Aircraft Action Reports
2-d (51) USS Orca

UNITED STATES FLEET PATROL SQUADRON FIFTY-TWO 4 October 1944 VPB52/A9-4 CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM TO: Lieut.-Comdr. Benjamin Warfield, USNR, Staff Intelligence Officer, Commander Aircraft, Sementh Fleet Patrol Bombing Squadron Fifty-Two, Subject: Report of Operations for September 1. VPB 52 was based on the U. S. S. TANGIER at WOENDI LAGOON from the first to the sixteenth of September, and for three more days at the Seaplane Base, WOENDI ISLAND. During this period 58 air sea rescue missions were flown, covering strikes on CERAM, AMBON, SAMATE, the HALMAHERAS, DAVAO AND PALAU. One rescue was effected. On September 5 Lieut.(j. g.) Philip Sheridan landed at 1730I to pick up two RAAF Mosquito pilots on the beach about 30 miles west of MANOKWARI. They had completed a photo reconnaissance mission to the PHILLIPINES the day before. They made a wheels up landing in the water near the beach after getting temporarily lost in very bad weather. A P-38 found them and led Lieut. (j. g.) Sheridan to the scene. At the time, the Catalina was returning to base after giving air sea rescue coverage to strikes on the HALMAHERAS. Lieut. (j. g.) Sheridan landed and taxied in close to the beach. The rescued pilots swam out to the plane after destroying the Mosquito by fire. 2. In addition to these rescue missions flown from WOENDI, the squadron flew three special missions to MOROTAI ISLAND, HALMAHERAS, on the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth of September to bring out news reporters and photographers who covered the Landings made there on the fifteenth: The first of these flights was made by Lieut\*Comdr. R. Isner, Jr., USNR, who relieved Lieut-Comdr. H. A. Sommer, USN, of command of command of VPB52 on September 4. The next two were made by Lieut. C. J. Schauffler and Lieut. (j. g.) M. V. Watts. 3. Since September 20 the squadron has based at MANUS ISLAND, ADMIRALTIES, with detachments at EMIRAU, GREEN and TREASURY ISLANDS. These detachments have done air sea rescue work for the Northern SOLOMONS Air Command. By the end of the month they had flown 12 such missions. On September 29 Lieut. (j. g.) M. V. Watts, based at EMIRAU, rescued a Marine F4U pilot who had landed in the water just off the beach about half way down the east coast of NEW IRELAND (02 55' S 151 15'E). The F4U was at 200 feet altitude when its motor suddenly quit, possibly because of machine gun fire encountered in its sweep down the coast. Another pilot in the flight saw the landing and summoned the Catalina. Lieut. (j.g.) Watts effected the rescue

## UNITED STATES FLEET PATROL SQUADRON FIFTY-TWO

without incident. F4Us provided fighter cover.

4. Starting Sepember 23, the squadron alternated with VPB 34 in flying two 300 mile search sectors to the northwest from MANYS. The eight of these missions flown by VPB 52 were all negative.

N. S. M. Lowin

N. S. McGowin, Lieut., USNR Intelligence Officer, VPB 52

## UNITED STATES FLEET PATROL SQUADRON FIFTY-TWO

VPB52/A9-4

4 0ot0ber 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMOR NDUM TO: Lieut.-Comdr. Benjamin Parfield, USNR, Staff Intelligence Officer,

Co mander Aircraft, Sewenth Fleet

Subject:

Report of Operations for September

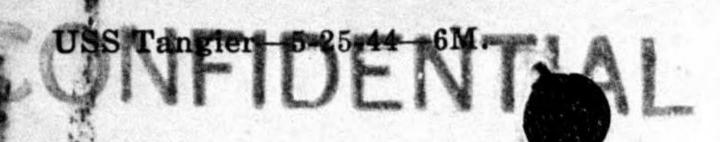
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N. S. McGowin, Lieut., USNR Intelligence Officer, VPB 52



Chief Yeoman

## ROUTING SLIP AIRCRAFT, SEVENTH FLOOT

rom: VP-52				Serial No. Rep.#53
ate: 7 Jul '44		Encl. or	No. Copies	:
ubject: Aircraft A	ction Repor	t		
OFFICER	ROUTING	SYMBOL	INITIAL	A — Action. B — Information.
Commodore Chief Staff Officer				C — For Recommendation.  D — Prepare Draft Reply.  E — Retain Copy.
6 Administrative Asst.		6	7	
11 Operations Officer			M — Make Changes to references,	
12 Assistant Operations				publications, etc. T — Make Tickler.
15 Flag Lieutenant				
20 Communications Officer				REMARKS
21 Radar Officer				
22 Assistant Comm. Officer			,	
25 Information Officer	2	A	122	
40 Supply Officer				
50 Material Officer				
51 Aircraft Eng. Off.				
52 Aircraft Struct. Off.				
55 Aerological Officer				
60 Personnel Officer				
61 Legal Officer				
65 Photographic Officer				
75 Medical Officer				
90 Gunnery Officer				
91 Training Officer				