

Kurita Fleet (the battle of Leyte Gulf)

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Main themes of "Kurita Fleet" are the true stories and details of the battle of Leyte Gulf and the thought and action of Reserved Officers, university graduates. These records ~~are~~ are not heroic stories.

1944. 7/11 Left Tokosuka for the front, getting on board of Cruiser Maya.

7/20 Arrived Manila. (near Singapore.)

7/27 Arrived Lingga (Japanese Navy base) I joined to Yamato.

Hard Training was held every day just like the Song "Monday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Friday." No Saturday and Sunday in Navy career.

I got all kind of information here.

10/19 Kurita Fleet received the telegram "US troop is now landing on Suluan Island"

Kurita Fleet started for Brunei. (in

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Borneo)

10/18 Kurita Fleet received the important telegram on the way to Borneo

"Kurita Fleet go forward through San Bernardino Strait and charge to annihilate US conquest troop!"

10/20 Kurita Fleet arrived Borneo.

10/22 Kurita Fleet began to rush to Leyte 8 o'clock.

10/23 0600, Cruiser Atago sunk and Cru. Takao damaged heavily by torpedos & shot from US submarine. Next, Cru. Maya sunk by torpedos. (on Palawan Strait)

10/24 US bombing planes (about 300) continued to attack against Kurita Fleet through the day on Sibuyan Sea.

Battleship Mutsuki sunk by bombing and torpedo attacks.

Kurita tried to retreat (so-called First Turn), but went forward again on account of the telegram "charge!" from General Headquarter.

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- 10/25 Kurota Fleet faced against U.S. task force and mysterious turn was played.
- 10/28 Kurota Fleet came back to Brunei, but Japanese Fleet lost BA 3, Heavy Cru 6, Light Cru. 1, Destroyer 6, oilship 2. And BA 4, Cru 6, D7 were damaged.
- 12/22 I got off Yamato at Kure, navy base, and came back to my home (in Tokyo).
- 12/24 I left my home and went to Philippine.
- 12/28 Arrived Clarkfield.

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