MISSION NO. 180 Shimonoseki Straits - No. 14

22 May 1945

Mission No. 180 - Shimonoseki Straits No. 14
22 May 1945

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MP NARA Date 5/24/10

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Brief of Missing Mission	Helicon	EN-21-5		210425Z	HA

2-5-745-20

MISSION
PLAN

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-[illegible]-5 OP T O P - S E C R E T 210425Z

FROM: COMGENBOMCOM 21

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOMAF 20 POA

SUBJECT: BRIEF OF MING MISSION STARVATION 14

33 AIRCRAFT OF THE 313 BOMB WING ARE SCHEDULED TO LAY 198 MINES IN THE SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS AREAS ON MAY 22.

A. 19 AIRCRAFT 114 MINES IN FIELD M SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS - WEST

ROUTE: (9 A/C) BASE, IWO 3230N 13230E, 3430N 13127E, 3425N 13108E (IP), TARGET, 3415N 13115E, 3230N 13230E, IWO TO BASE.

ROUTE: (10 A/C) BESE, IWO, 3230N 13220E, 3402N 13130E, 340145N 1312345E (IP), TARGET, 3417N 1305220E, 3230N 13230E, IWO TO BASE.

B. 14 AIRCRAFT 84 MINES IN FIELD LOVE SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS - EAST

ROUTE: BASE, IWO, 3230N 13230E, 332130N 1313020 (IP), TARGET, 3230N 13230E, IWO, BASE.

C. TIME OF TAKE-OFF: 220800Z.

TIME OVER TARGET: 221600Z.

TIME OF RETURN: 222300Z.

D. METHOD OF ATTACK: RADAR LAYING, SINGLE AIRCRAFT AT NIGHT.

E. ALTITUDE OF ATTACK: 5500-7500 FEET.

..END..

TOD: 210522Z IK

ROGER WCR

MIN PLS

TOP SECRET

B

A

REC'D COPY

Classification Changed to SECRET 5-8-46 By Authority of C. G. AAF, by Ray G. Baker

Ray G. Baker, Capt. A. C.

TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Take off	Teleconf	FN-227			BSR
" "	"	FN-225			BSR

TAKE OFF REPORTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-22-7 (SECRET) 220837Z (OPERATIONAL-PRIORITY)

FROM: LEMAY COMGENBOMCOM21 TO: COMAF20

SECRET
OPRS

INFO: DEPCOMAF20(POA)

SUBJECT: FIRST TAKEOFF ON MINING MISSION NO. 14.

1. FIRST AIRCRAFT AIRBORNE AT 220801Z.

BASES AT TAKEOFF: BROKEN LOW AND SCATTERED MIDDLE AND HIGH CLOUDS WITH SCATTERED LIGHT SHOWERS

ROUTE: BROKEN LOW AND SCATTERED MIDDLE AND HIGH CLOUD TO 28 DEG NORTH WITH SCATTERED SHOWERS TO 20 DEG NORTH. FROM 28 DEG TO 30 DEG NORTH OVERCAST LOW AND BROKEN MIDDLE AND HIGH CLOUDS, MODERATE RAIN REDUCING VISIBILITY FROM 13 MILES TO 1 MILE. FROM 30 DEG NORTH TO TARGET AREA BROKEN LOW AND MIDDLE AND SCATTERED HIGH CLOUDS.

TARGET: 4/10 LOW CLOUD, BASE 2,000 FEET, TOP 6,000 FEET; 2/10 MIDDLE CLOUD, BASE 16,000 FEET, TOP 17,000 FEET; VISIBILITY 10 MILES, WINDS AT 6500 FEET WILL BE 310 DEG AT 22 KNOTS.

BASE ON RETURN: SCATTERED LOW, MIDDLE AND HIGH CLOUDS.

END
TOD: 220853Z WL
ROGER 220853Z WCR

SECRET

INFORMATION: [illegible] DC/S Opr DC/S M&E DC/S P&A A-1 A-2 A-3 Tng A-3 OC&R A-4
A-5 Plans Air Insp PRO Comm. Op Anal Stat Con Anti-Acft FSO
A.G. Surg

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TNX

TELECON MESSAGE FN-22-9 OP OP SECRET

OPRS

SECRET B A

FROM: BOMCOM XXI 220910Z

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOMAF 20

SUBJECT: TAKE OFF REPORT FOR MISSION 180 TARGET SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS FLOWN 22 MAY 1945.

