

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(PACIFIC)
APO #234
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO

INTERROGATION NO. _____
(Obtain from C-2) *Nav No*

PLACE _____
DATE _____

Division of Origin _____

Subject: _____

Personnel interrogated and background of each:

Where interviewed _____

Interrogator _____

Interpreter _____

Allied Officers Present _____

Summary: 

Transcript begins on next page.

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(PACIFIC)
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO



RESTRICTED

INTERROGATION NO. USSBS 65(Supplement)
NAV. NO. 13

PLACE: TOKYO
DATE: 14 November 1945

Division of Origin: Naval Analysis Division.

Personnel interrogated:

Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.

SUMMARY

The following notes of battles submitted by Captain WATANABE, I.J.N. Gunnery and Landing Force Officer, Staff CinC combined fleet(Admiral YAMAMOTO). All times (-9).

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NARRATION

MIDWAY Action 4 - 6 June 1942.

27 May 0600 Departed HASHIRASHIMA, INLAND SEA near KURE.

3 June 1030 Mobile force broke radio silence and sends out signals to change course.

Proceeding through fog from 1000 the 2nd to 2300 the 3rd.

4 June 1510 Detect what is believed to be enemy plane signals in near vicinity. At 0900 the 3rd and 2330 the 4th, AKAGI detects similar signals.

5 June 0130 36 fighters and 36 bombers take off to attack MIDWAY
0600 Return.

0130 - 0200 Air Searches.

After 0230, made contact with 2 or 3 enemy patrol planes.

0400 - 0650 Enemy planes torpedo attack carriers.

No damage sustained.

0428 Enemy surface force sighted by Japanese scout plane.

0500 One carrier sighted by search airplane.

In process of refitting with #80 torpedoes. Delay caused by shifting from bombs to torpedoes. Lost chance to hit American carriers.

0725 30 enemy planes attack. AKAGI, KAGA and SORYU burning.

0758 6 fighters and 18 bomber planes of the HIRYO take off for attack on American carriers. One carrier of ENTERPRISE class severely damaged. One heavy cruiser seriously damaged. One large carrier sunk.

1413 Our aircraft reported enemy task force proceeding east, leaving one large carrier behind smoking.

1403 HIRYO damaged by dive bomber attack.

2355 MIDWAY Occupation cancelled by despatch from Admiral YAMAMOTO.

(This was discussed by all members of Staff. Chief of Staff (Rear Admiral UGAKI) convinced Admiral YAMAMOTO to turn back. Remainder of staff divided in opinion whether to turn back or try to capture without aircraft).

CORAL SEA Action 4 - 8 May 1942.

SHOKAKU received 3 250 kg bomb hits.

4 May About 80 enemy carrier planes attack TULAGI between 0630 and 1315.

5 May See no enemy.

3 enemy E-17's attack MO (PORT MORESBY) Occupation Force, No hits.

6 May Discover striking force at 0810.

Enemy E-17's sight MO (PORT MORESBY) Occupation Force.

7 May 3 E-17's attack transports at 0550, no damage; aircraft of CARDIV 5 discovers large tanker and mistake it for carrier at 0530; Float Recce sights striking force at 0640; SHOHU sunk at 0935; 12 bombers and 15 attack planes of CARDIV 5 take off at 1430 but fail to sight enemy; RAEAUL AIR FLOT 25 cooperates in attack and sinks 1 battleship, severely damages 1 battleship, sinks (unconfirmed) 1 cruiser.

8 May CARDIV 5 SHOKAKU receives 3 #250 bomb hits at 0940; at

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.).

0920 1 large enemy carrier (LEXINGTON) sunk, 1 medium carrier (YORKTOWN) sunk, and 1 BB or cruiser left burning.

SOLOMONS Action 23 - 25 August 1942.

7 August 30 enemy transports arrive at GUADALCANAL.
16 August 1800 Mobile Force departs INLAND SEA.

(O) General Command.

Main Unit: CinC Combined Fleet.
Supporting Force: Advance Force CinC 2nd Fleet.
Mobile Force CinC 3rd Fleet.

