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

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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

AIR FORCE

FLEET AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC SQUADRON FIVE

CONFIDENTIAL

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

29 MAR 1945

From:

Commanding Officer.

To :

A,

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.

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: by Affirm.

D. S. KUNZ,

Lt., USNR., ACI Officer. REPORT APPROVED BY:

Commander, U.S.N., Commanding Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

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RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

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III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION. TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). (a) NO ENGAGING OWN A/C ENCOUNTERED LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIE GUNS OBSERVED (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) (ZONE) If so, Describe Clouds (BASE IN FEET, TYPE (BASE IN FEET, TYPE (FASE IN FEET, TYPE	CAMOUFLAGE A
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of Sun or Moon (k) Visi	
of Sun or Moon	AND TENTHS OF COVER)
the transfer and the tr	bility
V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II C)nlv)
(a) TYPE (b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:	(c)
MY A/C TYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE	HIT, ANGLE CL

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(a)	(b) SQUADRON	TYPE GUN	(c) E: TYPE ENEMY OR OPERATION	A/C, NAL CAUSE	L, OF OWN A	(d) ANGLE (List a nks, equipment	rmor, hit)	Give Bureau se	OF LOSS OR erial number of	DAMAGE, planes destroyed)
		300/10/10/1	TIPE GOIN,	01, 0, 2,							
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		4									
-											
			-								
			CASHALT	IES (in airc	raft listed i	n II only; ide	ntify with p	olanes liste	ed in VI by	Nos. at le	eft).
	VII. PE	RSONNE	12/		Tare instead	(d) ·			(e)	
	(b) SQUADRO	N!	NAME, RANK			CA	USE			NUTTION OK	31/103
1	none										
1	Tous										
								-			
	1/111	DANCE	ELIFL AND	AMMUNI	TION DAT	A FOR PLAN	VES RETUI	RNING			1
	(a)	KANGL,	(c)	(d)	(e)	AV. FUEL	(g)		UNITION EXPE	T	NO OF PL
	TYPE A/C	MILES	MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS	AV FUEL LOADED	CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETORINT
	4Y-1P		930	12.3	3400	2550	test	only			- 3
D	51-TV	300									
				AFT FNCO!	INTEDED (Check one bl	ock on eac	h line).			
	IX. E	NEMY A			JNIEKED	Check one bl	ONE	MEAGER	M	ODERATE	INTENS
			CALIBI					x			
HE.	AVY — Ti	me-fused sh	nells, 75mm and	n-50mm							
ME	DIUM —	Impact-tus	ed shells, 20mn oullets, 6.5mm-	13.2mm							
	11 - M	achine gun t	June 13, O. Jinin				RCRAFT (

A. CO	
SPEED, CLIMB,	
at various altitudes	
TURNS	
DIVES	
CEILINGS	
RANGE	
PROTECTION	
ARMAMENT	

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

4 PBAY-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 rum 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.

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REPORT APPROVED BY:

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Commander, U.S.N., Commanding Officer.

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	f: Date	March 19	345	_Time (LZT)	0700 It	em	(Zone); L	at	Lor	125° 8 5
Mission	Photogra	aphic Rec	onnaissa	nce, Okina	wa Jima			f) Time of	Return 19	40 Itm
				ERED BY TH			`	• , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
ГҮРЕ	SQUADRON	TAKING	NUMBER	ATTACKING	BC	DMB5 AI	ND TORPEDOE	5	FUZ	E, SETTING
(a)	(b)	OFF (c)	ENEMY A/C	TARGET (e)	С	ARRIED	(PER PLANE) (†)			(g)
I-1P	VD-5	4	0	4	none					
-	-									
111. 07	THER U. S.	OR ALLIE	D AIRCRAF	T EMPLOYED	IN THIS C	OPER A	TION.			
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		BASE	T	YPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		BASE
. 0										
•				***						
IV FN	IFMY AIRC	RAFT ORS	FRVFD OR I	ENGAGED (B	v Own Airc	raft l	isted in 11	Only)		
(a) TYPE	T	T	G TIME ENCOUNTER	y	e) ION OF			DOES CARRIED BSERVED	; C.	(g) AMOUFLAGE ANI MARKING
			(20	NE)						
			(20	NE)	1					
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,				(NE)						
Apparer	nt Enemy N	Aission(s)								
Did Any Encount	nt Enemy Mart of ter(s) Occu	ur in Clouds	(20	(NE)	be Clouds _		(BASE IN	FEET. TYPE	ND TENTHS OF	F COVER)
Did Any Encount Time of	Part of ter(s) Occubate Branch	ur in Clouds illiance	(20		be Clouds _		(BASE IN			F COVER)
Did Any Encount Time of of Sun o	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon —	ar in Clouds filliance	(ZO	one) If so, Descri	OVERCAST; ET	C.)		(k) Visit	oility	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of of Sun (Part of ter(s) Occurrence Day and Bron Moon —	ar in Clouds filliance	(YES OR NO	lf so, Descri	OVERCAST; ET	C.)		(k) Visit	nly).	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of of Sun of	Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occ	r in Clouds filliance	(YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICK ROYED OR AGED BY:	one) If so, Descri	OVERCAST; ETC	C.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Visit	oility	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of Sun of Sun of TYPE	Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occ	r in Clouds filliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICK ROYED OR AGED BY:	one) If so, Descri	OVERCAST; ETC	Own /	Aircraft Lis	(k) Visit	nly).	(MILES)
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Did Any Encount Time of of Sun	Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occ	r in Clouds filliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICK ROYED OR AGED BY:	one) If so, Descri	OVERCAST; ETC	Own /	Aircraft Lis	(k) Visit	nly).	(MILES)
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Did Any Encount Time of Sun (V. ENI TYPE MY A/C O	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRO TYPE A/C	RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICE ROYED OR AGED BY: PILO	ot or gunner	OVERCAST; ETC	Own A	Aircraft Lis	(k) Visit	nly).	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of Sun (a) TYPE MY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — EMY AIRC TYPE A/C	RAFT DEST	(ZO (YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICE ROYED OR AGED BY: PILO	The so, Description of the solution of the sol	OVERCAST; ETC	Own A	Aircraft Lis	(k) Visit	nly).	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of Sun (a) TYPE MY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — EMY AIRC TYPE A/C	RAFT DEST	(ZO (YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRICE ROYED OR AGED BY: PILO	of or gunner	OVERCAST; ETC	Own A	Aircraft Lis	ted in II O	nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE	(MILES)
Did Any Encount Time of Sun (a) TYPE MY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — EMY AIRC TYPE A/C	RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRID ROYED OR AGED BY: PILO	The so, Description of the solution of the sol	OVERCAST; ETC	Own /	Aircraft Lis	ted in II O	nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE	(MILES) DAN CLA
Did Any Encount Time of Sun (a) TYPE MY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — EMY AIRC TYPE A/C	RAFT DEST	(ZO (YES OR NO (NIGHT, BRID ROYED OR AGED BY: PILO	The so, Description of the solution of the sol	OVERCAST; ETC	Own /	Aircraft Lis	ted in II O	nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE	(MILES) DAN CLA