1. UNIT: 313 WING

2. NO. A/C SCHEDULED: ~~BKX~~ 32

3. NO. A/C AIRBORNE: 32

4. TIME OF TAKE OFF: FIRST: 220801Z LAST: 220840Z

END

TOD : 220918Z WL

ROGER 220918Z WCR

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION:	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S TM&E	DC/S P&A	A-1	A-2	A-3 Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4		
	A-5	Plans	Air Insp	PRO	Comm.	Op Anal	Stat Con	Anti-Acft	FSO		
	A.G.	Surg									
INFORMATION:	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S TM&E	DC/S P&A	A-1	A-2	A-3 Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4		
	A-5	Plans	Air Insp	PRO	Comm.	Op Anal	Stat Con	Anti-Acft	FSO		
	A.G.	Surg									

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Landing Report	Helecon	FN-23-2		230125Z	HP

BOMB STRIKE
RETURN RPTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-23-2 OP SECRET 230125Z

FROM: BOMCOM XXI

TO : COMAF 20

INFO: DEPCOM F 20 (POA)

SUBJECT: LANDING REPORT MISSION 180 TARGET SHIMONOSEKI STRAITS FLOWN 22/23 MAY 1945.

1. UNIT: 313TH WING.

2. LANDED HOME BASE: 29

3. LANDED WAY FROM RPT LANDED AWAY FROM BASE: 2 AT IWO

4. FIRST A/C LANDING: 222149Z

5. LAST A/C LANDING: 222356Z

6. A/C MISSING: 1

7. EARLY RETURNS: 2

8. REMARKS: MISSING A/C LOST APPROXIMATELY 12 MI LES RPT MILES SOUTH OF SHIKOKU WHEN CREW BAILED OUT. DUMBO IN CONTACT S// WITH SURVIVORS. RESCUE FACILITES ON W Y.

..END..

TOD 230140Z DM K

ROGER 230140Z WCR

MINN

SECRET

REC'D COPY

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

PRELIMINARY
MISSION RPT

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Mission Report	Telecon	FN-23-8		23 May	HH
Corrected Par # 23 on Telecon # 23-8	Telecon	FN-30-4		30 May	PR

MISSION REPORT

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE, AND ITS TRANSMISSION IN LITERAL PLAIN TEXT ARE AUTHORIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDURE FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF MILITARY INFORMATION.

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

INCOMING MESSAGE

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

SECTION	INITIALS	COPY NO.
CHIEF OF STAFF		8
DC/S OPRS		DIST. BY
DC/S P&A		JRT 6619
DC/S TME		TYPED BY
A.G.		JRT

TELECON MSG NO.	SUBJECT	DATE
FN-30-4	Corrected Summary for Par 23 for Miss. 160, Min. Miss. 14	30 May 1945

TO:	INFO:	FROM:
COMAF 20	DEPCOMAF 20 (FOA)	COMGENBOMCOM 21

TYPE:	FORCE NO. 1:	FORCE NO. 2:	FORCE NO. 3:
M11-B8	3	9	6
M11-G8	None	None	None
M11-I8	None	1	9
M11-K8	None	None	None
M11-M8	None	None	4
M13-G8	None	None	8
M13-K8	None	None	8
M13-M8	None	None	1
X11-B8	13	5	15
X11-B9	1	None	None
X31-B8	20	6	15
X51-B8	11	14	12
X61-B8	None	None	1
X71-B8	None	11	4
	48	46	83

combat Opns.

DIST — ACTION: DC/S Opn (4) — INFO: C/S / DC/OPRS / DC/S P&A / DC/S TME / SGO, 1; Generals Bissell, Hodges, Wilson, 1 cy each; Capt. Stroop, 1.

CLASSIFICATION | SECRET | CLASSIFICATION

5-33, AF (REV 1 APR 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE, AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE IN LITERAL PLAIN TEXT ARE AUTHORIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDURE FOR THE SAFE-GUARDING OF MILITARY INFORMATION.

