	Anchored in Macajalar Bay, Bugo, Northern Mindanao	<p>1) On 21 September 1945, Major General Franklin C. Silbert, USA, Commanding General, Tenth Army Corps and staff were embarked. Amphibious Group Eleven , consisting of 11 APA's and 5 AKA's, plus screening units sailed for Kure, Japan, to land occupational troops.</p> <p>2) Anchored as before.</p> <p>1000 Major General F.C. Sibert, USA and staff of X Corps came aboard.</p> <p>1130 Underway for Abuyog Anchorage, Leyte Gulf, PI in company with USS Lenowel (APA-195).</p> <p>1306 Took departure, USS Lenawee taking station 600 yards astern of this vessel. Speed to 15 knots.</p> <p>1957 Passed Bolobolo (Bolo-Bolo) Point light abeam to port, distance 6.8 miles.</p> <p>Weather: Rain squalls developed during the afternoon. Wind below 10 knots variable direction. Slight sea with little to no swell.</p>	<p>1) Cullen, page 18</p> <p>2) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945</p> <p>Note: The Calvert's war diary incorrectly names "USS Lenowell" which is USS Lenawee APA-195</p>
<b>Occupation of Central Japan - Organization - Initial Shipping</b>					
1945	September	Mid-to-Late		<p>54.11 Central Occupation Group - Rear Admiral Rodgers Group Flagship - Calvert APA-32 - Comdr. Warris - RAGC</p> <p>53.3 X Corps, U.S. Army X Corp Hdq. and Corps Troops 41st Infantry Division - Major General Doe 24th Infantry Division - Major General Woodruff</p> <p>54.12 Kure Group - Commodore McGovern 54.12.1 Kure Transport Unit - TransRon 16 (Temp) - Commodore McGovern</p>	Report of surrender and occupation of Japan and Korea, 1946 - Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11
1945	September	22	Underway Anchored, Abuyog Anchorage (Southern Anchorage), Leyte Gulf, PI	<p>Steaming with USS Lenawee enroute to Leyte, PI, speed 16 knots.</p> <p>0020 Made preparations to anchor.</p> <p>0043 Anchored 1000 yards east of berth 1040, Southern Leyte Anchorage in company with ships of TG 54.11.</p> <p>0530 Transferred 7 landing craft to Samar Boat Pool and 35 enlisted personnel for further transfer to the United States for discharge.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				1) Anchored as before	
1945	September	22	Anchored, Abuyog Anchorage (Southern Anchorage), Leyte Gulf, PI	<p><b>Underway to Kure, Japan</b> 0600 Sortied from Southern Leyte Anchorage in company with TG 54.12 and proceeding to form cruising disposition I Able, speed 10 knots.</p> <p>The USS Calvert assigned Group Flagship took station 1000 yards ahead of column 2 and 3. The USS Cecil (APA96) is fleet guide.</p> <p>The Task Group formed in cruising disposition I Able, standard speed 13 knots.</p> <p>Destination: Kure, Japan.</p> <p>Weather: Winds from 13 to 17 knots from SE. Squally. Moderate sea.</p>	1) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
			Underway to Kure, Japan	2) Task Group 54.28, sortied from Abuyog Anchorage, Leyte on 22 September, composed of: - Commander Amphibious Group Eleven (CTG 54.11) in Calvert - Task Group 54.12 (TransRon 16) - Escorted by USS Charles Lawrence (APD-37) and USS Daniel T. Griffin (APD-38)	2) Report of surrender and occupation of Japan and Korea, 1946 - Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11
				3) Task Group 54.28 consisting of Commander Task Group 54.11 in USS Calvert with Transport Squadron Sixteen (temporary) was established for movement of the 41st Division and X Corps Headquarters to Hiro Wan.	3) War diary, Commander Amphibious Group 11, September 1945
1945	September	23	Steaming to Kure, Japan	1) Steaming in company with TG 54.12 with OTC in this ship, fleet guide USS Cecil. Cruising disposition I Able, at 13 knots. 0843 Changed fleet speed to 14 knots.	1) War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
			Rerouting to Buckner Bay, Okinawa	1405 OTC orders fleet course and axis changed, destination now Buckner Bay, Okinawa.	2) Cullen, page 18
				Weather: Winds E to ENE. 7 to 11 knots. Sea slight with low easterly swells.	3) War diary, Commander Amphibious Group 11, September 1945
				<b>Ordered to Buckner Bay, Okinawa, Japan</b> 2) On 23 September, Rear Admiral Rodgers, OTC, ordered the destination changed to Buckner Bay, Okinawa in order to ascertain the exact course of an oncoming typhoon.	4) War diary, USS Cecil, September 1945
				3) Orders received from Commander Fifth Amphibious Force to divert Transport and Tractor convoys to Okinawa pending confirmation of Fox Day.	
				4) Typhoon, located south-south east of Okinawa.	
1945	September	24	Steaming to Buckner Bay, Okinawa	Steaming in company with TG 54.12 with OTC in this ship, fleet guide USS Cecil. Cruising disposition I Able, at 14 knots. 0832 Changed speed to 13 knots.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
				Weather: Several squalls during the day. Light to gentle S'ly winds 4 to 10 knots. Sea was slight to smooth with continued easterly low swells.	
1945	September	25	Steaming to Buckner Bay, Okinawa	Steaming in company with TG 54.12 with OTC in this ship, fleet guide USS Cecil. Cruising disposition I Able, speed 13 knots.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
			Anchored, Buckner Bay, Okinawa	1248 Made landfall on Okinawa Shima, distance 25 miles. 1502 Ship proceeding independently on various courses and at various speeds entering Buckner Bay. 1735 Anchored in berth L-49, Buckner Bay, Okinawa.	Editor's note: "Landfall made" as mentioned here means sighting of land after a voyage.