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PE OWN A	VC SQU	ADRON TYP	CAUSE: TYPE EN E GUN, OR OPERA	EMY A/C,	JSE	where HI self-sealing	tanks, equip	ist armor, oment hit)	Give Bure	ENT OF LOSS au serial number	OR DAMAGE, r of planes destroyed
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VII.	PERSON	INEL CASU	ALTIES (in a	ircraft list	ted in I	only; ide	entify wit	h planes lis	ted in VI	by Nos. at	left).
1	(b) UADRON (c) NAME, RANK OR RATING				C	(d) AUSE		(e) CONDITION OR STATUS			
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none											
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			ND AMMIN	ITION D	DATA F	OR PLAN	IES RETI		INITION EVE		Т
19)	1	E, FUEL, A		(-)	T					NDFD	(h)
VIII (a) TYPE A/C	RANG (b) MILES OUT	(c)	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUE LOADE	EL A	(f) V. FUEL NSUMED		TOTAL AMMI	T	T	
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUE LOADED	EL AY	V. FUEL NSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES	(c) MILES	AV. HOURS	AV. FUE	EL AY	(f) V. FUEL	.30		T	T	NO OF PLAN
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUE LOADED	EL AY	V. FUEL NSUMED	.30	.50	T	T	
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUE LOADED	EL CO	V. FUEL NSUMED	.30	.50	T	T	
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	MILES RETURN SO ANTI-AIRC CAL	AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUE LOADED	EL CO	V. FUEL NSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	T	
IX.	MILES OUT	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm a	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO IBER Ind over	AV. FUE LOADED	EL CO	v. FUEL NSUMED	.30	only ch line).	20MM	MM	RETURNING
IX. AVY — T DIUM —	MILES OUT 930 . ENEMY ime-fused Impact-f	MILES RETURN SO ANTI-AIRC CAL	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm	AV. FUE LOADED	EL CO	v. FUEL NSUMED	.30	only ch line).	20MM	MM	RETURNING
IX. AVY — T DIUM — HT — M	MILES OUT 930 ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused Achine gu	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm as used shells, 20r h bullets, 6.5mm	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. AVY — T DIUM — HT — M X. (ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused COMPA	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm as used shells, 20r h bullets, 6.5mm	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. AVY — T DIUM — HT — M ED, CLIN	ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused COMPA	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm as used shells, 20r h bullets, 6.5mm	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. IX. IX. IVY — T DIUM — HT — M X. (ED, CLIN t various	ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused AB,	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm as used shells, 20r h bullets, 6.5mm	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. IX. IVY — T DIUM — HT — M X. (ED, CLIN t various RNS YES	ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused AB,	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm and used shells, 6.5mm RATIVE PER	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. IX. IX. IVY — T DIUM — HT — M X. (ED, CLIN t various RNS YES LINGS	ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused Ab, altitudes	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm and used shells, 6.5mm RATIVE PER	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE
IX. IX. IX. IVY — T DIUM — HT — M X. (ED, CLIN t various RNS YES	ENEMY ime-fused Impact-fused AB, altitudes	ANTI-AIRC CAL shells, 75mm and used shells, 6.5mm RATIVE PER	AV. HOURS IN AIR RAFT ENCO BER Ind over mm-50mm 1-13.2mm	AV. FUE LOADER	Check	one blo	.30 ck on each	ch line). MEAGER	20MM	DDERATE	INTENSE