Mobile Force Command.

Main Unit: CinC 3rd Fleet. SHOKAKU, ZUIKAKU
CARDIV 1 (less RYUJO) 1 DESDIV
2 DD'S.

Advance Unit: Comdr 11th Division 11th Div. CHIKUMA, 7th
Div (less HOGAMI under
repair) 10th Div. (less
2 DESDIVS plus 1 DESDIV)

Detached Unit: Comdr. 8th Division. 8th Div (less CHIKUMA)
RYUJO, 2 DD'S.

20/1255 Enemy carrier sighted. Mobile Force cancels call
at TRUK and proceed to south to intercept.

20/0600 Mobile Force refuels.

0900 20 enemy carrier planes land at GUADALCANAL
DESRON 2, remaining elements of ICHIKI Detachment,
and YOKOSUKA 5th Special Landing Force (700 Army
- 800 Marines) scheduled to effect landings on
GUADALCANAL on the 24th.

23/1625 Aircraft carrier's course reversed. Course 330
due to delay in landing force.

24/0200 Destroyer Squadron 2 Detached Unit heads for attack
on GUADALCANAL. Main Unit reverses course, course
150.

0415 First searches carrier aircraft. Enemy not sighted.

0837 Enemy patrol plane contacts our main unit.

1228 Large enemy force sighted by cruiser plane.

1420 Two enemy task forces sighted and attacked.
1 carrier severely damaged and burning (HORNET
afire, sunk. ENTERPRISE damaged.
2 carriers severely damaged and burning.

2nd phase of attack. Japanese planes fail to find
United States Fleet and return to ships.

1543 Enemy not sighted.

1308 Two bombers attacked SHOKAKU. No damage sustained.
Night attacks scheduled by carriers cancelled due
to bad weather.

1300 RYUJO sinks due to dive bomb (10 hits).

2200 Night destroyer attacks cancelled. Withdrawing.

() 10 Kil. () () () ()
SUZUYA KUMANO KIRISHIMA: NAGARA HIRI CHIKUMA

:
10 Kilometers
: 2 DD'S
() SHOKAKU

5 Kilometers : 2 DD'S
() ZUIKAKU

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.). RESTRICTED

Battle of SANTA CRUZ Island 26 October 1942
(South PACIFIC Action)

Command Channel

Advance Force Main Unit: CinC 2nd Fleet CruDiv 4,
CruDiv 5 (less HAGURO) Des-
Ron 2, DesRon 24, CarDiv 2
(JUNYO, HIYO)

Forward Attack Unit: Comdr. BatDiv 3,
BatDiv 3, DesDiv
15, DesDiv 2.

Mobile Force CinC 3rd Fleet 3rd Fleet (less a part)
6 DD'S, KUNIKAWA MARU

- 11 October Sortie from TRUK.
CruDiv 6 (AOEA, KAKO, FURUTAKA) and 2 DD'S bombard
Battle of SAVO Island.
- 13 October 2 or 3 enemy carriers, 2 battleships, 5 to 7 cruisers
and 6 to 8 DD'S sighted South GUADALCANAL, by sea-
planes from RUSSELL and RENNEL Islands.
BatDiv 3 shells GUADALCANAL.
(HARUNA and KIRISHIMA) - All planes on GUADALCANAL
believed destroyed.
- 14 October One enemy patrol plane contacted and shot down by CV-
VF. Search plane sighted 1 enemy battleship, 1 crui-
ser and 3 destroyers South of GUADALCANAL - convoy.
- 15 October Landings by high-speed transport unit land troops
Y day (about X plus 6 days). All-out attack scheduled
for 21st.
One cruiser sunk by carrier aircraft. Attack phase
#1.
One cruiser moderately damaged. One transport heavily
damaged. One transport slightly damaged. Attack
phase #2.
Our transport force makes landing on GUADALCANAL.
- 16 October Search aircraft sighted enemy near RENNEL Island. 1
carrier, 2 cruisers, 8 DD'S, 3 battleships, 6 cruisers,
7 destroyers.
- 17 October Operations to crush enemy reinforcement force.
18 fighters and 18 attack planes to GUADALCANAL.
10 attack planes to hit ships anchored at LUNGA.
- 19 October Y day set 22 October. Postponed by Army request -
not ready.
- 20 October No intelligence on the enemy forces.
- 21 October Y day set for 23 October. Postponed by Army again.
Following sighted by search aircraft in RENNEL Area:
1 battleship, 2 cruisers.
1 battleship, 1 cruiser, 2 destroyers.
- 22 October HIYO, flagship of CarDiv 2, develops mechanical trouble.
Proceeds to TRUK. Flag shifted to JUNYO.
- 23 October Enemy patrol plane makes contact with CHIKUMA.
Y day postponed one day by Army request.
2 battleships, 1 cruiser, 2 destroyers sighted by

