U.S.S. CLEVELAND. Fleet Post Office. San Francisco, Calif.

3 November 1943.

SHIP'S ORDER.

From:

The Commanding Officer.

To:

All Hands,

At 9:00 a.m. today Admiral Halsey received Admiral Merrill, Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-THREE, and Commanding Officers of the ships which participated in the actions of 1 - 2 November, in the cabin of the MONTPELIER. His address is, in accordance with his instructions, repeated to all hands:

> "Gentlemen, words fail me. I am so proud of you that I cannot express my feelings. My admiration for this Task Force goes beyond words. I cannot thank you, and your country can never thank you. Godspeed, and God bless and protect you in the great work which is yet to be done, and which I know you will do. Keep them dying.

- " Please pass my remarks on to all your officers and men, and tell them they come to all of them from me personally".
- Your Captain has already told you how proud he feels of you. 2. His happiness in the privilege of passing Admiral Halsey's words on to you is beyond expression. I am proud of you, confident of you, and proud and happy beyond words to command this ship and you officers and men who give her her soul. Now for the next job!

G. SHEPARD. Captain, U. S. Navy,

Commanding.