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ROUTING SLIP

U. S. NAVAL AIRCRAFT, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC FORCE 01 672

DATE REC. 7 Jun '44 FILE No. A16-3(5) INC. No.
FROM: VP-52 SERIAL No.
DATE: 6 Jun '44 ENCL. OR No. COPIES: -1-
SUBJECT: Action Reports, Submission of Nos 38 - 49.

Table with columns: OFFICER, ROUTING, SYMBOL, INITIAL, REMARKS. Rows include: 00 Admiral, 01 Chief of Staff, 05 Flag Secretary, 06 Administrative Asst., 11 Operations Officer, 12 Asst. Oper. Off., 15 Flag Lieutenant, 20 Communications Off., 21 Asst. Comm. Off., 22 Comm. Watch Offs., 25 Intelligence Off., 40 Supply Officer, 50 Materiel Officer, 51 Aircraft Eng. Off., 52 Aircraft Struct. Off., 55 Aerological Officer, 60 Personnel Officer, 65 Photographic Off., 66 Photo Intrep. Off., 70 Engineering Officer, 75 Medical Officer, 90 Gunnery Officer, 91 Training Officer, Flag Util. Unit.

- A - Action.
B - Information.
C - For Recommendation.
D - Prepare Draft Reply.
E - Retain Copy.
F - Consult C. of S.
K - Distribute (As Necessary).
L - File.
M - Make Changes.

A16-3(5)

OM-092

PATROL SQUADRON FIFTY TWO

VP-52/A16-3

Care of Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.

Serial:

June 6, 1944.

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From: Commander Patrol Squadron FIFTY TWO.
To : Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: Action Reports, Submission of.

Reference: (a) CominCh MEST. ltr. Serial 5085 of
August 2, 1943.

Enclosure: (A) Action Reports #38 - #49.

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

H. A. SOMMER.

Copies to:

- Com7thFlt.
- ComAir7thFlt.
- DCFAW-17

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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I. GENERAL

U.S.S. ORCA (AVP49)

(a) Unit Reporting VP-52 (b) Based on or at HUMBOLDT BAY, HOLLANDIA, NEW GUINEA (c) Report No. 49

(d) Date of Action 3 June 1944 (e) Take off: Time 0730 (GCT); Lat. _____ Long. _____

(f) Mission Search and Attack (g) Time of Return 2035 (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACK- ING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
PBY-5	VP-52	1		1	4 X 500 pound G. P.	4.5 sec. delay

III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO OBSERVED	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____

(j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL LOADED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM	MM.
PBY-5			13.1	1450	1100					

IX. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- ____ TURNS
- ____ DIVES
- ____ CEILINGS
- ____ RANGE
- ____ PROTECTION
- ____ ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only),

- (a) Location of Target(s) 00° 40' S 133° 47' E. (23 miles N.W. (NOKWARI)) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1230 GCT
- (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target No clouds
- (d) Sun or Moon Night Moon 3/4 full overhead (e) Visibility 15 miles

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

1	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	1	1 Large DD course 090 speed 25-30knts		All bombs	350'
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

- (g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS DRAW DIAGRAM, TOP OR SIDE VIEW OR BOTH, AS APPROPRIATE, SHOWING TYPE AND LOCATION OF HITS. FOR ALL TARGETS GIVE LOCATION AND EFFECT OF HITS, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

2 of the 500 pound bombs hit on or just forward of the bridge, the other 2 straddling the bow of the ship lifting it momentarily. The ship lost all way and lay dead in the water after being hit but prevented close observation by firing accurate heavy anti-aircraft fire at the PBY.

- (h) Were Photographs Taken? _____ Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY**OWN AIRCRAFT**

Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack and
Their Effectiveness
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics and
Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

Method of Locating, Distance
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack
Distance of Opening Fire
Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Own Weaknesses
Enemy Weaknesses
Offensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Defensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Flexible Gunnery, Own
Escort Tactics
Fighter Direction
Use of Radar
Night Fighting
Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK**OWN TACTICS**

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Release
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Anti-aircraft
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of
Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL

Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

Lt. (jg) Quinlan flying VP-52 Catalina #47 was heading west off the northeast tip of the VOGELKOP PENINSULA when a radar contact was made $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles on the port bow. The pilot continued on course until he saw the target, a single destroyer heading for MANOKWARI on course 090° T at 25 to 30 knots, about 3 miles away. As the ship passed to his port quarter he began a climbing turn to the left from 500 feet. He began his approach from 3 miles distance, bearing 250° true from the target with the plane at 800 feet. A gliding run was made on the target, passing over it from starboard quarter to port bow at 350 feet altitude. The pilot released all four bombs in train, sighting by eye. The waist gunners saw one bomb explode 15 feet on the starboard bow and another the same distance on the port bow. The port waist gunner could clearly see the other two bombs go into the ship in the area of the bridge structure, and all three men in the waist saw a big explosion in this part of the ship. The pilot continued his dive to 200 feet, then made a climbing turn to port. Although the attack was made in bright moonlight, the ship had neither taken evasive action nor opened up with its anti-aircraft guns. As the plane pulled away the destroyer stopped dead in the water. The pilot retired about five miles and circled at that distance for 25 minutes. He then approached the target again, but at $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile three bursts of heavy anti-aircraft fire, the closest 200 feet astern, were fired by the ship, still dead in the water. No further observation of the destroyer was made.

The crew of the plane was as follows:

PPC	Lt. (jg) W. A. Quinlan, A-V(N), USNR.
1st Pilot	Ens. T. G. Schwalm, A-V(N), USNR.
2nd Pilot	Ens. J. H. Frank, A-V(N), USNR.
Plane Captain	Strader, D. R., AM1c, (CA), USN.
2nd Mechanic	Brown, A. J., AM2c, (CA), V-6, USNR.
1st Radioman	Jeffers, P. S. Jr., ARM1c, (CA), V-3, USNR.
2nd Radioman	Williams, H. B., ARM1c, (CA), USN.
Gunner	Yasi, W. J., ARM2c, USN.
Gunner	McDougall, J. R., ACM1c, (CA), V-6, USNR.
Gunner	Whiteley, R., ACM2c, (CA), V-6, USNR.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

ARMAMENT

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio, Radar
Homing Devices
Visual Signals
Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION

IFF
Signals
Battle Lights
Procedures

PROTECTION

Armor; Points and Angles
of Fire Needing Further
Protection
Leak Proofing

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Parachutes
Life Belts, Life Rafts
Safety Belts
Emergency Kits
Rations, First Aid

NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

Compasses
Driftsights
Octants
Automatic Pilots
Charts
Field Lighting

INSTRUMENTS

Flight
Power Plant

OXYGEN SYSTEM

**CAMOUFLAGE AND
DECEPTION DEVICES**

STRUCTURE

Airframe
Control Surfaces
Control System
Dive Flaps
Landing Gear
Heating System
Flight Characteristics
At Various Loadings

POWER PLANT

Engines
Engine Accessories
Propellers
Lubricating System
Starters
Exhaust Dampers

HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

Auxiliary Plant
Lights

FUEL SYSTEM

FLIGHT CLOTHING

MAINTENANCE

BASE FACILITIES

Plane Servicing Equipment
Personnel Facilities

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

N.S. McGOWIN, Lt. AVS, USNR, ACIO
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

H.A. SOMMER, Lt. Cdr., USN., Commanding.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

JUN 6 1944

DATE