Mission No. 179 STARVATION 13

20/21 ~~19~~ May 1945

2-52245-19

STARVATION 13

MISSION NO. 179

19 May 1945

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brief of Mining Mission | Telecon | FN-19-8 | | 190525Z | NR |

2.5.745-19

MISSION PLAN

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-19 TOP SECRET OPERATIONAL PRIORITY 190525Z

TOP SECRET

FROM: LEMAY COMGENBOMCOM 21

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOMAF 20 (POA)

GR125

SUBJECT: BRIEF OF MINING MISSION STARVATION 13

32 AIRCRAFT OF 313 BOMB WING ARE SCHEDULED TO LAY 196 MINES IN SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS AND MAIZURU AREAS ON 21 MAY 1945.

A. 23 A/C 138 MINES ~~IFYXIELD~~ IN FIELD MIKE SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS WEST

ROUTE: BASE, IWO, 3230N 13230E, 3430N

13127E, 3425N 13108E (IP),

TARGET, 3415N 13115E, 3230N 13230E, IWO, BASE.

B. 5 A/C 30 MINES IN FIELD LOVE SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS EAST

ROUTE: BASE, IWO, 3230N 13230E, 3322N 13130E (IP), TARGET, 3427N

1342730E 3337N 13422E, IWO, BASE.

C. 4 A/C 28 MINES IN FIELD ZEBRA MAIZURU

ROUTE: BASE,; 829, 3414N 17627E, 3527N 13605E, 3533N 13546E (IP),

TARGET, 3427N 1342730E, 3337N 13422E, IWO, BASE.

D. TIME OF TAKEOFF: 200800Z.

ESTIMATED TIME OVER TARGET: 201545Z.

ESTIMATED TIME ARRIVAL AT BASE: 202315E.

Classification Changed to SECRET 5-8-46 By Authority of C. G. AAF, by Ray G. Baker, Capt. A. C.

E. METHOD OF ATTACK: RADAR LAYING, SINGLE AIRCRAFT AT NIGHT.

F. ALTITUDE OF ATTACK: 5500 TO 6500 FEET.

END..

TOD:1806700Z JAW..
ROGER TEL MSG FN-19-8 180700Z WCR..

TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st Take off Report | Telecon | FN-20-4 | | 200825z | HH |
| Take off Report | " | FN-20-06 | | 201110z | HH |

TAKE OFF REPORTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-20-06 OP SECRET SECRET 201110Z

FROM: BOMCOM XXI

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOMAF 20 (POA)

GR-52

SUBJECT: TAKE OFF REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 179, TARGET JAPANESE HOME WATERS, FLOWN 20 MAY 1945.

1. UNITS: 313TH WING

2. A/C SCHEDULED: 32

3. A/C AIRBORNE: 30

4. FIRST A/C OFF: 200800Z

5. LAST A/C OFF: 200927Z

6. REMARKS: 1 A/C DURING TAKE OFF CRASHED AND EXPLODED AT END OF RUNWAY. NO INCLUDED IN NUMBER AIRBORNE. NO SURVIVORS.

..END..

TOD: 20~~[illegible]~~ 201142Z IK SECRET

ROGER WCR

OPR

5

DISTRIBUTION

| | |
|---|---|
| ACTION: | C/S DC/S Opr DC/S TM&E DC/S P&A A-1 A-2 A-3 Tng A-3 OC&R A-4 |
| | A-5 Plans Air Insp PRO Comm. Op Anal Stat Con Anti-Acft FSO |
| | A.G. Surg |
| INFORMATION: | C/S DC/S Opr DC/S TM&E DC/S P&A A-1 A-2 A-3 Tng A-3 OC&R A-4 |
| | A-5 Plans Air Insp PRO Comm. Op Anal Stat Con Anti-Acft FSO |
| | A.G. Surg |

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-20-4 OP SECRET 200825Z

SECRET

FROM: ~~LEMAY~~ COMGEN XXI BOMCOM

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOMAF 20 (POA)

SUBJECT: FIRST TAKEOFF ON MINING MISSION NR. 13.

OPR

1. FIRST AIRCRAFT AIRBORNE AT 200800Z.

BASES AT TAKEOFF: SCATTERED LOW, BROKEN AND HIGH CLOUDS WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS.

ROUTE: SCATTERED TO BROKEN LOW CLOUD, SCATTERED MIDDLE AND HIGH CLOUDS TO 27 DEG NORTH WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS BETWEEN 25 AND 27 DEG NORTH. FROM 27 TO 30 DEG NORTH THEN WILL BE OVERCAST LOW AND MIDDLE CLOUDS AND SCATTERED HIGH CLOUDS WITH LIGHT RAIN. FROM 30 TO 36 DEG NORTH THEIR WILL BE BROKEN LOW CLOUDS.

TARGET: OVERCAST LOW CLOUDS, BASE 2,000 FT, TOP 5000 FT, VISIBILITY 8 MILES IN ~~HAUZE~~ HAZE.

BASES ON RETURN: SCATTERED LOW AND HIGH CLOUDS.

