

V10-5

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Report # 62

#CC7)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when
 filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VD-5 (b) Based on or at Ouan, N. I. (c) Report No 62
 (d) Take off: Date 17 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0706 King (Zone); Lat. 13° 28' N Long 144° 45' E
 (e) Mission Photography of Truk, Satawan, Puluwat and Woleai (f) Time of Return 1735 King (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>PR4Y-1P</u>	<u>VD-5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>none</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>Zeke</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1115 King</u> (ZONE)	<u>Over Truk</u> <u>Atoll</u>	<u>machine guns</u>	
<u>Oscar</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1400 King</u> (ZONE)	<u>Over Truk</u> <u>Atoll</u>	<u>not observed</u>	
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Interception
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? yes If so, Describe Clouds Strato Cumulus 10/10 --12,000'
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day overcast (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
<u>none</u>						

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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
Defensive 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

Lieut. H. L. SALYER and Lieut. (jg) W. L. FITZSIMMONS in two PB4Y-1P aircraft took off from Agana Airfield, Guam, M. I. on 17 April 1945 at 0700 to photograph enemy installations on Truk, Satawan, Puluwat and Woleai Islands. They proceeded in company to Truk where they found an overcast at 13,000 ft. Lieut. SALYER let down to 10,000 ft. but still found the cloud cover too heavy for photographs. He then proceeded to Satawan Island and took oblique photographs of the island from 10,000 ft. He then returned to Truk where he was able to take oblique photographs of the air installations from 10,000 ft. While over Truk an enemy Oscar rose to intercept and attempted two passes from one o'clock high. Lieut. SALYER turned into him both times, but the Oscar broke off while still out of range. After the second pass the Oscar attempted to lead Lieut. SALYER over the antiaircraft batteries, but failed to entice him. Heavy, moderate antiaircraft fire was encountered during this operation. Lieut. SALYER returned to base at 1735 King.

Meanwhile Lieut. FITZSIMMONS while letting down over Truk almost ran into an unaggressive enemy Zeke, who failed to show any interest in fighting. Lieut. FITZSIMMONS then proceeded to Puluwat and Woleai where he took good vertical photographs of both islands from 10,000 ft. No further interception or anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Lieut. FITZSIMMONS landed at Agana at 1740 King.

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