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	September	26 - 27	Anchored, Buckner Bay, Okinawa	Anchored in Berth L-49, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima with other ships of TG 54.12 and other ships of the US Fleet and Merchant Marine.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
				1) Anchored as before.	
			Buckner Bay, Okinawa	1300 Underway from Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima in obedience to visual despatch from SOPA Okinawa. This movement was in accordance with SOPA Okinawa Typhoon Plan X-Ray. In which all ships anchored in Buckner Bay retire to the westward of Okinawa. Proceeding on various courses at various speeds with other units of TG 54.12.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	26 - 28	At sea, west of Okinawa, evading typhoon	1600 TG 54.12 formed cruising disposition I Able. This ship stationed 1000 yards ahead of columns 2 and 3. USS Cecil fleet guide. This ship OTC. Set fleet speed 7 knots. The typhoon at this time was located at 17 North, Long 134 North headed NW at at speed of 8 knots.  Weather: Weather during this time was moderate with occasional squalls. Wind 10 to 15 knots with shower gusts to 22 knots.	2) Cullen, page 18
				2) Movement was made pursuant a typhoon plan promulgated by SOPA, Buckner Bay in which all ships anchored in the Bay were to retire to westward of Okinawa.	
				Steaming in company with TG 54.12 executing SOPA Okinawa's Typhoon X-Ray plan (westward). This ship OTC steaming in cruising disposition I Able, stationed 1000 yards ahead of columns 2 and 3. USS Cecil fleet guide bearing 207 relative 1120 yards. Fleet speed 7 knots.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945
1945	September	29	At sea, west of Okinawa, evading typhoon	0530 Changed fleet course by executing 4 - 45 Corpen Queen movements. 1619 Changed fleet course by executing 4 - 45 Corpen Queen movements. 1632 Changed fleet speed to 10 knots.  Weather: Gentle westerly winds. Several showers during the day, visibility over 10 miles; 3 miles in showers. Sea slight with low SE'ly swells increasing during night to moderate.	Note: Corpen is a maneuver of a formation of ships. The detail for the Corpen Queen movement mentioned here is not able to be described at this time. Source: <a href="https://www.hazegray.org/faq/slang1.htm">https://www.hazegray.org/faq/slang1.htm</a>
				1) Steaming as before, enroute to Kure, Japan. USS Cecil fleet guide, fleet speed 13.5 knots.	
				0328 Changed fleet speed to 7 knots.	
			Enroute to Kure, Japan	<b>Return to Okinawa</b> 0800 In obedience to Commander Fifth Fleet despatch 290609 September, TG 54.12 departed Okinawa area for Kure, Japan.	
1945	September	30	Return to Buckner Bay, Okinawa	0854 Changed fleet speed to 13 knots.   1251 Changed fleet speed to 13.5 knots.   1804 Passed Okinoyerabu Jima abeam to port distance 4 miles.  2345 Upon orders to CTG 54.12 the fleet course was changed and TG 54.12 headed for destination of Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima.  Weather: NE winds with velocities to 27 knots, partly cloudy. Sea slight with northeasterly moderate swells.	War diary, USS Calvert, September 1945

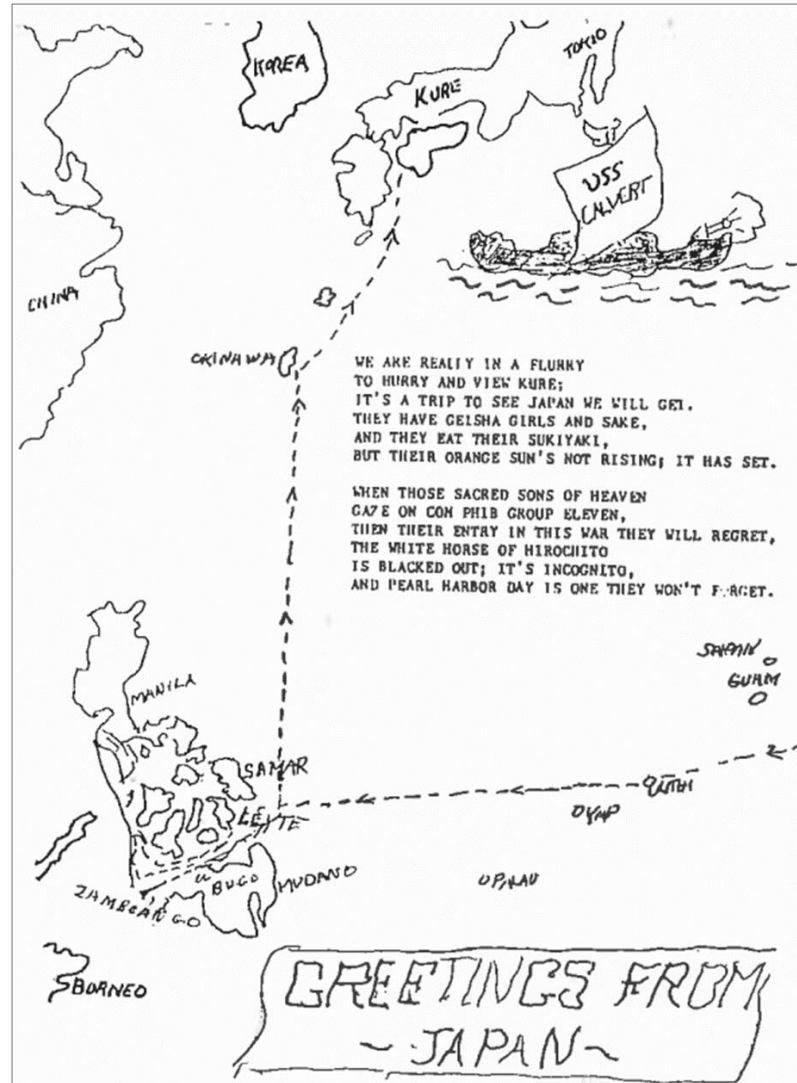
Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<p><b>Pressure mines in the waters near Kure force delay for the Occupation Force</b></p> <p>1) "The Kure Group landing was scheduled to take place between 1 and 3 October, but was delayed by the necessity for checking the channel for the presence of U. S. pressure mines, and was further delayed by a typhoon."</p> <p>2) "While en route to Japan this echelon received naval reports stating that mine conditions in Hiro Wan were still uncertain. As a result of this situation, COMFIFTHPHIBFORCE directed the Naval Task Group Commander, Naval Task Group 54.11 (Amphibious Group 5), Rear Admiral Rodgers commanding, transporting the X Corps, to divert the initial X Corps echelon to Okinawa and to hold it there for several days."</p>	<p>1) Report of surrender and occupation of Japan and Korea, 1946 - Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p> <p>2) Sixth United States Army. Report of the Occupation of Japan. 22 September 1945 - 30 November 1945</p>
				<p>Pressure mines, continued</p> <p>"Prior to the Japanese surrender, Allied aircraft, throughout widespread aerial mining operations, had successfully closed many Japanese ports. In some cases these aircraft had used pressure mines, and, as there was no method yet devised for sweeping these mines, their presence in certain areas created an undue hazard to sweeping other types of mines. Studies by the Fifth Fleet, which was charged with sweeping the mines, indicated that no difficulties would be encountered at Sasebo, Nagasaki, and Kochi. The harbor of Nagoya could be swept with difficulty, but the harbors of Kobe, Osaka, Shimoneseiki, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, and Kure would be inaccessible for an indefinite period.</p> <p>Accordingly the Kure occupation force was directed to land at Hiro, clear of mines, located approximately 5 miles east of Kure."</p>	<p>Sixth United States Army. Report of the Occupation of Japan. 22 September 1945 * 30 November 1945</p>
				<p>Pressure mines, continued</p> <p>"... From the first it was apparent that the extensive operations which had seen the Army and Navy air forces successfully close certain Japanese ports by aerial mining had now become a boomerang, in that they closed these ports to our occupation forces as well. No method of successfully sweeping the pressure type mine was known, and their presence in certain areas created an undue hazard to the sweeping of other types of mines. Yet it was true that the other types of U.S. mines and the Japanese defensive minefields had to be swept if entry of these ports was to be effected, and the problem presented in the case of these mines was not so much one of technical difficulty as in the number of minesweeping craft required. ... Hiroshima and Kure (in southern Honshu) were both inaccessible; but Hiro-Wan, just east of Kure, afforded satisfactory conditions for landing the Hiroshima-Kure occupation force, and the necessary sweeping was practicable."</p>	<p>Report of Surrender and Occupation of Japan. Commander in Chief, US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas. February 11, 1946</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>1945-October</b>					
1945	October	1	Enroute to Buckner Bay, Okinawa Anchored, Buckner Bay, Okinawa	<p>1) Steaming as before at fleet speed of 13.5 knots, enroute to Buckner Bay, Okinawa. Calvert is O.T.C. in company with TG 54.12, convoy in cruising disposition I Able. USS Cecil (APA96) is fleet guide bearing 207 relative, 1120 yards from this ship.</p> <p>The USS Calvert (APA32) is a unassigned transport of the Pacific Fleet serviced as a flagship for Commander Amphibious Group Eleven, Rear Admiral B.J. Rodgers, USN who is CTG 54.11. The task group was enroute from Leyte, P.I. to Kure, Japan, but had temporarily diverted into Okinawa to avoid a typhoon which was forming to the south.</p> <p>1200 - Made preparations for entering port. Steaming independently on various courses and at various speeds. 1258 - Anchored in berth I-49 Buckner Bay, Okinawa Shima.</p>	War Diary, USS Calvert, October 1945
1945	October	2		No war diary entry for the 2nd.	War Diary, USS Calvert, October 1946
1945	October	3	Anchored, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Steaming to Kure, Japan	<p>1) Anchored as before.</p> <p>0933 - Underway from Buckner Bay for Kure, Japan. Steaming on various course at various speeds conforming to the channel. 1000 - Took departure. Speed 16 knots, proceeding to take station in cruising disposition I Able with TG 54.12. 1149 - On station. Fleet guide USS Cecil. Changed to fleet speed 12 knots. 1530 - Held general drills.</p> <p>2) It was not until 3 October when ComPhibGrp 11, Rear Admiral Rodgers, determined the weather conditions had resumed a stat of normality which permitted the movement of the Central Occupation Group to Hiro Wan, Japan, port of entry for Kure, Hiroshima, and Hiro - all of atomic bomb "fame."</p> <p>3) On 3 October: ComPhibGrp Eleven, Rear Admiral Rodgers, in Calvert (APA 32) with TransRon 16 and escorted by Charles Lawrence and Daniel Griffin departed Buckner Bay for Hiro Wan.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Cullen, page 18</p> <p>3) Commander Amphibious Group Four (ComPhibGrp 4), Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative</p>
1945	October	4	Enroute to Kure, Japan.	<p>1) Steaming in company with TG 54.12 enroute to Kure, Japan. Fleet speed 12 knots.</p> <p>2) During the afternoon wind velocity increased to 38 knots.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (III) - Chronological Record of Events - CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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"I am enclosing a copy of a verse that was written aboard the Calvert when were on our way to Japan from Leyte in the Philippines. I boarded the Calvert when it was in the shipyards at Bremerton, WA. Undergoing repair getting ready for the invasion of Japan. The war ended suddenly when they dropped the bomb but we went ahead with the previous plan and went to Leyte and picked up a convoy of eleven ships and on up to Japan. "