..END..

TOD: 200949Z 1K

SECRET

ROGER WCR

MIN PLS

DISTRIBUTION

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ACTION: | C/S | DC/S Opr | DC/S | TM&E | DC/S | P&A | A-1 | A-2 | A-3 Tng | A-3 | OC&R | A-4 |
| | A-5 | Plans | Air | Insp | PRO | Comm. | Op Anal | Stat Con | Anti-Acft | FSO | | |
| | A.G. | Surg | | | | | | | | | | |
| INFORMATION: | C/S | DC/S Opr | DC/S | TM&E | DC/S | P&A | A-1 | A-2 | A-3 Tng | A-3 | OC&R | A-4 |
| | A-5 | Plans | Air | Insp | PRO | Comm. | Op Anal | Stat Con | Anti-Acft | FSO | | |
| | A.G. | Surg | | | | | | | | | | |

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Landing Report | Telecon | FN-21-2 | | 210201Z | BGR |

BOMB STRIKE
RETURN RPTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

1)2&79 FN-21-2 OPOP SECRET 210135Z
FROM BOM COM XXI
TO COMAF 20

R-2

SECRET

INFO DEPCOMAF 20

SUBJECT: LANDING REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 179, TARGET JAPANESE HOME WATERS, FLOWN 20 MAY 1945.

REC'D COPY

1. UNIT: 313TH WING
2. NO. A/C RETURNED: 26
3. NO. A/C LANDING IWO: 4
4. NO. A/C LOST OR MISSING: 0
5. TIME OF LANDING: FIRST: 202146Z LAST: 210048Z
6. REMARKS: 1 SURVIVOR RESCUED FROM A/C THAT CRASHED AND EXPLODED ATTEMPTING TAKEOFF. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS NO SURVIVORS.

END...

TOD:210201Z AE K

ROGER

CCN.. RDS TELECON MESSAGE FN-21-2 OPOP SECRET 210135Z

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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PRELIMINARY
MISSION RPT

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mining Operation | DAAS | | 21 May | | AF |
| Mission Report | Telecon | FN-21-11 | | 21 May | BGR |

MISSION REPORT

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE, AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE IN LITERAL PLAIN TEXT A[illegible] AUTHORIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDUR[illegible] OR THE SAFEGUARDING OF MILITARY INF[illegible]ATION.

COPY NO. 5

WS/dn/6819

CLASSIFICATION
- [ ] TOP SECRET
- [X] SECRET
- [ ] CONFIDENTIAL
- [ ] RESTRICTED

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN
WASHINGTON AND GUAM

SECRET

# INCOMING MESSAGE

| INITIALS | |
|---|---|
| CHIEF OF STAFF | |
| DC/S ADM. | |
| DC/S OPR. | |
| AG | |

| TELECON MSG NO. | SUBJECT | DATE |
|---|---|---|
| FN-21-11 | MISSION REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 179, FLOWN 20/21 MAY 45 | 21 May 45 |

| TO: | INFO: | FROM: |
|---|---|---|
| COMAF 20<br>AC/AS Intellegence | DEPCOMAF 20 FOA | COMGENBOMCOM 21 |

COPY TO CHIEF OF STAFF

1. Designation of Unit: 313th Wing.
2. Time of take off: 200851Z.
3. Time of return: 210048Z.
4. No. of A/C mining: 30.
5. No. of A/C over Primary: M/F Mike 22 A/C laid 132 MK25.
   M/F Love 4 A/C laid 24 MK25.
   M/F Zebra 4 A/C laid 28 MK25.
6. No. A/C over alternate minefield: None.
7. No. and location of mines jettisoned by A/C: None.
8. Each A/C carried 6 MK-25 mines.
9. No. of mines unaccounted for and reason: None.
10. No. of A/C lost: Force 1 Mike M/F, none; Force 2 Love M/F, 1 crashed attempting take off; Force 3 Zebra M/F, none.
11. Time of attack: Mike 201548Z - 201711Z.
    Love 201602Z - 201636Z.
    Zebra 201608Z - 201626Z.
12. Altitude over target: Mike 5500 - 5800 ft, Love 6000 ft - 6100 ft, Zebra 65[illegible] ft - 6650 ft.
13. True air speed at mine release: Mike 200 - 245 kts., Love 219 - 240 kts, Zebra 210 - 218 kts.
14. Length of mine run: Mike - 2 min 24 sec - 18 minutes.
    Love - 9 min - 11 min 30 sec.
    Zebra - 6 min 24 sec - 7 min 30 sec.
15. Wind reported over target: Mike and Love 310 degrees at 20 kts. Zebra 310 degrees at 25 kts.
16. Clouds and Visibility: Mike and Love 0/10 - light haze - 10 miles. Zebra - 6/10 - light haze - 12 miless
17. Personnel casualties: Force 1 and 3 - none. Force 2, 10 killed. 1 seriously wounded.
18. Enemy air opposition: Mike sighted 3 U/I in target area, no attacks. Love and Zebra no E/A sighted or attacked.
19. AA: Mike reported AA meager and inaccurate. Love and Zebra no AA.
20. Enemy RCM noted and effect: none.
21. Observations: Radar: 4 ships at 3340N - 13220E; 1 ship at 3425N - 13115E; 1 ship at 3425N - 13110E; 1 ship at 3333N - 13153E; 2 ships at 3335N - 13208E;

| DISTRIBUTION | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ACTION | SECRET |
| | INFORMATION | C/S |



S-33, AF (REV 1 JAN 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

...SSAGE, AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE ...RIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDUR...OR THE SAFE-...ATION.