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.) - - -

by search planes at RENNEL Island.

- 24 October Some refueling. Despatch sent to Army at GUADACANAL that if general attack was not made immediately Navy would leave scene due to lack of fuel and food. Army does not appreciate Navy problem. Search planes sighted enemy near RENNEL Island. Enemy judged to consist of 5 battleships, 3 cruisers and 19 destroyers.
- 25 October 0020 Received report that Army had captured GUADACANAL at 2100 the 24th. Sent planes from carriers to investigate. Army report false.
0500 Reported by Army that airfield not yet captured.
0815 United States patrol plane sights our mobile force.
1300 Raided by 6 F-17's. No damage sustained.
1130 2 battleships, 4 cruisers, 1 light cruiser, 12 destroyers sighted by search planes in RENNEL Area. Army scheduled to attack and break through at 1900/25, but failed in attempt.
- 26 October 0050 Patrol plane drops bomb in vicinity of ZUIKAKU. No hits.
0130 Mobile force reverses course and heads north at 24 knots.
0345 Dawn. Double searches, take-off at 0215 and 0245.
0450 Enemy task force sighted by search planes bearing 125° - distance 210.
0655 Attack on enemy #1 task force. 1 carrier (HORNET) burning, 1 heavy cruiser sunk(?), 1 light cruiser, 4 DD'S (1 DD sunk and 1 DD severely damaged).
0540 ZUIHO afire from dive bomber attack.
0820 - 0900 2nd attack phase #2 United States task force #2 attacked. 1 carrier (U.S.) severely damaged, 1 battleship (U.S.) sunk, 2 heavy cruisers (U.S.) and 1 heavy cruiser severely damaged, 8 destroyers (U.S.) - 2 DD'S severely damaged.