Calversion, Vol 26, P6- Darrel "Bud" Gerard  
 Online: <http://www.usscalvert.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Calversion-Vol-No-26-1992.pdf>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>Occupation of Southern Honshu Including: Kure Naval Base, Hiro Prefecture, the city of Matsuyama, and Hiroshima</b>					
1945	October	5	Anchored in Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan.	<p>Arrival, Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan</p> <p>1) Steaming as before. 0447 - Made landfall on Shikoku, Japan, distance 20 miles. 0800 - Entered Bungo Suido, steaming on various courses at various speeds through the swept channel to the Inland Sea. 11104 - Formed cruising disposition EASY. 1230 - Entered Inland Sea. 1450 - Changed speed to 15 knots. 1612 - Anchored in Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan.</p> <p>2) Upon entering Bugo and at Point Cardiff, transports formed single column astern of Calvert. The Calvert anchored at 1612 5000 yards bearing 186 from the Southern tip of Yuri Shima. During the evening Japanese pilots and interpreters were transferred to the Calvert (and other ships of the convoy). A total of 7 floating mines were sighted by units passing through the swept channel on 5 October. Of these one was sunk by gunfire.</p> <p>3) 0602 Entered Bungo Suido via swept channel. Numerous mines sighted drifting eastward. 1619 Anchored in Eastern Iyo Nada, swept channel, Japan.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (III) - Chronological Record of Events - CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p> <p>3) War Diary, USS Cecil, October 1945</p>
1945	October	early		<p>1) "Lots of floating mines in the harbors of Japan, but we had a Japanese pilot aboard to guide us through. Ha! We exploded several as when one was spotted it had to be destroyed."</p> <p>2) "A number of drifting enemy mines were seen in and near the swept channel of Bungo Suido 5-6 October."</p>	<p>1) Calversion, Vol 26, P6- Darrel "Bud" Gerard</p> <p>2) COMTASKUNIT 54.15.1 - Report of operations in the occupation of Kure - Hiro Wan Area, Honshu, Japan, 10/7-8/45 - Online: <a href="https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77522792">https://catalog.archives.gov/id/77522792</a></p>
1945	October	5	Anchored in Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan.	<p>"The USS Calvert was the Flagship for the occupation of Southern Honshu, which included the Kure Naval Base, Hiro Prefecture, the city of Matsuyama, (where the first occupation landing took place) and Hiroshima. The Japanese Admiral and his staff came aboard to meet with our Admiral (I believe it was Admiral Rodgers), and clear the way for the occupation. The date was October 5, 1945. At that time no naval personnel had been to Hiroshima and there was some question as to how they would be received, considering the battering the city had taken."</p>	<p>Calversion, Vol 40, pp2, 3 – Leroy Steiner, Lt. USNR</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Inland Sea | Area of Iyo Nada, Kure, Hiroshima, and Matsuyama**  
 Japan Operations Special Strategic Strike Planning Map  
 "Japan (South) Special Strategic Map" 1943