COPY NO. 2

CLASSIFICATION
- ☐ TOP SECRET
- ☐ SECRET
- ☐ CONFIDENTIAL
- ☐ RESTRICTED

Copy for 4 ops file

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN
WASHINGTON AND Guam bm/6819

SECRET

INCOMING MESSAGE

INITIALS	
CHIEF OF STAFF	
DC/S ADM.	
DC/S OPR.	
AG	

TELECON MSG NO.	SUBJECT	DATE
FN-23-8	MISSION REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 180 FLOWN 22/23 MAY 45	23 MAY 45

TO:	INFO:	FROM:
COMAF 20	DEPCOMAF 20 (POA)	BOMCOM 21

1. Designation of Unit: 313th Wing, 21 Bomber Command.

2. Time of take off: 220801Z - 220840Z

3. Time of return: 222149Z - 222356Z

COPY TO CHIEF OF STAFF

4. No. A/C Mining: 32

5. No. A/C over primary Minefield: M/F Mike: Force 1, 8 A/C laid 48 MK-25. M/F Mike: Force 2, 8 A/C laid 46 MK-25 M/F Love: 14 A/C laid 83 MK-25.

6. No. A/C over alternate minefield: 1 A/C laid 1 MK-25, X51-B8, at 33/44N - 131/22E.

7. No. and location of mines jettisoned by A/C: 4 A/C jettisoned 14 MK-25 as follows: At 15/43/30N - 146/06E 2 M11-B8, 2 X11-B8, 1 X31-B8, 1 X51-B8. At 21/57N -m142/50E 4 X31-B8, 1X11-B8, 1 M11-B8. At 32/06N - 134/47E 1X71-B8. At 32/00N - 134/41E 1X31-B8.

8. No. A/C returning mines to base: None

9. No. Mines unaccounted for and reason: None

10. No. A/C lost: 1 A/C lost due to unknown reasons. Crew believed to have bailed out at 32/30N - 132/40E.

11. Time of attack: Force 1, M/F Mike: 221612Z - 221641Z force 2, M/F Mike: 221607Z - 221654Z force 3, M/F love: 221602Z - 221711Z

12. Altitude over target: Force 1: 5300 - 5600 ft force 2: 5600 - 7000 ft. force 3; 7500 - 8100 ft.

13. True air speed at time of mine release: Force 1: 198 - 222 knots. Force 2: 5600 - 7000 ft. Force 3: 7500 - 8100 ft.

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION	
ACTION	
INFORMATION	C/S

5-33, AF (REV 1 JAN 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

...ESSAGE, AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE ...AUTHORIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDUR... FOR THE SAFE-...RY INF...ATION.

COPY NO.

INITIALS	
CHIEF OF STAFF	
DC/S ADM.	
DC/S OPR.	
AG	

...OP SECRET
SECRET
XXX CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN

WASHINGTON AND Guam hm/6319

SECRET

INCOMING MESSAGE

TELECON MSG NO.	SUBJECT	DATE
FN-23-8	MISSION REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 180 FLOWN 22/23 MAY 45	23 MAY 45

TO:	INFO:	FROM:

(Page 2)

14. Length of mine run: Force 1: 5 - 10 min. Force 2: 6 Min 24 sec - 11 min. Force 3: 3 min - 12 min 30 sec.

15. Wind reported over target: All forces: 300 deg at 30 knots.

16. Clouds and visibility; All forces; 3/10, visibility 15 miles.

17. Personnel casualities; Three members of A/C reported picked up by life-guard submarine. Remaining 8 crew members unknown.

18. Enemy air opposition: Firce 1: 2 S/E A/C. Force 2: 5 A/C made 2 passes. Force 3: 1 A/C, no attacks.

19. AA: Force 1 observed heavy and tracer AA. No fire directed at any A/C. Force 2: 5 of 8 A/C bracketed by searchlights and fired on with heavy and tracer AA, meager to intense, inaccurate to accurate. Duration 1 minute. Force 3: Nil.

20. Enemy RCM noted and effect: None.

21. Observation: Mountains at 33/18 N - 131/25E, map elevation 5197 ft., and at 32/48 - 131/22E, map elevation 5358 ft. Appeared level with A/C when flying at 7500 ft. Evaluated naval ovservations: Visually 3 ships at Beppu Wan at 33/24N - 131/40E. 1 of which fired 6 bursts heavy AA: Approximately 5 ships in Tokuyama bay at approximately 34/00N - 131/46E; 12 ships at 33/54N - 131/42E; 1 ship at 33/08N - 132/10E; 2 ships at 33/16N - 131/56E; 6 - 10 ships at 34/25N - 130/55; 1 ship at 33/45N - 131/25E; 3 ships at 33/40N - 131/52E. Radar - 1 ship at 34/05N - 130/47E; 2 ships atdube bay at 33/55N - 131/13E.