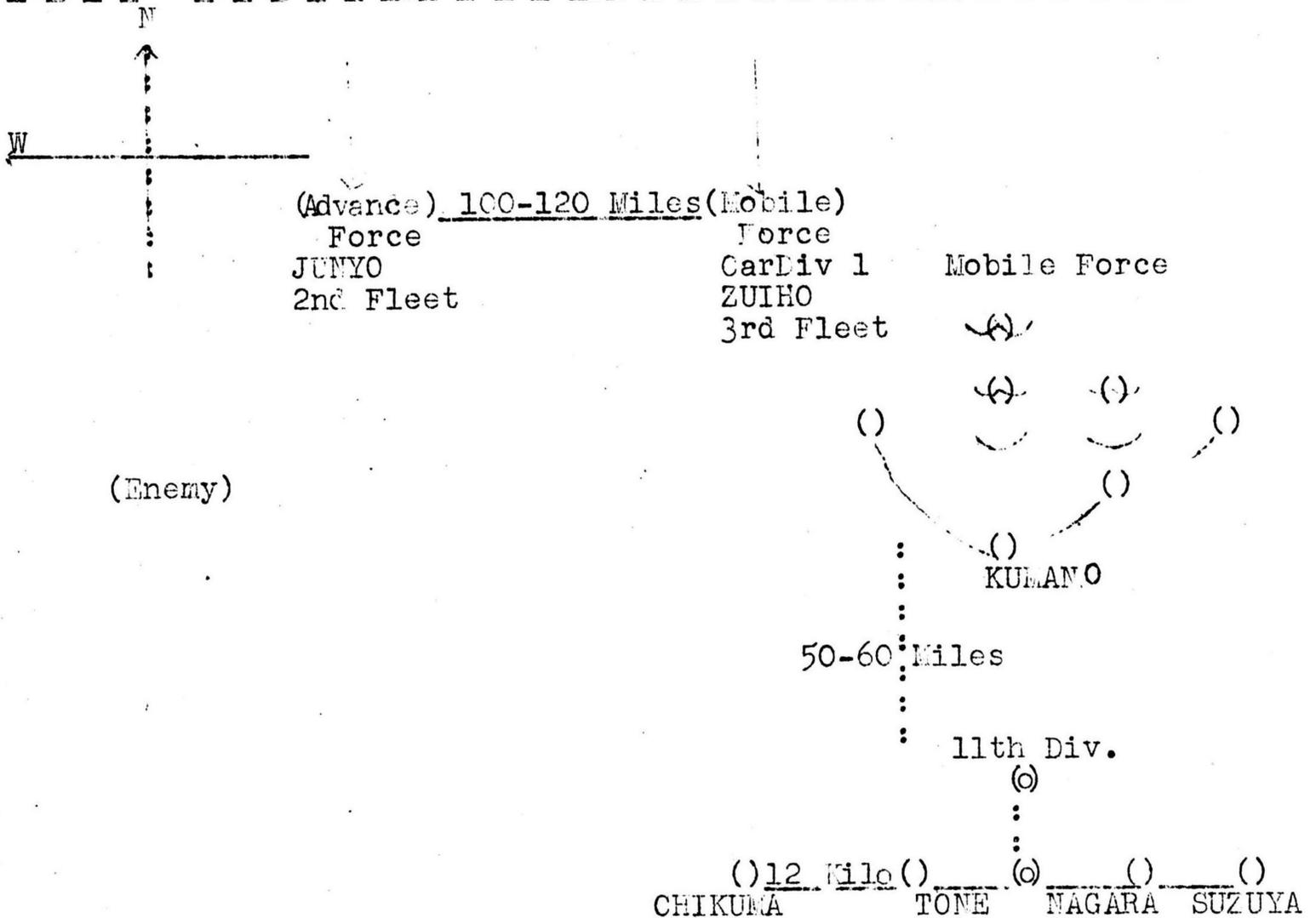
Combat record of Advance Force (JUNYO).

- 0920 Planes of CarDiv 2 sighted and attacked Task Force #3. 1 carrier (ENTERPRISE) sunk, 2 heavy cruisers - 1 heavy cruiser damaged, 1 light cruiser damaged and several destroyers.
0727 SHOKAKU hit by dive bombers and afire. Fire under control at 1230.
1310 Planes of CarDiv 2 (JUNYO) attacked task force #3 United States. 1 carrier listing to starboard, 3 cruisers - 1 cruiser severely damaged, 1 light cruiser severely damaged, six destroyers.
1345 Planes of CarDiv 1 (SHOKAKU) attacked United States Task Force #3. 1 carrier burning, 2 cruisers - 1 cruiser severely damaged, 7 destroyers.
1510 Planes of CarDiv 2 (JUNYO) attacked Task Force #3. 1 carrier afire and listing, 2 heavy cruisers, 2 light cruisers, 6 destroyers.

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.F.) RESTRICTED



Command Channels

MIDWAY

General Command

Admiral YAMAMOTO

Main Body (Admiral YAMAMOTO)

1S	YAMATO	MATSU	NAGATO	
*2S	ISE	HYUGA	FUSO	YAMASHIRO
*9S	KITAGAMI	OI		
*3sd	SENDAI	d x 12		
	ZUIHO	d x 1		

No. 1	Supply Group		
	NARUTO	TOEI-MARU	d x 1
*No. 2	Supply Group		
	SACREMENT-MARU		TORA-MARU
*	Screening Force for ALEUTIANS.		

