

Al6-3

Serial: 00020

T-O-P S-E-C-R-E-T

United States Pacific Fleet,
Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
Commander, First Carrier Task Force.
U.S.S. LEXINGTON, Flagship.

KOSSOL ROADS, PALAU ISLANDS.
1 October 1944, (East Long. Date).

OPERATION ORDER

ComFirstCarTaskForPac No. 11-44.

TASK ORGANIZATION

(Forces assigned all Task Groups as indicated in Annex "A")

(a) Task Force 38 - Fast Carrier Force.

Task Group 38.1 - Vice Admiral J. S. McCain (C2CTFP)

Task Group 38.2 - Rear Admiral G. F. Bogan, (CCD-4)

Task Group 38.3 - Rear Admiral F. C. Sherman, (CCD-1)

Task Group 38.4 - Rear Admiral R. E. Davison, (CCD-2)

1. General Situation. BLUE forces now control the MARIANAS - ULITHI - PALAU - MOROTAI line. Our new lines are being established and secured, in order to support future operations. South Pacific Forces are advancing toward the PHILIPPINES and will attack and occupy LYTE concurrently with this operation.

Enemy Forces. Enemy air strength and shipping in the PHILIPPINES have been dealt heavy blows. It is probable that the PHILIPPINES and the NANSEISHOTO - FORMOSA Areas will be re-enforced and strategic areas heavily fortified in anticipation of BLUE landings. The main strength of the air arm of the Japanese navy is probably concentrated in the FORMOSA - EMPIRE Area and with enemy land based aircraft could be a formidable threat to our advance. Heavy concentrations of Japanese surface craft are in SINGAPORE - BRUNEI Areas and may oppose the landing operations in LYTE.

Own Forces. (a) This operation is based on Commander Western Pacific Task Forces Operation Plan No. 14-44 dated 14 August 1944, Serial 0030, copy of which all forces have.

(b) The operation covered by this order is termed KING II.

(c) The operation will be supported by other forces to be outlined by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces.

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2. This force will, beginning on A minus 10 Day strike OKINAWA JIMA, FORMOSA, LUZON and the VISAYAS, and destroy enemy aircraft, ships, aircraft facilities, shipping facilities and enemy defenses in order to support the capture and occupation of the LEYTE - CEBU - NEGROS Area. This force will supply air and strategic support for landing operations by the forces of Commander Southwest Pacific as directed by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces. In case opportunity for the destruction of a major portion of the Japanese fleet offers or can be created such destruction will become the primary task.
3. (a) Task Group 38.1.
(b) Task Group 38.2.
(c) Task Group 38.3.
(d) Task Group 38.4.
Conduct strikes, destroy aircraft, shipping, aircraft facilities, and defenses and furnish air support and reconnaissance as prescribed by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces and Annex "C" of this order.
- (x) (1) This Operation Order effective 7 October, 1944 (E.L.D.)
(2) "A" Day will be as prescribed by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces. (20 October, 1944, for planning.)
(3) Observe Submarine Area requirements prescribed by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces.
(4) Task Force THIRTY-FOUR may be formed at any time on order from Commander Western Pacific Task Forces as prescribed in his Battle Plan No. 1-44, Serial 0050, copies of which Task Group commanders have.
(5) Movement of Task Groups in accordance with Annex "B" and "C".
(6) Commander First Carrier Task Force Instructions (First Car TFI-1) as modified by this order will be in force.
(7) Comply carefully with the requirements of Annex "J" of Commander Western Pacific Task Forces Op-Plan 14-44.
(8) Be ready to concentrate on Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT in event action with enemy fleet is possible.
4. Logistics. As indicated in Annex "C" and as prescribed from time to time by Commander Western Pacific Task Forces.

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5. (a) Communications in accordance with Annex "F" to Commander Western Pacific Task Forces Operation Plan 14-44 and Annex "E" to this operation Order.
(b) Rendezvous and navigational data are contained in Annex "B".
(c) Unless otherwise indicated all times are Zone minus 9 (Item).
(d) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT in LEXINGTON.

M. A. MITSCHER,
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy,
Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
Commander First Carrier Task Force, Pacific.

ANNEXES:

- A - TASK ORGANIZATION.
- B - MOVEMENT PLAN.
- C - EMPLOYMENT PLAN.
- D - TARGET CHARTS.
- E - COMMUNICATION PLAN.
- F - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
- G - PHOTOGRAPHIC REQUIREMENTS.
- H - FRIENDLY AIR SEARCH PLAN.

AUTHENTICATED:

C. G. Steele
C. G. STEELE,
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.
Flag Secretary.

TOP SECRET

Distribution List - ComFIRSTCarTaskForPac OpOrder No. 11-44.