Online: <https://premierrelics.com/new-products-35/rare-wwii-1943-japan-operations-special-strategic-strike-planning-map>

1945	October	6	<p>Anchored in Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan.</p> <p>Underway for Hiro Wan Anchorage.</p>	<p>1) Anchored in Iyo Nada, Inland Sea, Japan with other ships of TG 54.12.</p> <p>At 0600, 6 October a Japanese pilot and an interpreter boarded several vessels of the occupation group, including the Calvert, Flagship, and the convoy moved toward Hiro Wan escorted by a gunfire support group composed of cruisers and destroyers.</p> <p>0617 - Underway for Hiro Wan Anchorage. Steaming on various courses at various speeds conforming to the swept channel.</p>	<p>War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p>
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Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	6	Underway for Hiro Wan Anchorage. Anchored in berth #19, Hiro Wan, Japan.	<b>Arrival, Hiro Wan Anchorage   Unloading begins</b> 0835 - Anchored in berth #19, Hiro Wan, Japan. All boats were in the water, unloading army personnel and equipment. Weather: Broken skies becoming overcast in the afternoon. Visibility 8-12 miles. Wind northeast 10-15 knots.	War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945
1945	October	7	Berth, #19, Hiro Wan, Japan	Unloading continues 1) Anchored in berth, #19, Hiro Wan, Japan with other ships of the fifth fleet. Unloading army personnel and equipment by small boat, which continued until 1530. 2) Weather: Overcast with showers and light rain throughout the day. Wind northeast 10-15 knots. 3) On 7 October the 41st Infantry Division and the X Corps H.Q. US Army commenced landing at HIRO, a few miles southeast of Kure. 4) "No Japanese opposition was encountered. Fire support ships and air support units were present, to support the landing (HIRO), but no shooting was required."	1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945 2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative 3) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Report of operations in the occupation of Western Japan, October 4, 1945 - November 8, 1945 4) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (I) - Brief Summary CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11
1945	October	8	Berth, #19, Hiro Wan, Japan Presumed	1) No entry for this day in the Calvert's war diary. 2) Weather: Overcast with light rain all day. Wind northeast, 5-10 knots. 3) "Nasaka Jima was designated as a recreation island and recreation parties were authorized." Note: Nasaka Jima harbor, outside Kure, is noted as the location where the Japanese battleship Hyuga was sunk in July 1945. However, the exact location of this island is not currently discoverable. Possibly current day Nasake Island.	1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945 2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative 3) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (III) - CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11
1945	October	9	Berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan	1630 - The ship got underway shifting to berth #2. 2) Weather: Overcast with light rain all day. Wind northeast, increasing from 2 knots in the morning to 20 knots in late afternoon. Typhoon passed Okinawa at 1500, expected to affect Hiro Wan area by 10th. 2100 - Set Typhoon condition ONE.	1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945 2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	10 - 12	Berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan presumed	<p>1) There are no entries for this date range in the Calvert's war diary for the period October 10 - 12</p> <p>2) Daily weather records for the period October 10 - October 12, Hiro Wan anchorage area: 10th - Overcast with rain and light showers. Visibility 2-8 miles. Wind Northeast 15-20 knots, increasing to 35-40 knots at 1900. - 0611 Set Typhoon Condition Two.</p> <p>3) "Typhoon conditions were set during passage of a typhoon. All boats were hoisted and no casualties were suffered."</p> <p>2) 11th - Partly cloudy with few scattered rain showers. Wind northwest 15-20 knots. Sea slight. 0013 Secured from typhoon condition Two, typhoon having passed directly over the area but without serious effect. 12th - Mostly clear skies in the morning gave way to partly cloudy skies in the afternoon. Few rain showers. Wind west to northwest 10 knots.</p> <p>3) "Liberty parties to Hiroshima by LCM were inaugurated."</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative</p> <p>3) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (IV) - Brief Summary, CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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The USS Calvert anchored in Hiro Wan, Japan, October 1945.  
All landing craft are disembarked.



Online:  
<http://www.usscalvert.com/2013/11/18/uss-calvert-photograph-japan-october-1945/>  
Purchased on eBay, 2013

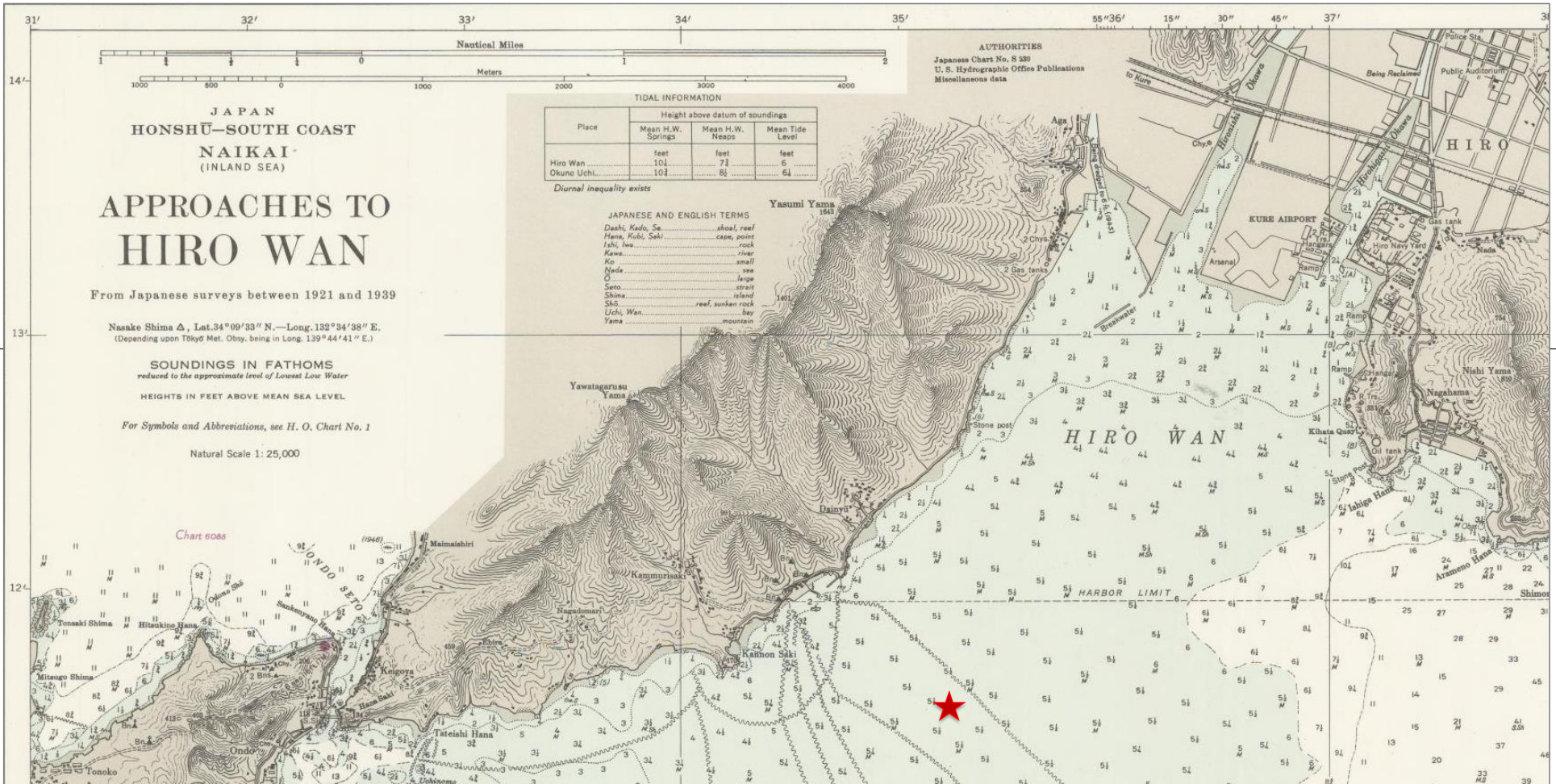
Note: Wan, the Japanese name for bay.