Air Force (Admiral NAGUMO)

1sf	AKAGI	KAGA
2sf	HIRYU	SORYU
8S	TONE	CHIKUMA
2D/3S	BARUNA	KIRISHIMA
10S	NAGARA	d x 16
No. 1	Supply Group	
	KYOKUTO-MARU	SHINKOKU-MARU
	TOHO-MARU	NIPPON-MARU KOKUYO-MARU
No. 2	Supply Group	
	NAICHIRO-MARU	No. 2 KYOEI-MARU
	HOKO-MARU	

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.) RESTRICTED

Transport Occupation Force (Admiral KONDO)

Main Body

4S	(-2D)	ATAGO	CHOKAI	
#3S	(-2D)	KONGO	HIEI	# Later acted
4sd		NAKA	d x 16	as support
Supply Group			T x 3	force to Scre-
				ening Force
				in ALEUTIANS

Landing Force

2sd	JINTSU	d x 12	Torpedo Boat 1	T x 16
		Wg x 1	Chg x 1	Torpedo Boat 1
			Marine about 1500-Sand I.	
			Soldier about 1000-Eastern I.	
			Air Field making Force 1	
			Surveying Force	1.

Supporting Force

KUMANO	SUZUYA	MOGAMI	MIKUMA
d x 4	T x 1		

Air Force

11sf	CHITOSE		
	TOKISEA		
	KALIKAWA-MARU		dxl
	Patrol Boat 1		
	Marine about 50-Cure I.		

Base Air Force

24sf	(MARSHAL)		
26sf	(LARCUS)		
	f ^c x 36	f ¹⁰ x 9	f ^d x 6

ATTU KISKA Force (Admiral HOSOGAYA)

5F	NACHI	d x 2
4sf	RYUJO	JUNYO
2D/4S	TAKAO	MAYA
	d x 3	T x 1

1sd	d x 4	-----ATTU
21S	KISO	TAMA-----KISKA
1ss	S x ?	KUNIKAWA-MARU
D ^{sr} p	KUNIKAWA-MARU	d x 1
Base Air Force	f ¹⁰ x 4	T x 4

Patrol Group 22S

Detachment from MAIN BODY as ALEUTIAN Screening Force.

2S	(BB)	ISE, HYUGA, FUSO, YAMASHIRO
9S	(CL)	KITAGAMI OI
3sd		SENDAI dxl
		ZUIHO dxl
		No. 2 Supply Group: SACREMENT-MARU
		TORA-MARU
		dxl.

Late Support for KISKA-ATTU GROUP.

3S	(BB)	KONGO HIEI
		4xd
		1xCarrier (ZUIKAKU or ZUIHO.?)

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.) RESTRICTED

Command Channels at the Beginning of War.

General Command (Admiral YAMAMOTO).

Pearl Hr. Action Group (Admiral NAGUMO)

Carrier Group	1sf	AKAGI	KAGA
	2sf	SORYU	HIRYU
	5sf	ZUIKAKU	SHOKAKU

Protection Group	1sd	ABUKUMA	17dg	18dg	d x 1
	3S(-2D)	KONGO	BIEI		
	8S	TONE	CHIKUMA		
	2sg	S x 3			
	7dg	d x 2			MIDWAY Bombardment

Supply Group	No. 1	Supply Group	T x 5
	No. 2	Supply Group	T x 3

Submarine Group	6F	KATORI	
	1ss (-2sg)	YASUKUNI-MARU	S x 10
	2ss	SANTOS-MARU	S x 8
	3ss	TAIGEI	S x 10

SOUTH SEA Action Group (Admiral KONDO)

Main Body	4S (-2D)	ATAGO	CHOKAI
	2D/3S	HARUNA,	KIRISHIMA
	4sf	RYUJO	JUNYO
		3dg (d x 4)	

