

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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I. GENERAL

SECRET

(a) Unit Reporting VF-49 (b) Based on or at USS SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. ACA-1-49
 (d) Take off: Date 28 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0753(I) (Zone); Lat. 31°47'N Long. 135° 05'E
 (e) Mission Strike - KURE Naval Base (f) Time of Return 1232(I) (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)		
P6F-5	VF-49	8		8	7 planes carried 1-1000# G.I. piece	Mk. 243 .025 nose delay; Mk. 102A-2 .24 tail delay.
					1 photo plane, ammo. only	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VT-49	8	SAN JACINTO				
Strike by Task Force.							

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) X
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? X If so, Describe Clouds X
 (YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon X (k) Visibility X
 (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
NONE						

Enclosure (v)

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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 (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1	NONE			
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
	NONE			

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(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				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						30	50	20MM	MM	
F6F-5	193	193	4hrs 39 min	400	330	None				8

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

No airborne enemy aircraft were seen.

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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) Deck midships DE-207-133 (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 0945(1) (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target None (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (slight haze which did not obscure target) (e) Visibility 15 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used Estimated sunlight (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 (NUMBER) Spacing 7 (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 2000 x 3500 ft. (FEET)

(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		7 VF-42	7 - 1000/ C.P.	1	heavy explosion in vicinity of bridge.
2	32000 (stand) 683' length				
3	94' Beam				
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).

Three exhibits have been attached hereto:

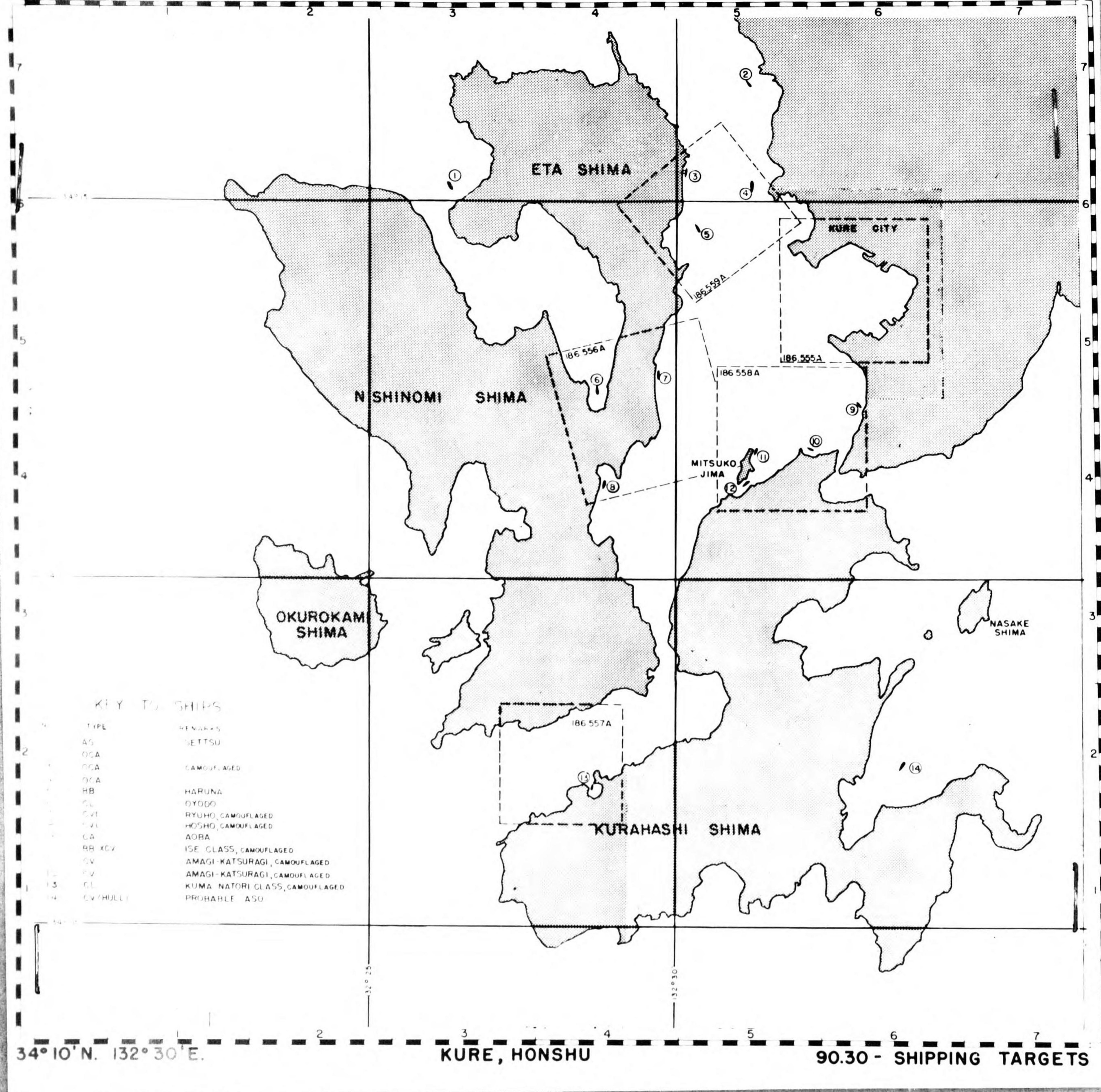
1. Exhibit "A" is a Location Chart, with a key to the ships in the harbor on the day of the strike. The DE-207 133 has key number 10.