COPY NO.

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN
WASHINGTON AND GUAM

| INITIALS | |
|---|---|
| CHIEF OF STAFF | |
| DC/S ADM. | |
| DC/S OPR. | |
| AG | |

☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ RESTRICTED

SECRET

# INCOMING MESSAGE

| TELECON MSG NO. | SUBJECT | DATE |
|---|---|---|
| FN-21-11 | MISSION REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 179, FLOWN 20/21 MAY 45 | 21 May 45 |

| TO: | INFO: | FROM: |
|---|---|---|
| Cont'd from Page 1 | | |

1 ship at 3355N - 13041E; 3 ships outside Yawata at 3352N - 13048E; 8 ships at 3540N - 13245E; 9 ships at 3140N - 13330E; 12 ships at Sukumo Bay 3253N - 13240E; 1 ship at 3425N- 13117E; 3 ships at 3340N - 13155E; 1 ship at 3240N - 13237E; 30 ships (different sizes) at 3351N - 13117E; 12-15 ships at 3440N - 13436E; 3 ships at 3441N - 13428E.

22. No. of mines airborne: 184 MK 25.

23. No. and types of mines laid in minefields:

| TYPE | MIKE | LOVE | ZEBRA |
|---|---|---|---|
| M11 - I 8 | None | None | 1 |
| M13 - G 8 | None | None | 1 |
| N41 - E 8 | 27 | None | 14 |
| N41 - I 8 | 6 | None | 12 |
| V11 - B 8 | 99 | 24 | None |
| | 132 | 24 | 28 |

24. The three known channels entering Shimonoseki Straits from the west were strongly reinforced. It is estimated that the enemy will vigorously sweep for three or four days and then attempt to run the brockade and sustain the resultant losses. The mining of the Saki Anchorage will deny the use of this anchorage to ships above 1000 tons. For a period of four to six days disrupting the organization of convoys through the Straits. The Maizuru Harbor area was mined for a second time as part of the establishment of a strong minefield. This is not yet complete and closure is not assured.

Please pass this information to CNO Washington.

SECRET

| DISTRIBUTION | | |
|---|---|---|
| | ACTION | DC/S Opr (2) |
| | INFORMATION | C/S DC/S P&A; TM&E; Gen Hodges (2); Gen Bissell; Gen Wilson; Gen Norstad; Capt Stroop; Stat Control |

5-33, AF (REV 1 JAN 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

REPORT OF XXI BOMBER COMMAND

21 May 1945

OPERATION NO. 179 20/21 May 1945

Mining Operation

Targets: ~~Bombed~~ Mined

Total A/C ~~Bombing~~ Mining 30

Shimonoseki Straits - 26

Maizura Harbor Area - 4

Time Over Target: 210048 - 210211 Theater Time

~~Bomb~~ Mine Load: 180 tons (6 tons per a/c)

[redacted]: xxxxxxxx

Tactics: Radar laying by single a/c at night between 5800 to 6650 ft.

A/C Lost or Missing: 1 a/c crashed on take-off.

Weather: 0/10 to 6/10 light haze - 10 - 12 miles visibility.

Fighter Opposition: Shimonoseki Straits - 3 U/I sighted, no attacks.

Maizura Area - No E/A sighted or attacked.

Flak: Meager and inaccurate

Claims: None

SECRET (Over)

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Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10



Observations:

Radar Sightings

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | ships | at | 33/40 N - 132/20 E |
| 2 | " | " | 34/25 N - 131/10 - 15 E |
| 2 | " | " | 33/35 N - 132/02 E |
| 3 | " | " | 33/52 N - 130/48 E outside Yawata |
| 8 | " | " | 35/40 N - 132/45 E |
| 9 | " | " | 31/40 N - 133/30 E |
| 12 | " | " | Sukumo Bay (32/53 N - 132/40 E) |
| 3 | " | " | 33/40 N - 131/55 E |
| 30 | " | " | 33/51 N - 131/17 E (different sizes) |
| 12 - 15 | " | " | 34/40 N - 134/35 E |
| 3 | " | " | 34/41 N - 134/28 E |

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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MISSING &
LOST A/C

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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PRESS RELEASES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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DAMG ASSESS
PHOTO STRIKE

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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INT REPORTS
ENEMY ATTKS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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ABORTIVE REPORTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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ANALYSIS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

| SPECIFIC SUBJECT | TYPE OF MESSAGE | MESSAGE NO. | DATE AND TIME SENT | DATE AND TIME REC'D | INITIALS |
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