PHILIPPINE Force	3F-16S	ASHIGARA	NAGARA	KUMA
	5sd	NATORI	5dg	22dg
	12sf	NOTORO	KALIKATA-MARU	
	1Bg			
	2Eg	(-NACHI)	HAGURO	RYOKO
	5S	JINTSU	5dg	15dg
	2sd	NAKA	2dg	4dg
	4sd	KASHII	SHUMUSHU	16dg
				9dg
				24dg
				24dg

MADEI Force	KF	9Bg		
		11aBg		
	7S	MOGAMI	MIKUMA	SUZUYA
	3sd	SENDAI	11dg	KURANO
				12dg
				19dg
				20dg

Base Air Force	11AF	TSUDOM	f ¹⁰ x 36	f ¹⁰ x 27
	21sf	SOKTRAF	f ^c x 27	f ^{1r} x 6
	22sf	SAIGON	f ¹⁰ x 36	f ^{hc} x 12
	23sf	FORMOSA	f ^c	f ¹⁰

Submarine Force	4ss	KINU	18sg	19sg	21sg	NAGOYA-MARU
	5ss	YURA	18sg	29sg	30sg	Rio De JANEIRO-MARU
	6ss	CHOGEI	9sg		13sg	

Mine Force	17S	ITSUKUSHIMA	YAEYAMA
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Main Body (Admiral YAMAMOTO)

1S	YAMATO	MUTSU	NAGATO
2S	ISE	HYUGA	FUSO
3sf	HOSHO	ZUIHO	d x 2
	Marine 7 Division		

Northern Defence Group (Admiral HOSOGAYA)

	NACHI	SAGI	HATO
5F	KISO	TAIHA	
21S	65-8-(Sup)		

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Narrative of Interrogation (Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.) RESTRICTED

22S T x 2
7Eg

South Eastern Defense Group (Admiral INOUE)

4F

(GUAM Action Group)

(WAKE Action Group)

KASHIMA

18S	TENRYU	TATSUTA		
19S	OKINOSHIMA	TOKIWA	TSUGARU	
6sd	UEARI	29dg	30dg	
7ss	JINGEI	26dg	27sg	33 g
24sf	CHITOSE Base Air Force			
	YOKOHAMA Base Air Force			
	KAILOI	GOSHU-MARU		

3Eg

4Eg

5Eg

6Eg

Marine 1 Division

CORAL SEA Action

General Command (Admiral HINOUE)

Main Body

KASHIMA
d x 1

TOKIWA
KIYOKAWA-MARU

Carrier Force

5S (-NACHI) HAGURO
5sf SHOKAKU
27dg
TOHO-MARU

MYOKO
ZUIKAKU d x 2
7dg (-d x 1)

Landing Force

18S	TENRYU	TATSUTA		
6S	AOEA	KINUGASA	KAKO	FURUTAKA
6sd	YUEARI	29dg	30dg	
SHOHO				
3g x 1	Wg x 1			
TSUGARU	KAIKAWA-MARU			
KIYOKAWA-MARU				

Base Air Force

25sf

Submarine Group

8ss S x 8

65-9-(Sup)

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U.S. STRATEGIC BOMBING SURVEY
(PACIFIC)
C/O POSTMASTER, SAN FRANCISCO



INTERROGATION NO. USSES NO. 65(Supplement)
NAV. NO. 13

PLACE: TOKYO
DATE: 16 November 1945

Division of Origin: Naval Analysis Division.

Subject: PEARL HARBOR - MIDWAY - SOLOMONS.

Personnel interrogated:
Captain WATANABE, Y., I.J.N.

SUMMARY

The attached chart supplements Interrogation USSES NO. 65 (NAV NO. 13) and should be included as Annex A.

