

A16-3/Jan

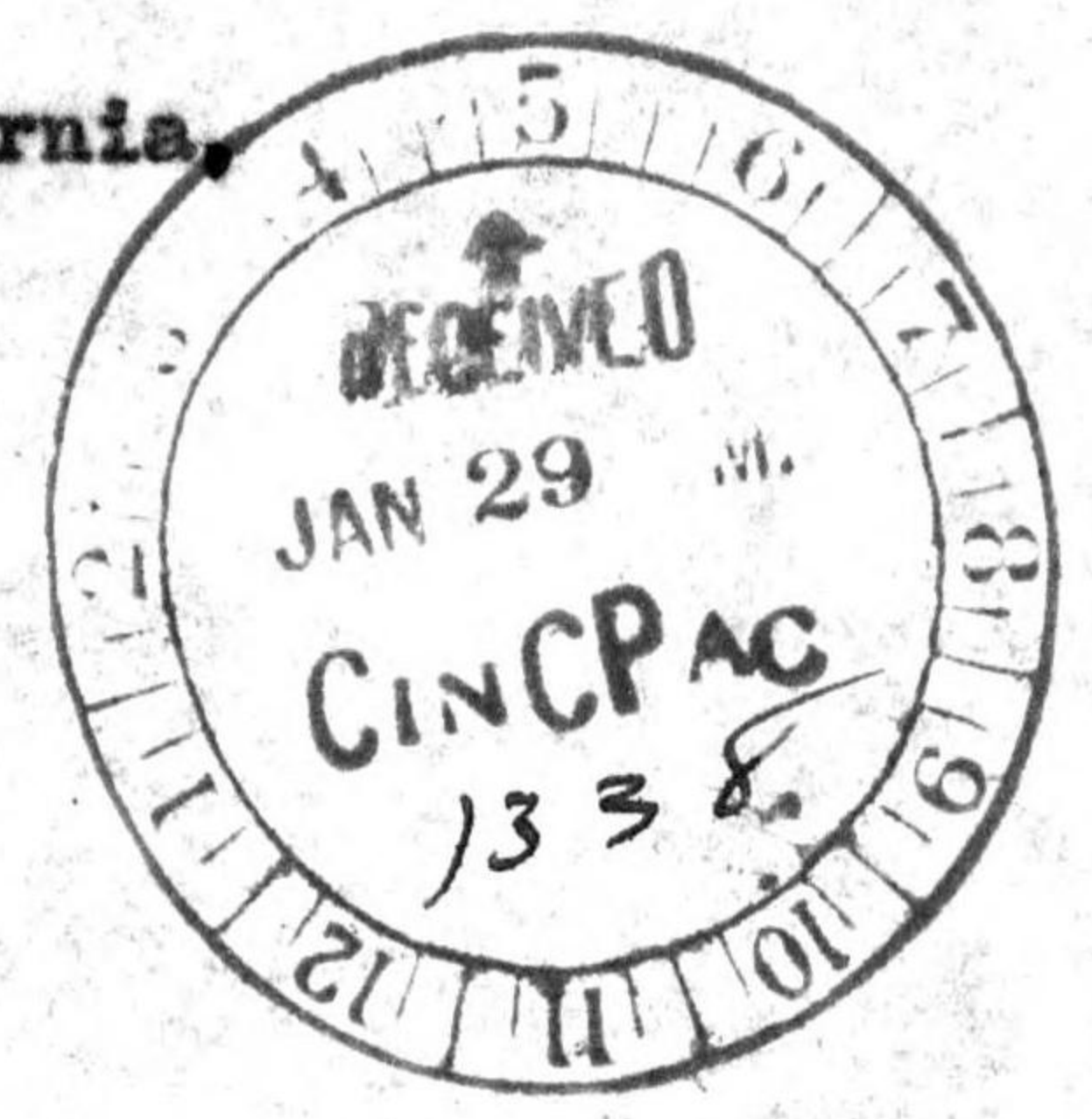
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U. S. S. SAN JACINTO

S-E-C-R-E-T

CVL30/A16-3
Serial: 007

c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California,
22 January 1945.



SECOND ENDORSEMENT To:

VT-45/A9-8 Ofll-sec
Secret Ltr. Ser: (064)
dated 21 January 1945.

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Via: (1) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.
(2) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
(3) Commander Third Fleet.
(4) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Det Em
16-45

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through
16 January, inclusive, 1945.

1. Forwarded.

MICHAEL H. KERNODLE.

DISTRIBUTION OF ENCLOSURES:

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ComAirPac (1) Copy direct

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
FIGHTING SQUADRON FORTY-FIVE

In Reply
Refer To:

VF-45/A16-3/A9
Serial: (005)

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

21 January, 1945

S-E-C-R-E-T

FIRST ENDORSEMENT: to
VT-45 Secret Ltr. File
A9-8/Afl1-aec, serial
(064) dated 20 January
1945.

From: Commander CVL Air Group FORTY FIVE.
To : Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Via : (1) Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.
(2) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.
(3) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
(4) Commander Third Fleet.
(5) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through
16 January, 1945 - Inclusive.