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Hiro Wan anchorage area, USS Calvert's approximate location**

UC San Diego collection - Online: <https://library.ucsd.edu/dc/object/bb61787134>

The red star indicates the Calvert's approximate location in Hiro Wan, based on the topography visible in the photograph directly below and compared to the terrain viewable via Google Maps street view from the Matsuyama location.



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	Mid to Late	Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area	<p>The crew of the USS Calvert visits Hiroshima</p> <p>"Government agencies and the Veterans Administration contend the Calvert was anchored 10.9 miles from the city of Hiroshima. The assumption is of course that the men were never any closer to Hiroshima than 10 miles. This is not true because they went ashore in the ship's landing boats. ... In the days we were in the area there were several day long trips by the ships landing boats to Hiroshima enabling the crew to spend many hours walking around among the ruins and in the streets of Hiroshima. They took a lot of pictures and I am sure they are available as evidence of their presence there. ...</p> <p>The first group to enter Hiroshima were the men from the Calvert as a test mission — orders were no guns, no hostile attitude or action — just candy, cigarettes, soap, etc. to give out to show the people and children that they were not going to be treated badly. The only precaution was not to go wandering around alone and to stay in groups of 5 or more. There were no warnings about possible residual radiation. I was on the first trip. I recall it was Columbus Day, October 12, 1945 and there were about a dozen officers and I think 48 enlisted men. By the time we left the area most of the crew of the USS Calvert had been in Hiroshima." –</p>	Calversion, Vol 40, pp2, 3 – Leroy Steiner, Lt. USNR
1945	October	Mid to Late	Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area	<p>1) "We were anchored about seven miles from Hiroshima so out of curiosity a group of us took one of our landing crafts over to see it," Shaddock remembers. "I believe we were some of the first Americans to see what it looked like after the dropping of the bomb. It was just miles and miles of utter destruction. We found stacks of dishes that had been fused together by the heat of the bomb, and gravel that had been fused to a porcelain pitcher."</p> <p>2) "There were no occupational forces in the city only specialty people. We spent approximately 3 or 4 hours walking through the ruins and observing the devastation."</p> <p>3) "Earl often spoke of his time aboard the USS Calvert and told of being the Captain's orderly and said that that he and several others went ashore (Hiroshima) with the Captain to see the ruins."</p> <p>4) "We took liberty boats to Hiroshima. It was a mess - of course we had to look for a beer which we found after a wild ride in an old pick-up truck we flagged down."</p>	<p>1) Pulteney Street Survey. Winter 2016. p1. Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Warren Shaddock Online at: <a href="https://www.hws.edu/alumni/pssWinter16/wwii.aspx">https://www.hws.edu/alumni/pssWinter16/wwii.aspx</a></p> <p>2) Calversion, Vol 6, p9 - C. G. Clauss</p> <p>3) Calversion, Vol 5, p8 - Charlotte M. Hammond, wife of Earl S. White, S1c, USNR</p> <p>4) Calversion, Vol 26, P6 - Darrel "Bud" Gerard</p>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Hiroshima, October 1945 - Robert E. Randle, RdM3c, aboard the USS Calvert, and ashore at Hiroshima, during the occupation.**

Hand-written caption on back of photograph: " Here it is: Hiroshima; this is what it looks like Dad. The only things standing are modern buildings. This is a hospital in the background on the far right. On the left is a post office and a couple of more houses. Bob."

From the Robert E. Randle, RdM3c photograph collection, provided by his sister, Maureen.

Online:

<https://www.usscalvert.com/2019/08/08/robert-e-randle-rdm3c/> and <http://www.usscalvert.com/2021/01/16/occupation-of-central-japan-hiro-wan-bay-hiroshima-area-october-1945/>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
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**Hiroshima, October 1945 - Henry Dittmer, PhM3c(T), aboard the USS Calvert, and ashore at Hiroshima, during the occupation**  
 These photos were taken by Henry Dittmer in October 1945 as his unit debarked and toured the ruins of Hiroshima.

Henry Dittmer, PhM3c(T) photograph collection  
 Shared by Henry's son, David Dittmer.



Online:  
<http://www.usscalvert.com/2021/01/16/occupation-of-central-japan-hiro-wan-bay-hiroshima-area-october-1945/>  
 and  
<https://www.usscalvert.com/2022/04/23/henry-paul-dittmer-phm2ct-1944-1945-atomic-war-veteran/>

Excerpts from Henry T. Dittmer's interview by Keith Whittle, 1998.

"I was a Corpsman with the group that went in. They never had a big onshore job, it was sorta touring the area. ... We were off the ship and we would go ashore in the morning and come back at night. ... We had a Japanese group tour us through a factory, and then we picked up some souvenirs on the way. ... They turned us loose for a while and we walked down through that stuff and the odd things you'd see would be like, a building standing with everything else around it would be collapsed. It was weird in that respect. Here would be one standing; one would even have some glass on one side."

Interviewer: Did you have a radiation monitor with you at that time?  
 "No, nobody knew about radiation."

Were there quite a few people there, I mean Japanese?  
 Yeah, there was a lot of them, and they seemed reasonably friendly, you always had an eerie feeling, because you didn't know what was going to happen.

