

Table 60. USS Curtiss (AV-4) operational activities during the CASTLE test series.

Shot	Shot Date	Time of Det.	Ship Location/Activities		
			Preshot	At Shot Time	Postshot
BRAVO (B)	1 Mar	Q645	28 February at 1750 left berth N-2, Bikini, for assigned operating area	Steamed in assigned operating area	At 1323 set condition Able throughout ship; at 1757 departed assigned area for Enewetak Atoll; 2 March <u>Fred C. Ainsworth (T-AP-181)</u> on station 1,000 yards (900 meters) astern; at 0848 anchored berth C-2, Enewetak
ROMEO (B)	27 Mar	0630	26 March at 1956 left berth N-6, Bikini, for operating area BF 24-29-L; launched weather balloon at 2235; 27 March at 0245 <u>Nicholas (DDE-449)</u> assumed position 1,000 yards (900 meters) astern <u>Curtiss (AV-4)</u>	Steamed in operating area	At 1535 anchored berth N-6, Bikini; at 1600 embarked 78 passengers for transportation to Enewetak; at 1957 departed Bikini; at 2031 rendezvoused with <u>Nicholas</u> ; 28 March at 0750 anchored off Parry Island, Enewetak, and discharged 78 passengers
KOON (B)	7 Apr	0620	5 April at 1238 left Eneman, Bikini, for operating area BG 28-34-L; 6 April at 1436 rendezvoused with <u>Epperson (DDE-719)</u>	Steamed independently in operating area BG 28-36-L	At 1138 anchored berth N-6, Bikini; at 1948 left berth en route to Enewetak; at 2305 an unidentified luminous object passed over ship from bow to stern, yellowish-orange in color, traveling at a high rate of speed and a low altitude
UNION (B)	26 Apr	0605	25 April at 1931 left Eneu, Bikini, for operating area BG 30-35-R; 26 April at 0408 on station in operating area BH 35-40-L	Steamed on station in assigned operating area	At 0728 on station in operating area BH 50-55-R; at 1653 anchored in berth N-6, Bikini
YANKEE (B)	5 May	0610	4 May at 1616 left Iroij, Bikini, for operating area AG 30-35-R; at 2222 <u>Philip (DDE-498)</u> on station 1,000 yards (900 meters) astern	In assigned operating area with <u>Philip</u>	At 1318 conducted transfer of personnel with <u>Estes (AGC-12)</u> ; at 1653 anchored N-5, Bikini; at 1920 left anchorage for operating area BH 35-40-L
NECTAR (E)	14 May	0620	13 May at 1841 left anchorage B-2, Enewetak, for operating area EH 16-21	Steamed independently in operating area	At 0745 anchored berth L-3, Enewetak; at 1528 underway for San Francisco

Source: USS Curtiss (AV-4) Deck Log.

Table 5. Operation CASTLE, functions and complements of Task Group 7.3.

Task Element/Unit		Ship Name, Hull Number	Complement ^a			Personnel in Consolidated List ^b			Comments
Number	Name		Off	EM	Civ	Off	EM	Civ	
7.3.0	SPECIAL DEVICES UNIT								
7.3.0.0	Special Devices Element	<u>Curtiss</u> (AV-4)	40	668	0	51	594	0	Provided surface transportation for shot devices from the United States to the PPG; in the PPG provided laboratory and machine shop facilities to TG 7.1, assisted in positioning aircraft at shot time using a Raydist system; served as a radsafe check-point and decontamination station.
7.3.0.1	Escort Element	Destroyers as assigned (See 7.3.1)							Escort Division Twelve provided a screen for <u>Curtiss</u> (AV-4) from Hawaii to the PPG.
7.3.1	SURFACE SECURITY UNIT	Commander Escort Division 12	NA	NA	NA	3	5	0	On board <u>Epperson</u> (DDE-719); unit provided surface security for both atolls, a plane guard for Bairoko (CVE-115), a control ship for TG 7.4 aircraft during shots, scientific project support, and escorts for 7.3.0 and 7.3.9 as required.
		<u>Nicholas</u> (DDE-449)	16	257	0	17	255	0	
		<u>Philip</u> (DDE-498)	17	246	0	18	256	0	
		<u>Renshaw</u> (DDE-499)	17	242	0	19	250	0	Assisted Project 2.5a in recovering fallout buoys.
		<u>Epperson</u> (DDE-719)	20	287	0	25	283	0	Assisted Project 2.5a in recovering fallout buoys.
		PC-1546	5	55	0	5	57	0	Supported JTF 7 Rongerik weather station and Project 6.6 personnel at Rongerik Atoll for shots YANKEE and NECTAR.

NA -- Not Available.

Sources:

^aFrom TG 7.3 Final (Reference 11) or Operation Plan 1-53 (Reference 12).

^bFrom Consolidated List of Exposures (Reference 13).

(continued)



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CASTLE SERIES

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Nuclear Test Personnel Review**

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