

Aircraft Action Reports

2-d (50) USS Onslow

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

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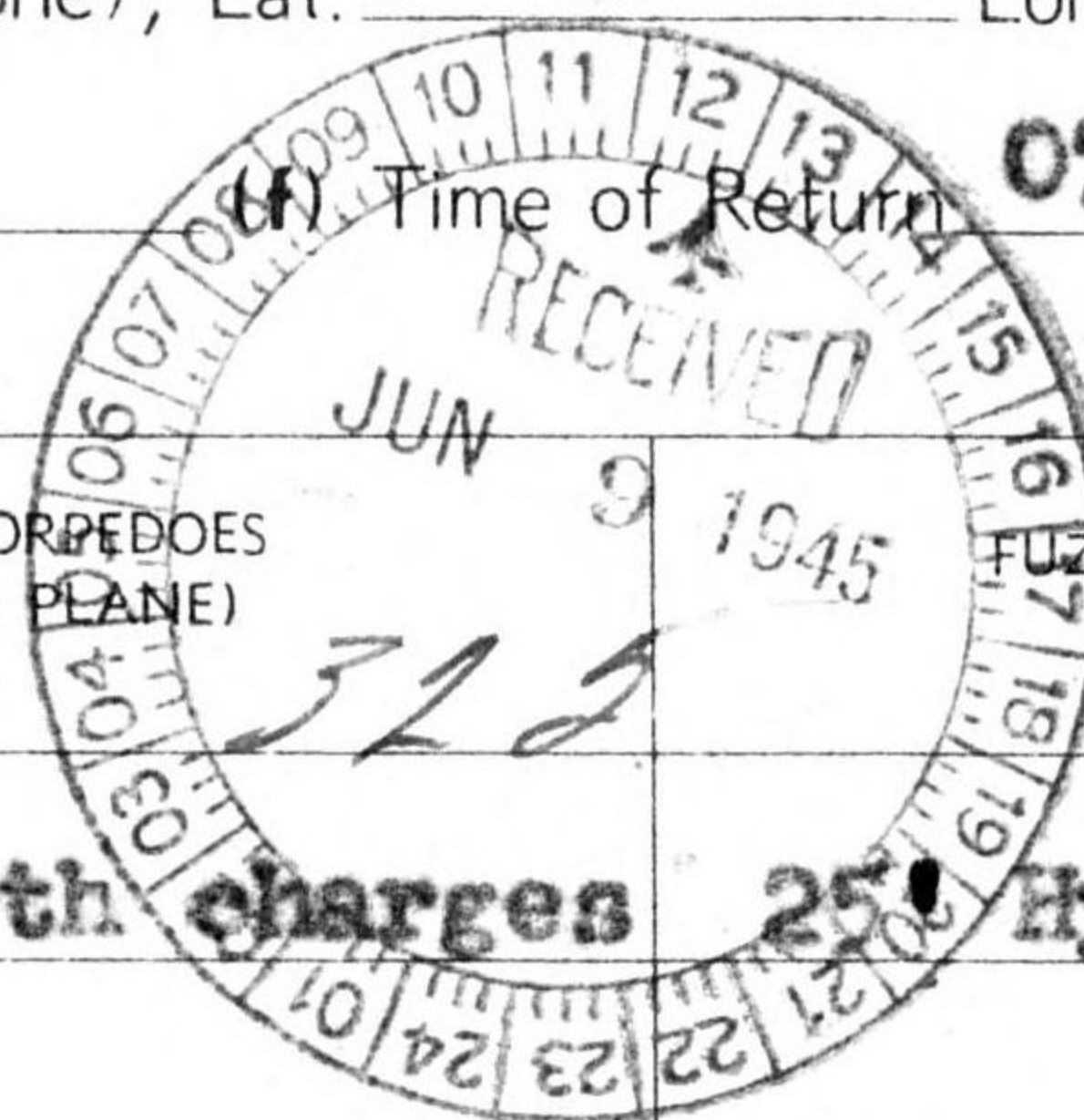
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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VPB-27 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Onslow (AVP-48) (c) Report No. 1-45
 (d) Take off: Date 8 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1700 I (Zone); Lat. 26-12 N. Long. 127-18 E.
 (e) Mission Night Anti-submarine Patrol (f) Time of Return 0720 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)		
PBM-5	VPB-27	1	1	0	Six (6) depth charges	25 Hydrostatic



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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

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
Kate	1	1	1830 I (ZONE)	25-15 N. 126-05 E.	1 torpedo	Light gray color Heat balls on wings

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) To deliver a torpedo attack against out shipping.
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, clear, sun 10 degrees in west. (k) Visibility Eight miles (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			
1-Kate	PBM	VPB27	Neal, Max (n) ARM2/e	Twin .50s	Port wing root	Several hits in port wing

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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, TYRE 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				

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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	
PBM-5	-	-	14.0	2400	2000			500		1

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
- TURN
- DIVE
- CEILING
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

The Kate appeared to have superior speed as it was able to pull away from the PBM in level flight. Lieutenant Dunbar estimated the Kate must have been doing about 190 knots since he was indicating 170 knots when the enemy aircraft was opening the distance between the planes.

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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) _____ (b) Time Over Target(s) _____
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target _____
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target _____ (e) Visibility _____
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

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

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed _____ Probably Destroyed _____ Damaged _____

(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					
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? no Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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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.)

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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

Lieutenant Dunbar, flying a routine night anti-submarine patrol off Okinawa at 1830 Item 8 April, was at 2,000 feet indicating 120 knots on a course of 352 when he sighted a Kate about 1,000 yards off his port beam on a course of 080 to 090. The Kate came on underneath the PBM and Lieutenant Dunbar made a sharp turn to starboard, increased his throttle settings to 42 inches, upped the RPMs to 2600 and gave chase. The Kate was at about 1,000 feet which gave Lieutenant Dunbar an altitude advantage of 1,000 feet. Nosing down sharply with added power, the PBM soon was indicating about 190 knots. When Lieutenant Dunbar closed the range to 1,500 feet his bow turret gunner opened up on the torpedo carrying enemy plane with the twin fifties. The Kate immediately took evasive action in the form of gentle "S" turns and apparently used full throttle in an attempt to get away. The Kate increased speed to better than 190 knots but the PBM in level flight with its heavy load of 2,400 gallons of gasoline and six depth charges, dropped back to around 170 knots indicated air speed.

As soon as the PBM opened fire the Kate's rear gunner let loose with his free swinging machine gun. About four 2-second bursts were fired by the Jap plane. One unusual feature of the fire from the Kate was that no tracers were seen -- only the flashes from the gun muzzle. The bow gunner of the PBM continued to fire bursts at the Kate until the range opened to 2,500 feet. Lieutenant Dunbar reported that he could see his bullets hitting over and under the port wing of the Kate and feels certain that the plane must have been hit several times.

As the enemy plane pulled away toward the South, Lieutenant Dunbar called his base, reported the encounter and was told to continue patrol. The Kate had disappeared in the direction of a radar picket ship and Lieutenant Dunbar attempted unsuccessfully to notify it of the approaching plane. Another station, however, relayed the message. About 10 minutes later Lieutenant Dunbar heard the relay station report that the picket ship had splashed a Kate, presumed to be the one reported by the PBM.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

No Comment.

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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:

APPROVED BY:

Lt. (jg.) W. T. Bailey, ACIO

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

Lt. Comdr. E. N. CHASE 2nd

SIGNATURE

Commanding Officer

RANK AND DUTY

15 April 1945

DATE