1. Forwarded.

G. E. SCHECTER.

VT-45/A9-8
Ofll-acc

Serial: 064

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
TORPEDO SQUADRON FORTY-FIVE

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

21 January 1945.

SECRET

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Via : (1) Commander Carrier Air Group FORTY-FIVE.
(2) The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.
(3) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.
(4) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
(5) Commander Third Fleet.
(6) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through
16 January, inclusive, 1945.

References: (a) CominCh Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.
(b) PacFlt Confid. Ltr. 101-45 of 1 January 1945.

Enclosures: (A) Aircraft Action Report #4, VT-45, Strike on Aparri
Airfield, Luzon, 6 January 1945.
(B) Aircraft Action Report #5, VT-45, Strike on Basco
Airfield, Batan Island, 7 January 1945.
(C) Aircraft Action Report #6, VT-45, Strike on Clark
Field, Luzon, 7 January 1945.
(D) Aircraft Action Report #7, VT-45, Strike on Rokko S.E.
and Tsuina Airfields, Formosa, 9 January 1945.
(E) Aircraft Action Report #8, VT-45, Strike on Shipping
on French Indo-China coast, 12 January 1945.
(F) Aircraft Action Report #9, VT-45, Strike on Shipping
and Oil Depots, Saigon, French Indo-China, 12 Jan. 1945.
(G) Aircraft Action Report #10, VT-45, Strike on Shipping
at Takao and Toshien, Formosa, 15 January 1945.
(H) Aircraft Action Report #11, VT-45, Strike on Shipping,
Aircraft or Facilities, Hainan Island, 16 January 1945.

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosures (A)
through (h) are forwarded herewith.

J. G. PIEGARI.

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CG USS SAN JACINTO (1) Copy.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET

6835

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VT-45 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. 4
 (d) Take off: Date 6 January 1945 Time (LZT) 1120 (Zone); Lat. 17° - 46 N Long. 124° - 10 E
 (e) Mission Bomb Aparri A/F, Luzon and Reconnaissance (f) Time of Return 1530 (Zone) -9

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)		
TBM-1c	VT-45	2		2	Ten 100# G.P.	Instantaneous nose, Non-Delay tail.
TBM-3	VT-45	7		7	Ten 100# G.P.	Instantaneous nose, Non-Delay tail.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F-5	VF-45	12	U.S.S. SAN JACINTO				

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
			(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		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No. 4

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 TBM-3	VT-45	Light Automatic A/A	Port wing 60°	Minor - repairable on board
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	
TBM-3	180	190	4 Hrs. 10 Min	300	234	245	80			7
TBM-1c	180	190	4 Hrs. 10 Min	300	265		30			2

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	V			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	V			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm			V	

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- TURNING
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

SECRET

REPORT No. 4

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Aparri A/F, Luzon, P. I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1415 (Zone) -9
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 8/10 at 1500
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Obscured at times by showers (e) Visibility 8 Miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bombing Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 10 Spacing 25 Altitude of Bomb Release 2000-3000 Feet
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

	(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
			(k) SQUADRON			
1	Installations and Runway	3500' X 1000'	9 VT-45	82	71	Serious
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).

This strike was ordered to search for airfields in the small islands lying immediately to the North of Luzon and to attack Aparri if no fields were found on the islands. As no airfields in the smaller islands were found the entire attack was made on Aparri. A well coordinated attack was made from West to East. Most of the bombs were aimed for and landed in the area of small storage and repair buildings which extends along the south side of the field. A .50 caliber machine gun position (4 guns) was singled out in this area and directly hit with 2 bombs. Ten hits were made on the runway itself. These hits were made in the eastern third of the runway which extends from West to East.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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SECRET

REPORT No. 4

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

This strike, as stated above, had for its first mission a search of the islands North of Luzon. Camiguin, Fuga, Dalupiri, Calayan and Babuyan Islands were carefully examined and no air facilities discovered on any. It was determined that bad weather and a limited gasoline supply prevented continuing on to Batan Island about 50 miles further North. The strike, therefore, went to Aparri A/F and made a glide bombing attack. This squadron had bombed Aparri about a month previous and had no difficulty in locating and recognizing its target. Push over was at an average altitudes of 5000, and bombs were dropped at an average altitude of 2500 feet. Glide angles of 30° to 35° were used and speeds of from 250 knots to 300 knots, I.A.S. were attained during the glide. Intervalometer spacing of 25 feet was used in order to bring the bomb hits near together and manual emergency release was used near to the end of the glide to release any bombs not automatically released.

Eight to twelve .50 caliber machine guns were observed firing from the center of the south side of the field in the area bombed heaviest. One direct hit on a four gun position was observed. A later VF-45 sweep reported that no gunfire was observed in the sector thus hit.

A previously damaged Nick was seen at the center of south side of field and was strafed by several planes.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

SECRET REPORT No. 4

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

Malcolm I. Ruddock
Malcolm I. RUDDOCK, Lt. (jg) USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

A.C.I. Officer

APPROVED BY:

J. G. Piegari
J. G. PIEGARI, Lieut., USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

Commanding Officer

7 Jan. 1945
DATE