2. & 3. Stereo-pair photographs taken after the smoke had partially cleared away from the ship, after the completion of the attack.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERPRON TWO - 186.559° E





SAN JAC 105-V 7-28 0950 X-18 24" 10,300' K.V.

EXHIBIT B

PHOTOGRAPH BB-XCV ISE

SECRET



0950 K-1824" 10,300' KURE NAVAL

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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

Lt. Comdr. G. M. Rousee, Commander of Air Group FORTY-NINE was selected to act as Target Coordinator for Task Group Thirty-Eight Joint One in a strike against enemy warships in Kure harbor, Honshu. Eight fighters and eight torpedo bombers were launched from the USS SAN JACINTO at 0753(1), 28 July 1945, to participate in this deck-land strike. The fighter flight acted as top cover for the entire Task Group over the target, and for this reason were the last fighter-bombers to hit the assigned objective, the battleship Ise. The second fighter division from VF-49 under the leadership of Lieut. R. J. Schlosser made a stern to stern glide bombing attack on the enemy ship. All bombs were dropped at a very low altitude and the average recovery was not above five hundred feet. Lt. Schlosser scored a direct hit with his bomb, in the vicinity of the battleship's bridge, and his wingman, Lt(jg) W. Collins scored a very near miss, less than twenty feet off the starboard bow. A large explosion was seen after Lt. Schlosser's hit, and when the flight left the area a large mushroom of smoke was seen above the spot where the bomb struck. When the division led by Lt. Comdr. Rousee attacked the target, it was almost obscured by smoke from the many hits scored by planes of the strike force. For this reason it was not possible to determine a proper aiming point, or to assess the results of the bombing by this division. However, it is certain that all bombs were dropped in the immediate target area. The Japanese again, as they had against the previous strike of 25 July 1945 put up a heavy curtain of flak. Even the fourteen inch guns on the three battleships in the harbor added their fire to the barrage. The attack was well coordinated and the individual groups participating were sent on the various targets with precision and dispatch. Lt(jg) R. C. Wright made a photographic run about five minutes after the attack concluded. Mission was made entirely alone and in the face of intense flak. Photographic coverage of the target area was 100%. No airborne enemy aircraft were seen. Return to base was made at 1232(1).

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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

All equipment performed normally.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. A. SWINE, Lieut., USN
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
A. C. I. Officer,

C. B. COOPER, Lieut. Comdr., USN
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
Commanding Officer, V7-49

28 July 1945
DATE