22. No mines airborne: 19... MK-25.

23. No. and types of mines laid in Minefields:

DISTRIBUTION		
	ACTION	
	INFORMATION	C/S

5-33, AF (REV 1 JAN 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

...S MESSAGE, AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE ... AUTHORIZED SUBJECT TO NORMAL PROCEDU... FOR THE SAFE-...RY IN... MATION.

COPY NO.

...OP SECRET
SECRET
~~XXX~~
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

HQ TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN

WASHINGTON AND ~~Guam~~ hm/6819

~~SECRET~~

INCOMING MESSAGE

INITIALS	
CHIEF OF STAFF	
DC/S ADM.	
DC/S OPR.	
AG	

TELECON MSG NO.	SUBJECT	DATE
TN-25-8...0	MISSION REPORT FOR MISSION NO. 180 FLOWN 22/23 MAY 45	23 MAY 45

TO:	INFO:	FROM:
COMAF 20	DEPCOMAF 20 (POA)	BOMCOM 21

(Page 3)

TYPE	FORCE 1 M/F Mike	FORCE 2 M/F Mike	FORCE 3 M/F Love
M11-B8	3	~~8~~ 9	~~8~~ 6
M11-G8	None	None	~~1~~ None
M11-I8	None	1	~~8~~ 9
M11-K8	None	None	~~5~~ None
M11-M8	None	~~4~~ None	~~8~~ 4
M13-G8	None	None	~~8~~ 8
M13-K8	None	None	~~8~~ 8
X11-B8	13	~~8~~ 5	15
X11-B9	1	None	None
X31-B8	20	~~11~~ 6	~~13~~ 15
~~X11-B9~~	~~0 XX 1~~	~~None~~	~~None~~
~~X31-B8~~	~~80~~	~~11~~	~~10~~
X51-B8	11	~~13~~ 14	~~11~~ 12
X61-B8	None	None	1
X71-B8	None	~~18~~ 11	~~3~~ 4

24. It is expected that the enemy will follow the usual procedure of sweeping for two or three days and then running ships through in spite of inadquate sweeping. Since minefields love and mike in the inner and outer Shimonoseki Straits area were mined about 2 days previous to this mining, the effect will be to prevent or seriously hamper the resumption of traffic for another five or six days. Please pass this information CNO, Washington.

..End...

DISTRIBUTION		
	ACTION	DC/S Opr (4)
	INFORMATION	C/S Gen Norstad; Dc/S TM&E; DC/S P&A ; Stat Con (2) Hodges; Wilson, Bissell, Capt Strech.

5-33, AF (REV 1 JAN 45)

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

MISSING & LOST A/C

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

PRESS RELEASES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

DAMG ASSESS
FOTO STRIKE

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

INT REPORTS
ENEMY ATTKS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

ABORTIVE REPORTS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS

ANALYSIS

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SPECIFIC SUBJECT	TYPE OF MESSAGE	MESSAGE NO.	DATE AND TIME SENT	DATE AND TIME REC'D	INITIALS
Recap of Mission Rpt	Telecon	6-28-6	281753Z		[illegible]

MISC

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760063
By MD NARA Date 5/26/10

SECRET

TELECON MESSAGE G-28-6 3:SECRET 281755Z

SUBJECT: MISSION REPORT FOR NO. 180 FLOWN 22/23 MAY

TO : COMGENBOMCOM 21

FROM : COMAF 20

REFERENCE FN-23-8.

PARAGRAPHS 5 AND 6 DO NOT AGREE WITH SUMMARY IN PARAGRAPH 23.

REQUEST A RECAP BE MADE OF SAID PARAGRAPHS AND FORWARDED TO THIS HEADQUARTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

...END...

TOD: 282100Z ROGER FROM YAMG

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION:	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S TM&E	DC/S P&A	A-1	A-2	A-3 Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4		
	A-5 Plans	Air Insp	PRO	Comm.	Op Anal	Stat Con	Anti-Acft	FSO			
	A.G.	Surg									
INFORMATION:	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S TM&E	DC/S P&A	A-1	A-2	A-3 Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4		
	A-5 Plans	Air Insp	PRO	Comm.	Op Anal	Stat Con	Anti-Acft	FSO			
	A.G.	Surg									