

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTING SLIP
AIRCRAFT, SEVENTH FLEET

Classification

Date Rec. 16 Oct. 1944.

Our File No. Inc. No. 02935

From: VP-34

Their File No. Serial No.

Date: 4/5/30 August 1944.

Encl. or No. Copies:

Subject: AIRCRAFT ACTIONS REPORTS (Search & Attacks) 3 separate reports.

	Rout. Order	For	Out	In	Init.	REMARKS
00 Admiral						Reg. No.
01 Chief of Staff	2	B				
05 Flag Secretary	1	B	10/17	10/17	WMT	
06 Administrative Asst.						
11 Operations Officer	4	B				
12 Assistant Operations	5	B				
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20 Communication Officer						
21 Radar Officer						
22 Assistant Comm. Officer						
25 Intelligence Officer	3	A		SM	W	
40 Supply Officer						
50 Material Officer						
55 Aerological Officer						
65 Photographic Officer						
90 Gunnery Officer						
95 Public Relations						Entered Bulletin
Chief Yeoman						

A—Action. E—Retain Copy. M—Make changes to ref-
 B—Information. F—Consult Ch. of Staff. erences, pub., etc.
 C—For Recomm. K—Dist. (As Necessary) T—Make Tickler.
 D—Prepare Draft Reply. L—File.

A/6-30

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VP34 (b) Based on or at USS ORCA, WoendiLagoon Report No. 43

(d) Take off: Date 4 Aug. 1944 Time (LZT) 1820 K (Zone); Lat. 01°15'S Long. 136°25'E

(e) Mission Search and attack (f) Time of Return 0830 K (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)		
PBY-5	VP34	1	-	1	4x500 lb GP Mk 43 6x23 lb parafrags	Tail; 4-5" delay Nose; instantaneous

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
			(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)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance _____ of Sun or Moon _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____ (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	GUNS USED		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. 43

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				
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

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	
PBY-5	750	725	14.2	1450	1275	100	200			1

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

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

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURN
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 43

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) (1) 02-56 S, 128-06 E (2) 01-50 S, 128-00 E (b) Time Over Target(s) (1) 0130 K (2) 0300 K (Zone)

(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target (1) 10,000', alto-stratus, 8/10; (2) 400'; thunderstorn; 10/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target (1) Clear at 1/2 mile (2) Obscured by rain Visibility (1) 10 miles (2) 1/2 mile
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type (1) Glide (2) Level Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run (1) 1 (2) 1 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release (1) 100' (2) 150'
(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 (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-masted schooner	75 feet	1 VP34	2x23 lb parafrags 300x.30&.50 cal MG	None 10%	Slight Serious
2 2-masted schooner	75 feet	1 VP34	1x500 lb GP Mk 43 1x23 lb parafrag	1 None	Sunk -
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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REPORT No. 43

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

On patrol of the north coast of Ceram and the passages between Ceram and Boeroe, the Catalina (PPC: Lt(jg) William L. Garrett, Jr., USNR) entered Boana Strait at about 0130 K. It was clear but overcast in the area, with limited visibility. A large two-masted schooner was sighted at anchor about 75 yards from the shore of a small island just off the Ceram coast. Two low-altitude runs were made, each time dropping one parafrag and strafing with bow .30's and waist .50's. The parafrags were both misses, but it is considered - in view of the size of the target - that serious damage was probably caused by the strafing.

After searching further in the assigned area the plane started its return to base. A few miles south of Obimajor Island a severe thunderstorm was encountered, with ceiling below 400 feet and visibility obscured by heavy rain. While flying on an easterly course, a radar indication was picked up at 2½ miles off the port bow. The radar operator coached the pilot in the direction until the target was seen visually by the bombardier in the bow at ½ mile. Since the pilot could not see the target, which proved to be a second large schooner, he instructed the bombardier to guide him to it and release the bombs. The plane passed over at 150 feet, and one 500 pound bomb and a parafrag were dropped. The large bomb scored a direct hit, demolishing the sailing vessel.

Squadron assessment: One large schooner damaged and one sunk.

Note: In some areas it is the general policy to refrain from attacking sailing craft at night on the assumption that they may be manned by natives. Prior to the actions described in this report it had been definitely established by Allied aircraft on daylight fighter sweeps over the Ceram-Ambon-Boeroe area that the Japs were making extensive use of such craft for transporting supplies, and were even employing them to run fuel drums over from the Boela oil fields. Hence large sailing vessels of 50 feet or more were designated by the Task Unit Commander as legitimate targets.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. 43

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

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