Cominch	(1 Air Mail)	8	ComGenAlliedAirForce	2
OpNav		2	ComGenMarWingsPac	2
CinCPac	(1 Air Mail)	10	AdComFIFTHPhibFor	1
Deputy CinCPac		2	AdComFIFTHPhibCorps	1
ComTHIRDFlt		15	ComCarTransRonPac	2
ComFIFTHFlt		2	AdComFMFPac	1
ComBatPac		2	JICPOA	1
ComAirPac		2	ComSupAirPac	2
ComCruPac		2	AdComPhibsPac	1
ComDesPac		2	ComGenXXIVCorps	2
ComSubsPac		2	ComForwardArea, CentPac	3
ComPhibForPac		2	ComAirForwardArea, CentPac	2
ComServPac		2	Deputy ComForwardArea, CentPac	1
ComSoPacFor		2	ComMARSHALLS-GILBERTS Area	2
ComAirSoPacFor		2	AtComMAJURO	1
ComServRonsSoPacFor		2	AtComENIWETOK	1
ComNorPacFor		1	IsComGUAM	1
ComGenPOA		2	IsComSAIPAN	1
ComGenAAFPOA		2	IsComTINIAN	1
ComGenCentPac		2	ComWesCAROLINESSubArea	1
ComServRon-2		2	ComAirWesCAROLINESSubArea	1
ComServRon-6		2	IsComPELELIU	1
ComServRon-8		2	IsComANGAUR	1
ComServRon-10		2	IsComYAP	1
ComTHIRDPhibFor		5	AtComULITHI	1
ComGenTHIRDPhibCorps		3	CNB MANUS	1
ComFIFTHPhibFor		2	ComCruDiv-9	2
ComGenFIFTHPhibCorps		2	SCOFA, CentPac	1
ComGrpONE, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-3	1
ComGrpTWO, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-11	1
ComGrpTHREE, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-22	1
ComGrpFOUR, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-24	1
ComGrpFIVE, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-25	1
ComGrpSIX, PhibForPac		2	ComCarDiv-26	1
ComGenXRAYProvPhibCorps		2	ComCarDiv-27	1
CinCSoWesPac		10	ComCarDiv-28	1
ComSEVENTHFlt		3	HOGGATT BAY (CVE-75)	1
ComSEVENTHPhibFor		5	Captain J.T.ACUFF (in JOHN D. HENLEY)	5
ComAirSEVENTHFlt		2	HANCOCK	6
ComServRonsSEVENTHFlt		2	CVG-7	4
ComSubsSEVENTHFlt		2	TICONDEROGA	1
ComGenFIFTHAirForce		2	RANDOLPH	1
ComGenSEVENTHAirForce		2	BENNINGTON	1
ComGenTHIRTEENTHAirForce		2	BATAAN	1
ComGenTWENTYETHAirForce		2		

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Distribution List (Cont'd).

Task Group 38.1

ComSECONDCarTaskForPac	5
WASP	6
CVG-14	4
HORNET	6
CVG-11	4
COWPENS	6
CVLG-22	3
MONTEREY	6
CVLG-28	3
ComCruDiv-6	2
WICHITA	1
ComCruDiv-10	2
BOSTON	1
CANBERRA	1
ComDesRON-46	2
IZARD	1
CHARRETTE	1
CONNER	1
BELL	1
BURNS	1
ComDesDiv-92	1
BOYD	1
BROWN	1
COWELL	1
ComDesRON-12	2
McCALLA	1
GRAYSON	1

Task Group 38.2

ComCarDiv-4	5
INTREPID	6
CVG-18	4
BUNKER HILL	6
CVG-8	4
CABOT	6
CVLG-29	3
INDEPENDENCE	6
ComVF(N)-79	3
ComBatDiv-7	2
IOWA	2
NEW JERSEY	2

ComCruDiv-4	2
VINCENNES	1
HOUSTON	1
MIAMI	1
ComCruDiv-11	2
SAN DIEGO	1
OAKLAND	1
ComDesRON-52	2
OWEN	1
MILLER	1
THE SULLIVANS	1
STEPHEN POTTER	1
TINGEY	1
ComDesDiv-104	1
HICKOX	1
HUNT	1
LEWIS HANCOCK	1
MARSHALL	1
ComDesRON-53	2
CUSHING	1
COLAHAN	1
HALSEY POWELL	1
UHLMANN	1
BENHAM	1
ComDesDiv-106	1
YARNELL	1
STOCKHAM	1
WEDDERBURN	1

Task Group 38.3

ComCarDiv-1	5
ESSEX	6
CVG-15	4
LEXINGTON	6
CVG-19	4
LANGLEY	6
CVLG-32	3
CVLG-44	3
PRINCETON	6
CVLG-27	3
ComBatDiv-6	2
WASHINGTON	2
NORTH CAROLINA	2

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Distribution List (Cont'd).

ComBatDiv-8	2	Task Group 38.4	
MASSACHUSETTS	2	ComCarDiv-2	5
INDIANA	2	FRANKLIN	6
		CVG-13	4
ComBatDiv-9	2	ENTERPRISE	6
ALABAMA	2	ComCarDiv-6	5
SOUTH DAKOTA	2	CVG-20	4
		BELLEAU WOOD	6
ComCruDiv-13	2	CVLG-21	3
SANTA FE	1	SAN JACINTO	6
BIRMINGHAM	1	CVLG-51	3
MOBILE	1		
		NEW ORLEANS	1
RENO	1	BILOXI	1
		ComDesRON-6	2
ComDesRON-50	2	MAURY	1
C.K. BRONSON	1	CRAVEN	1
COTTEN	1	GRIDLEY	1
DORTCH	1	HELM	1
GATLING	1	McCALL	1
HEALY	1		
		ComDesDiv-12	1
ComDesDiv-100	1	MUGFORD	1
COGSWELL	1	RALPH TALBOT	1
CAPERTON	1	PATTERSON	1
INGERSOLL	1	BAGLEY	1
KNAPP	1		
		ComDesDiv-24	1
ComDesRON-55	2	WILKES	1
PORTERFIELD	1	NICHOLSON	1
CALLAGHAN	1	SWANSON	1
CASSIN YOUNG	1		
IRWIN	1		
PRESTON	1		
		Deferred Distribution:	
ComDesDiv-110	1	Naval War College	1
LAWS	1	ANSCOL	1
LONGSHAW	1	MarCorps Schools	3
MORRISON	1		
PRITCHETT	1		