

VD-5/ A16-3
Ser. No. (0136)

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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
FLEET AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC SQUADRON FIVE

CONFIDENTIAL
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c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California

29 MAR 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To : Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
Subject: Aircraft Action Report No. 31, Photographic Reconnaissance,
Okinawa Jima, 2 March 1945.
Enclosure: (A) Subject report, three copies.
1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

A. D. FRASER.

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

VD-5 Report No. 31

4 PB4Y-1P's led by Lt. C. M. WITT took off Guiuan Field, Samar P.I. 2 March 1945 at 0700 Item to obtain photo reconnaissance of certain sections of Okinawa Island.

The flight encountered scattered cumulus clouds en route to the target with the cloud formations increasing in density as the flight neared the target. About 700 miles from base the plane flown by Lt. (jg) BRAUN had an engine failure and was forced to return to base, landing at 1710 Item. The greater part of Okinawa and surrounding islands were obscured by clouds. Two planes found a small break in the overcast and made a single photo run over Naha airfield from an altitude of 14,000 feet. During this run a total of 6 bursts of heavy AA were fired -- all were inaccurate. Six single engine planes parked line abreast were observed on the air strip. There was no interception and no enemy planes were seen in the air.

The following radio facilities are of probable navigational value for future flights: a homing beacon on Okinawa on 600 KC put out a strong signal that could be heard 600 miles from the target. Code transmissions from Okinawa were heard on 400 KC. This station could also be heard for a distance of about 600 miles.

The remaining 3 planes returned to base by 1940 Item.

REPORT PREPARED BY: *D. S. Kunz*
by A. D. Fraser
D. S. KUNZ,
Lt., USNR.,
ACI Officer.

REPORT APPROVED BY:
A. D. Fraser
A. D. FRASER,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Commanding Officer.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VD-5 (b) Based on or at Quinan Field, Samar P.I. (c) Report No. 31
 (d) Take off: Date 2 March 1945 Time (LZT) 0700 Iton (Zone); Lat. 11° N Long 125° 25' E
 (e) Mission Orinawa Jima, Photographic Reconnaissance. (f) Time of Return 1940 Iton (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
PB4Y-1P	VD-5	4	0	4	none	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
none							

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (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
none			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (MILES)

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		
none						

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 (e) Mission Photographic Reconnaissance, Okinawa Jima (f) Time of Return 1940 Item (Zone)

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