1945 October Mid to Late Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area

Atomic Veterans: Hiroshima Japan  
 Former website, circa 2007,  
[www.aracnet.com/~pdxavets/hiroshima.htm](http://www.aracnet.com/~pdxavets/hiroshima.htm)  
 Screenshots provided by Henry Dittmer's son, David Dittmer, May 2022.

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	Mid to Late	Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area	<p><b>The remains of the Japanese imperial navy at Kure</b></p> <p>"There in the harbor were two big carriers, two small carriers, one battleship, an other smaller vessels in various stages of destruction as they were left after the 3rd Fleet's strike last July. Some were listing and others completely lying on their sides in the mud with their bottoms up.</p> <p>Being an intelligence officer, Hellman was familiar with all the Japanese ships. The Haruna, which had been reported sunk several different times, was among the vessels Hellman went aboard to examine.</p> <p>He was on the USS Calvert for the Japanese occupation."</p>	Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Sunday, December 30, 1945
1945	October	Mid to Late	Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area	<p><b>Amazed at Sights on Hiroshima</b></p> <p>P.G. Potiriades, PhM3 3/c, found a number of things on Hiroshima, Japan, that rather amazed him, according to a letter received from him here. ... He had gone through a temporary hospital and was shocked at the lack of sanitation in the laboratories. They were all furnished with German books, guides and equipment, he said. "What impressed me the most was that as soon as anyone was old enough to walk he was wearing an army uniform. Boys, 2, 3 and 4 years old were all in uniform - but just try to bargain for any of it. I imagine that it's all the clothing that they have, however, I haven't seen any 2 uniforms the exact kind." Potriades was having liberty from his ship, the USS Calvert, when he made his observations.</p>	Globe-Gazette. Mason City, Iowa. November 26, 1945
1945	October	Mid to Late	Occupation of Southern Honshu, including Hiro Wan area and Hiroshima area	<p><b>Gospel Signing In Hiroshima.</b></p> <p>"A few days ago, in company with some of my shipmates from the USS Calvert, flagship for the commander of Task Group Eleven in Fifty-fourth Task Force, I visited the atomic-bombed city of Hiroshima. My words will be so inadequate to describe what I saw. ... The only thing that remains of the downtown district is the bulk of a modern fireproof hospital and a few buildings of Hiroshima University. It is what happened in the partially destroyed hospital that I want to tell you about.</p> <p>A few patients, nurses and doctors (Japanese) remained there. They greeted us with a very friendly smile; not the cynical one that the Jap is usually pictured with. In the chapel there was a piano which, strange as it may seem, survived the bombing and stayed in perfect tune. Harry Auer, Radioman Second Class from West Virginia, and Walter Aust, Radioman Third Class from Rhode Island, asked them if they would like to hear me sing. They consented, and never have I ever had a more attentive audience."</p>	Gospel Signing In Hiroshima. Eugene M. Bartlett, Jr. RM3/c. Written while anchored at Kure, Japan. The California Southern Baptist. April 4, 1946.

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	Mid to Late	Hiro Wan and Hiroshima area	The USS Calvert's crew and landing craft in Hiroshima, 1945. 	5) Calversion, Vol 33, P5 No record of who submitted the photographs.  Online: <a href="http://www.usscalvert.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Calversion-Vol-No-33-1995.pdf">http://www.usscalvert.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Calversion-Vol-No-33-1995.pdf</a>



Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	13 - 20	Anchored, Hiro Wan, Berth #2, as before (presumed)	<p>1) There are no entries in the Calvert's war diary for the period October 13 - 20.</p> <p>2) Daily weather records for the period October 10 - October 20, Hiro Wan anchorage area:  13th - Mostly clear. Wind light and variable.  14th - Clear skies in the morning were followed by few scattered cumulus clouds in the afternoon. Wind was light and variable throughout the day with a slight sea breeze effect in the afternoon.  15th - Partly cloudy skies throughout most of the day, overcast in the late afternoon. Wind east to northeast 4-6 knots in the morning increasing 10-15 knots in the afternoon  16th - Mostly clear skies throughout the day. Wind east 10-15 knots.  17th - Partly cloudy in the morning, overcast in the afternoon. Wind east 10 knots  18th - Overcast skies with light rain most of the day. Visibility reduced occasionally to 1/2 mile but averaging 5 miles. Wind northeast 10-15 knots.  19th - Overcast skies with light rain in the morning. Visibility averaged 6 miles in the morning but improved to 10 miles in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.  20th - Overcast skies throughout the day with light rain in the afternoon. Wind east-northeast 8 knots.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative</p>
1945	October	21	Anchored, Hiro Wan, Berth #2  Enroute to Mitsuhamama, Japan  Anchored in berth #34, Mitsuhamama Anchorage	<p>1) Anchored as before.  1000 - Made preparations for getting underway  1025 - Underway in accordance with verbal orders of CTG 54.11 (aboard this ship) for Mitsuhamama, Japan in execution of the second phase of CTG 54.11 operation order A1105-45, occupation of Mitsuhamama area. Steaming on various courses at various speeds conforming to the swept channel.  1213 - Anchored in berth #34, Mitsuhamama Anchorage. CTG 54.11 is SOPA in this ship.</p> <p>2) This vessel remained anchored in Hiro Wan until 21 October at which time the Calvert departed for Mitsuhamama, Shikoku, Japan, with Rear Admiral Rodgers, CTG 54.11 embarked to participate in the occupation of Shikoku.</p> <p>3) At 1015 Calvert, with CTG 54.11 and CG X Corps embarked, left Hiro Wan for Mitsuhamama (aka, Matsuyama).</p> <p>4) Weather: Overcast with rain showers. Wind easterly 12 knots.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945, p3</p> <p>2) Cullen, page 18</p> <p>3) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (III) - CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p> <p>4) Commander Amphibious Group Four (ComPhibGrp 4), Supplement to Report of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force as CTF 54. Part III - Chronological Narrative</p>
1945	October	22	Mitsuhamama (aka, Matsuyama)	<p><b>Amphibious Landing, Matsuyama, Shikoku</b></p> <p>Commander Amphibious Group ELEVEN (Rear Admiral B. J. Rodgers, USN), in the CALVERT (APA-32) was in charge of the amphibious landing which was made commencing at 0831, on the morning of 22 October. The landing was completed without incident and the Commanding General 24th Infantry Division assumed command ashore in Matsuyama, Shikoku area at 1300.</p>	<p>War diary, Commander Battleship Squadron One, Action Report, November 1945, p3</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	October	22 - 26	Anchored in berth #34, Mitsuhamma Anchorage  Presumed	<p>1) No entries in the Calvert's war diary for this date range.</p> <p>2) Weather conditions, Hiro Wan area 22nd - Broken skies during the morning becoming overcast in the afternoon, with showers after 1600. Wind northeast 10 knots. 23rd - Broken to overcast skies with showers throughout the day. Wind north 12 knots. 24th - Partly Cloudy with good visibility. Wind light and variable. 25th - Mostly clear skies throughout the day. Wind east 15-18 knots. 26th - Overcast in the morning. Partly cloudy in the afternoon. Light haze in the afternoon. Wind light and variable.</p>	<p>1) War Diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Report of operations in the occupation of Western Japan, October 4, 1945 - November 8, 1945</p>
1945	October	27	Mitsuhamma, Japan to Hiro Wan, Japan  Anchored in berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan	<p>1) Anchored as before 1600 - Made preparations for getting underway.</p> <p><b>Return to Hiro Wan anchorage</b> 11617 - Underway for Hiro Wan, Japan in accordance with verbal orders CTG 54.11 aboard this ship. Steaming on various speeds conforming to the swept channel. 1819 - Anchored in berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan.</p> <p>2) CTG 54.11 in Calvert (APA 32) with Gainard (DD 706) for Hiro Wan.</p> <p>2) Weather conditions, Hiro Wan: Clear skies in the morning with few scattered low clouds in the afternoon. Wind east 10-15 knots.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p> <p>2) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (I) - Brief Summary CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p> <p>3) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Report of operations in the occupation of Western Japan, October 4, 1945 - November 8, 1945</p>
1945	October	27 - 31	Anchored in berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan	<p>On 27 October the Calvert returned to Hiro Wan for a period of 5 days and then departed for Yokohama.</p> <p>Hiro Wan weather conditions 28th - Clear skies throughout the day. Wind east 15 knots 29th - Partly cloudy skies. Visibility 8-10 miles. Wind northwest 10 knots 30th - Overcast with rain showers throughout the day. Wind north-east 10 knots.</p>	<p>1) Cullen, page 18</p> <p>2) Commander Amphibious Group Four, Report of operations in the occupation of Western Japan, October 4, 1945 - November 8, 1945</p>
1945	October			<p><b>Summary of Landings</b></p> <p>"No difficulties were experienced in launching the landing boats at either Hiro or Matsuyama due to the fairly sheltered anchorages available. Weather did not interfere with landing craft operations at either location except 9-10 October at Hiro when Typhoon conditions were set during passage of a typhoon. All boats were hoisted and no casualties were suffered."</p>	<p>Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (IV) - Brief Summary CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
				<p><b>No opposition was encountered</b></p> <p>1) "During the early planning stages, when the form Japanese reaction to the surrender rescript would take was still an unknown quantity, the 5thPhibFor's general conception of the operation was one of landings conducted as assaults in everything but actual firing, with naval gunfire and air support deployed and instantly ready. The initial landings of troops were to be made across suitable beaches, to be followed by seizures of dock areas and the unloading of service elements, equipment, and stores. The necessity of mine sweeping in the vicinity of each objective obviated any question of effecting surprise landings.</p> <p>Later directives took cognizance of the submissive attitude of the Japanese and provided for early announcement to Japanese authorities of the dates of arrival of the occupation forces and the presentation to these authorities of the conditions to be met by the Japanese prior to these landings."</p> <p>2) "No Japanese opposition was encountered. Fire support ships and air support units were present, to support the landing (HIRO), but no shooting was required."</p>	<p>1) Report of Surrender and Occupation of Japan, Commander in Chief, US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, February 11, 1946</p> <p>2) Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (I) - Brief Summary - CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p>
				<p><b>Medical Summary</b></p> <p>"Public health conditions in the occupation areas were most unsatisfactory, and offered a definite hazard to the health of personnel of the occupation forces. The incidence of typhoid fever and diphtheria in the civilian population was high. All personnel of the occupation forces were cautioned to abstain from eating native foods and drinking untreated water. Fresh water aboard ships was chlorinated and salt water was used only for head flushing purposes. No epidemic developed. The naval personnel were immunized against cholera and typhus fever, and typhoid booster injections were brought up to date. None of these diseases were reported in the forces afloat."</p>	<p>Action Report on the Occupation of Kure-Hiroshima and Matsuyama Area - Part (IV) - Brief Summary CTG 54.11, Com Phib Group 11</p>
1945	October			<p>0530 - Made preparations for getting underway.</p> <p><b>Underway for Yokohama, Japan</b></p> <p>0600 - Underway for Yokohama, Japan in accordance with Commander Fifth Fleet despatch 300420 October in company with TG 54.20.1 composed of USS Mt. McKinley (AGC7), USS Calvert (APA32) and USS Harveson (DE316). The ships formed a column with 1000 yards distance between ships. USS Mt. McKinley is OTC and guide. Proceeded through the swept channel to the Inland Sea. Standard speed 12 knots.</p> <p>Weather: N.W. winds with velocities to 14 knots, partly cloudy. Sea slight with easterly moderate swells.</p>	
1945	October	31	<p>Anchored in berth #2, Hiro Wan, Japan</p> <p>Underway to Yokohama, Japan</p>		<p>War diary, USS Calvert, October 1945</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>1945-November</b>					
1945	November	1	Enroute to Yokohama, Japan	<p>The task group's position at 0000 is Lat 32deg 35min North, Long 133deg 50min East on course 077 true, speed 12 knots. 0201 Passed Muroto Zaki light abeam to port, distance 35 miles. Changed courses and speeds throughout the day</p> <p>Weather: Northerly to N.E. winds, partly cloudy, sea slight.</p> <p>The USS Calvert (APA32) is an amphibious attack transport of the Pacific Fleet assigned as flagship for Commander amphibious Group Eleven, Rear Admiral B.J. Rodgers, USN. The USS Calvert is attached to Task Group 54.20.1 composed of: USS Mt. McKinley (AGC7) O.T.C.; USS Calvert (APA32); USS Harveson (DE316).</p> <p>The task group is enroute from Hiro Wan, Japan to Yokohama, Japan in accordance with Commander Fifth Fleet dispatch 300420 October. The USS Calvert has been ordered to Yokohama, Japan to exchange staffs with the USS Mt. Olympus (AGCS), who has embarked Commander Third Amphibious Force.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	2	Enroute to Yokohama, Japan Moored to buoy #6, Yokohama Harbor	<p>0000 Increased speed to 10 knots 0140 to 0620 - Various courses and speed changes</p> <p><b>Arrival, Tokyo Bay</b> 0621 Changed course and proceeded independently on various courses and speeds conforming to channel into Tokyo Bay.</p> <p>0938 Moored to buoy #6 in Yokohama Harbor, Japan with port anchor chain. Various units of the Pacific Fleet present.</p> <p>Weather: Sea slight, winds variable, sky partly cloudy.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	3	Moored, as before	No entry for November 3rd	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	4	Moored, as before	Enlisted men and officers commenced coming aboard for transportation to continental United States.	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	5	Moored, as before Underway Lower Berth "D", Yokohama Harbor	<p>Moored as before. 0654 Underway in accordance with orders from ComPhibGrp 11. 0730 Moored port side to the USS Mount Olympus lower berth "D", Yokohama. Continued loading passengers for the United States.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	6	Moored, as before	<p>1) Moored port side South Side Pier Berth "D" outboard of USS Mount Olympus (AGC8) with three 10" manila lines doubled up. SOPA is ComThirdPhibFor embarked in the USS Mount Olympus. Ships present: United States, British, and Japanese Navies and U.S. Merchant Ships.</p> <p>2) On 6 November, while at Yokohama, Admiral Rodgers shifted his flag to the USS Mt. Olympus (ACG-8), and the staff of the Third Amphibious Force, Commodore P. P. Powell, USN, Chief of Staff, in administrative command, embarked the Calvert, together with elements of the 6th Marine Division and various army units, for transportation to Pearl Harbor.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945 2) Cullen, page 18-19</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
<b>End of the Calvert's participation in the Occupation of Japan</b>					
1945	November	7	Moored, as before	<p>1) For the period 16 September 1945 to November 7 1945 the embarked crew members were eligible for the Navy Occupation Service Medal for their participation in the Occupation of Japan.</p> <p>2) "The entire occupation plan was effectuated without incident and with full cooperation of the Japanese people."</p>	<p>1) Navsource online <a href="http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/03/03032.htm">http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/03/03032.htm</a></p> <p>2) Cullen, p18</p>
1945	November	7	Moored to buoy #6, Yokohama Harbor  Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Moored port side to the USS Mt. Olympus 0928 - Rear Admiral Rodgers Commander of Amphibious Group 11 and staff detached from duty aboard this vessel and reported for duty aboard the USS Mt. Olympus. PhibGroupFor 3 with Commodore P.P. Powell, USN, in administrative command reported aboard for duty.</p> <p>1030 - Made all preparations for getting underway.</p> <p><b>Underway to Pearl Harbor</b> 1118 - Underway for Pearl Harbor, T.H., in accordance of despatch (sp) of Commander Third Amphibious Force 060858/Nov, in company of USS Ulvert M. Moore (DE 442 as escort. Proceeding on various courses and speed conforming to the channel. Weather: Clear, surface winds light and variable.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	8	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Steaming in company with USS Ulvert M. Moore (DE442) from Yokohama, Japan to Pearl Harbor, T.H. Amphibious Group Three embarked with Commodore P.P. Powel, USN in administrative command.</p> <p>Weather: Partly cloudy, sea is rough, winds variable with occasional squalls, swell N w'ly.</p> <p>2) November 8, 1945, Rear Admiral B.J. Rodgers (ComPhibGrp 11) relieved Vice Admiral T.S. Wilkinson (Com3rdPhibFor) as CTF 32 and simultaneously relieved Rear Admiral L.F. Reifsnider as CTF 54. Task Groups 54.1, 54.5, and 54.11 were dissolved.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945</p> <p>2) Report of Surrender and Occupation of Japan, Commander in Chief, US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, February 11, 1946</p>
1945	November	9	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before, speed 16 knots.</p> <p>Weather: Partly cloudy with N. W'ly strong breezes. The sea is rough with ship pitching moderately.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	10	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before.</p> <p>Weather: Cloudy with variable winds, light swell from north westerly direction, ship rolling eastly.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	11	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Steaming as before.</p> <p>Weather: Cloudy with occasional squalls, winds variable, sea moderate with average swell.</p> <p>2) 2145 A green flare was reported. The ship departed from station to investigate. Investigated area with negative results. 2300 USS Calvert reported white light about five miles ahead of this ship. We investigated the area with negative results.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945</p> <p>2) War diary, USS Ulvert M. Moore, November 1945</p>