ENCLOSURE

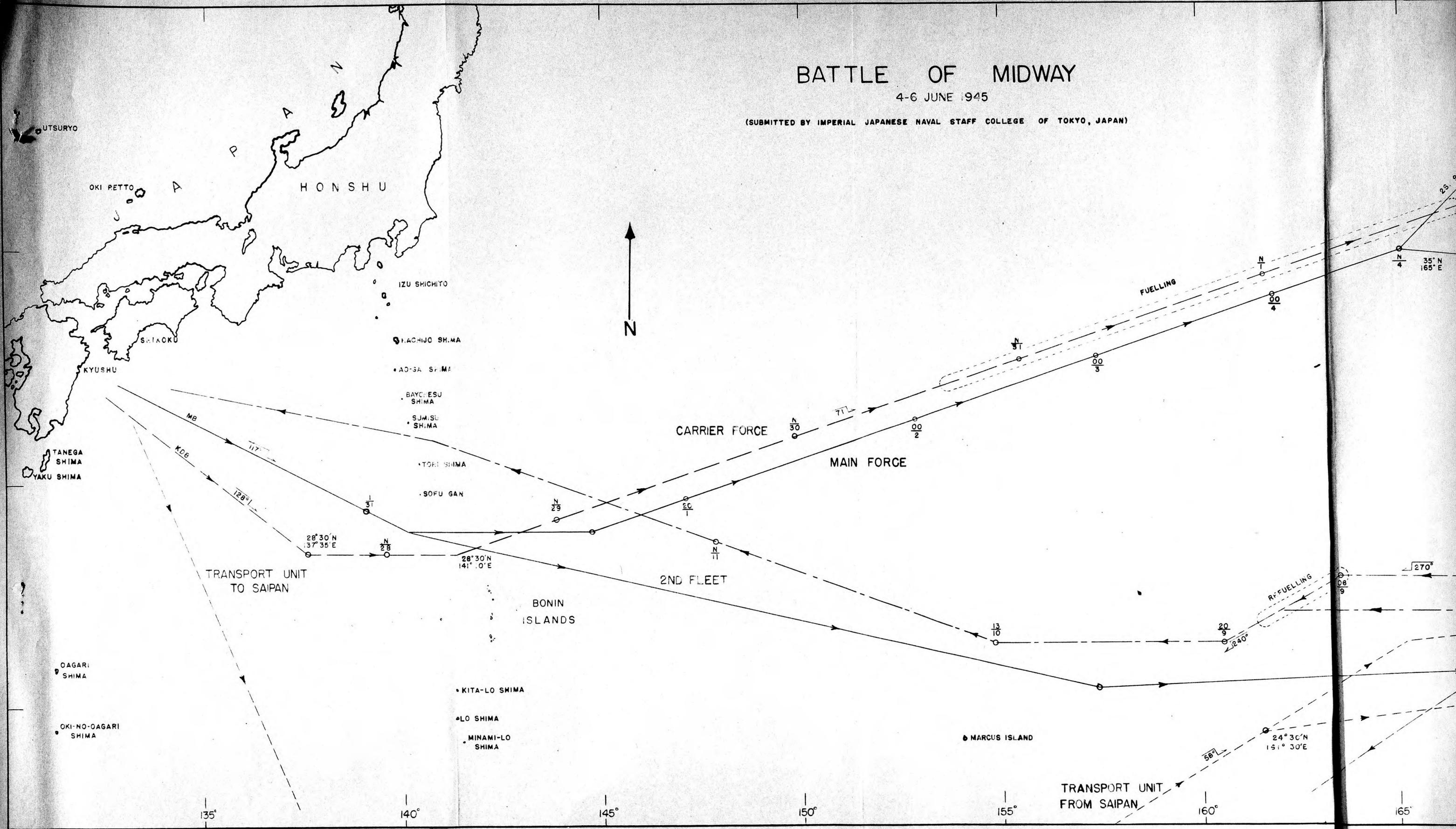
Annex A - Chart of Battle of MIDWAY.

