

Jim B. Newby 3/26/86

OPNAV-16-V-#537
Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VFP-71 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. COMINTON (AV-7) and U.S.S. BAHAMIA (ATF-33) at Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, P.I. (c) Report No. 24
 (d) Take off: Date 24 January 1945 Time (LZT) 1845 (Zone); Lat. 16-02 N Long. 120-37E
 (e) Mission Offensive Reconnaissance (Night) (f) Time of Return 1900/25 (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)		
<u>VFP-71</u>	<u>VFP-71</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4 X 250 lb. G. P. Bombs 2 X 100 lb. Incendiary Clusters (M-46)</u>	<u>4-5 second delay impact</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</u>							

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
<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>1845 1900</u> (ZONE)	<u>15-02N 122-58E</u>	<u>Not observed - radar contact</u>	

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Convoy Coverage
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? 1000 foot - strato-cumulus - 10 tenths If so, Describe Clouds 1000 foot - strato-cumulus - 10 tenths
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon Light - overcast (k) Visibility 4-5 miles
(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		
<u>None</u>						

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) 10 ships, 2 escorts under way (b) Time Over Target(s) 0115-0300 Item (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 100 feet - stratus - cumulus - 10 tenths (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target dark night - heavy (e) Visibility 0-5 (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type 0110 Bomb Sight Used None
- Bombs Dropped per Run 4 Spacing 40 Altitude of Bomb Release 100
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 <u>How type Jap</u> <u>SD</u>	<u>2500 G.R.</u>	<u>1</u> <u>VF-71</u>	<u>4 x 250 lb. G. P.</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>Section III</u>
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, 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, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? no Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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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
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics
Use of Jamming**DEFENSE, ENEMY**Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics
Use of Jamming**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

Lieutenant (jg) L. T. WHITE was Patrol Plane Commander of a PB1H-5A of Patrol Bombing Squadron SEVENTY-ONE on night search mission from Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, P.I. the night of 24-25 January 1945. His assigned sector was between bearings 011-021 degrees true from Lingayen Gulf for six hundred (600) miles.

Flying his sector in a clockwise direction Lieutenant (jg) WHITE sighted an enemy convoy consisting of four (4) freighters and six (6) freighter transports escorted by two (2) destroyers at 0215 Ison position 25-07N 121-53E. The vessels were on a course of 000 degrees true speed ten (10) knots.

Selecting the rear ship of the formation as his target, Lieutenant (jg) WHITE started his attack from six hundred (600) feet pushing over in a steep (45 degrees) glide leveling off at less than 100 feet. A string of four (4) 250 lb. G.P. bombs was released on the run which was made from quarter to bow at an angle of approximately thirty (30) degrees.

The plane's violent evasive tactics immediately after dropping its bombs made accurate observation of the results impossible. No explosions or fires were seen by members of the plane crew.

No anti-aircraft fire was received during the attack. When the plane returned to observe the results of the attack three (3) other ships opened up with moderate medium anti-aircraft fire. The fire from one (1) ship was accurate but the others appeared to be firing blindly. The ship under attack did not fire at any time.

No other sightings were made and Lieutenant (jg) WHITE returned to base at 0800 Ison 25 January 1945.

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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

Internal bomb codes cannot be released by pilots and consequently cannot be controlled by the intercom.

CREW

Lieutenant (jg) L. T. WOODS
 Ensign J. H. COLBERT
 Ensign C. P. CURTIS
 BUNNELL, F. B.
 SLATER, W. H., Jr.
 BUCKER, J. L.
 BOWEN, E. H.
 DOWNS, D. A.
 HICKMAN, F. A.

PTO
 PFLP
 PFCP
 ANCO
 ANCO
 ANCO
 ANCO
 ANCO
 ANCO

REPORT PREPARED BY:

WARD MAGPHEE, Lt. Col., A, USMC,
ACI OFFICER

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

H. C. CHAFFIN, Jr., Capt., USMC,
Commanding Officer

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

20 January 1945

DATE