Year	Month	Day	Location	Historical Details	Sources, Notes
1945	November	12	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>November 12th, Eastern hemisphere</p> <p>1) Steaming as before. Weather: Cloudy with north to north easterly winds.</p> <p><b>International Dateline crossing</b> 2) 2152 Crossed the 180th Meridian in Latitude 30deg23min North.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945</p> <p>2) War diary, USS Ulvert M. Moore, November 1945</p>
1945	November	12	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>November 12th, Western hemisphere.</p> <p>Steaming as before. Weather: Cloudy with north to north easterly winds.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	13	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before. 1811 Reduced speed to 5 knots to enable ship to steady up for purposes of performing an emergency surgical operation. (per DE-442 war diary, an appendectomy) 1920 Increased speed to 16 knots.</p> <p>Weather: Cloudy with north easterly winds, sea rough.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	14	Steaming to Pearl Harbor	<p>Steaming as before. Weather: Sea slight, winds variable from east to south, partly cloudy.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
1945	November	15	<p>Steaming to Pearl Harbor</p> <p>Moored, Pearl Harbor</p>	<p>Steaming as before. 0455 Sighted Mokuiaea light, 31.6 miles 1215 DE-442 relieved from duty with USS Calvert. 1305 Reduced speed to 5 knots. Preceding into Pearl Harbor.</p> <p><b>Arrival, Pearl Harbor</b> 1425 Moored starboard side to berth A14, Pearl Harbor, T.H.</p>	War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945
<b>The USS Calvert begins participation in Operation Magic Carpet</b>					
1945	November	16	Pearl Harbor	<p>1) Moored at Pearl Harbor, T.H. This vessel is assigned to Task Group 16.12 (Magic Carpet TG) and is taking on additional passengers destined for San Francisco. A total of nine (9) officers and 167 men were embarked during this day, making a grand total of 116 officers and 1427 men.</p> <p>1408 Underway in accordance with letter from Commodore Hawaiian Sea Frontier, from Pearl Harbor to San Francisco. Standard speed 16 knots.</p> <p>2) Upon arrival at Pearl Harbor on 16 November the Calvert reported to Commander Task Group 16.12 for duty in the "Magic Carpet" Operation.</p> <p>3) Operation Magic Carpet was the post-World War II operation by the War Shipping Administration to repatriate over eight million American military personnel from the European, Pacific, and Asian theaters.</p>	<p>1) War diary, USS Calvert, November 1945, p7</p> <p>2) Cullen, p19</p> <p>3) Operation Magic Carpet, Wikipedia <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Magic_Carpet">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Magic_Carpet</a></p>

**End of research notes for the period August 24, 1945 to November 16, 1945**