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BATTLE OF MIDWAY

4-6 JUNE 1945

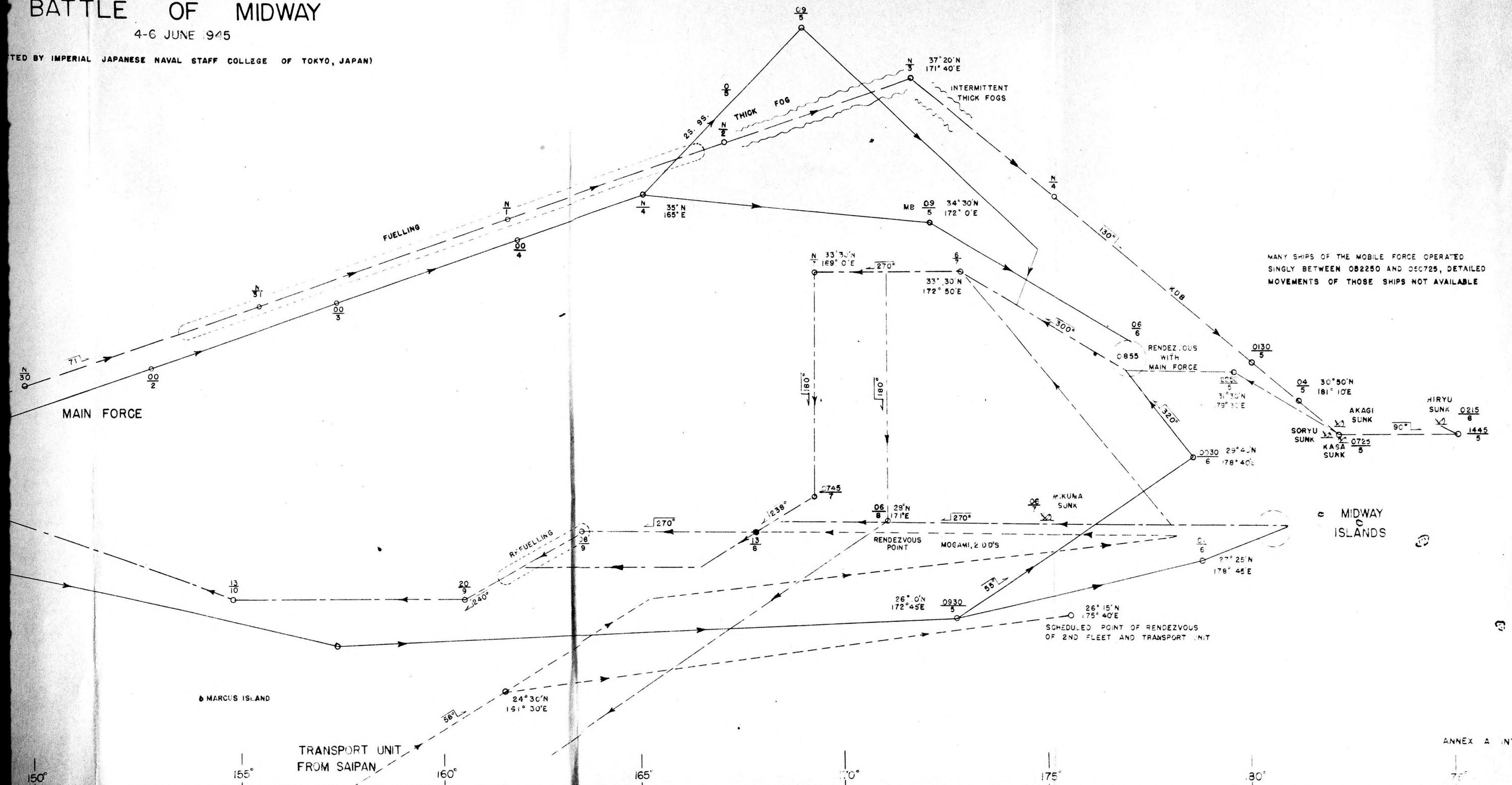
(SUBMITTED BY IMPERIAL JAPANESE NAVAL STAFF COLLEGE OF TOKYO, JAPAN)



BATTLE OF MIDWAY

4-6 JUNE 1945

PREPARED BY IMPERIAL JAPANESE NAVAL STAFF COLLEGE OF TOKYO, JAPAN



MANY SHIPS OF THE MOBILE FORCE OPERATED SINGLY BETWEEN 082250 AND 082725, DETAILED MOVEMENTS OF THOSE SHIPS NOT AVAILABLE