

Folder No. 8

XXI BC
~~TOP SECRET~~
OPERATION #15 IWO JIMA "ROCKCRUSHER 1"
24 Dec 44

Classified by
~~SECRET~~ 15-8-46
C. G. AAR, by
Ray Embiken
1957 Dec 10 A. C.

OPERATION #15 IWO JIMA "ROCKCRUSHER 1"
24 Dec 44

3-524-86

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: *ND 60063*
By: *NAKA* Date: *11/10*

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELEION FN-21-10 211210Z (TOP SECRET)

VTO DEP COMAF 20 (HARMON) FROM COMGEN 21 BOMCOM

P

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

SUBJECT

21 BOMCOM WILL FURNISH THREE B-29 A/C FOR P-38 FIGHTER

NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT AND ATTACK IWO JIMA WITH APPROX 30 A/C FROM 240415Z TO 240500Z.

PLANS HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH CTF 93.

END

TOD 211211B PP K

UNQUOTE

END

TOD WQQWXXXXXX 211225Z EL

RECD FN-1

0 405

RECD FN-21-10 . ' &

MJG MJG

QRELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QU

OTE

~~TOP SECRET~~

SECRET

211243

9
11.11.43

[Handwritten signature]

TELECON CONFERENCE

20 Dec 19 44

WASHINGTON PARTIES

KHARAGPUR / HONOLULU PARTIES

COL. HERMAN COL. ANKENBRANDT

WAR DEPARTMENT CENTER
~~TOP SECRET~~

*Do not duplicate
copy to upper
2105
R. J. [initials]*

TELECON MSG NO 20-F . (TOP SECRET) 210006Z

FROM DEPCOMAF 20 TO BOMCOM 21 (ACTION) INFO COMAF 20

1. PARTICIPATION BY 21 BOMCOM WITH AVAILABLE FORCE IN IWO STRIKES 24 AND 27 DEC ON BASIS YOUR FN-20-12 HIGHLY DESIRABLE.
2. REQUEST DIRECT COORDINATION WITH DOUGLAS AND CTF 94.
3. FN-20-12 PASSED TO COMAF 20 IN DEPCOMAF 20 NUMBER 20-E.

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOD:- 12210058Z WCK

ORIGINATOR OF MESSAGE

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S Adm	A-1	A-2	A-3Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4	A-5 Plans
	A G	Surg	Air Insp	PRO	COMM	OP	ANAL	STAT	CON
INFORMATION	C/S	DC/S Opr	DC/S Adm	A-1	A-2	A-3Tng	A-3 OC&R	A-4	A-5 Plans
	AG	Surg	Air Insp	PRO	COMM	OP	ANAL	STAT	CON

Surv

~~TOP SECRET~~

MR-17AF
(TOP SECRET) (PRIORITY)

TELECON MESSAGE NR 20-A

FROM : DEPCOMAF 20

TO : BOMCOM 21 FOR ACTION

INFO: COMAF 20

200250Z

DM

1. TF93 DELIVERS MAXIMUM EFFORT STRIKES AGAINST IWO AND CHICHI IN COORDINATION WITH CRUDIV FIVE BOMBARDMENTS OF IWO JIMA ON 24 AND 27 DECEMBER.

2. INFORMATION REQUESTED AS TO AVAILABILITY OF ELEMENTS OF YOUR FORCE FOR PARTICIPATION.

3. REQUEST YOU COORDINATE AS NECESSARY DIRECTLY WITH DOUGLAS.

END

TOD: 200328Z LC

~~TOP SECRET~~

200328

TOP SECRET

MISSION #15 - "ROCKCRUSHER ONE"

XXI BOMBER COMMAND

24 December 1944

Target: IWO JIMA

Summary of Coordinated Attack:

	<u>Greenwich Time</u>	<u>Washington Time</u>
Fighter escort by 3 B-29's-make fighter sweep at	240015Z	232015
Followed by 4 groups B-24's attacking from:	240100Z	232100
to:	240300Z	232300
Naval vessels bombard from:	240300Z	232300
to:	240350Z	232350

Bomb Load: 5 tons - 500 lb. GP bombs fuzed 1/10' nose and 1/40' tail

Altitude: 19,000 ft.

Planned Time Schedule:

	<u>Greenwich Time</u>	<u>Saipan Time</u>	<u>Washington Time</u>
Take-off:	240045Z	240945	232045
Estimated Time Over Target	240415Z to 240500Z	241315 to 241400	240015 to 240100
Estimated Landing Time:	240720Z	241620	240320

*From 5 tons - 500 lb. GP bombs
 26 2000
 29 Total*

TOP SECRET

T

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NG. BM-15-2-23 ~~TOP SECRET~~ SECRET) 232307Z "OPER PRTY"

R-18
YAF

TO : COMGENAF20 INFO : DEPCOMGENAF 20

FROM : BOMCOM 21

SUBJECT : BRIEF OF FIELD ORDER FOR ROCKCRUSHER ONE:
COORDINATED ATTACK BY 30 B-29'S CRUISER DIVISION FIVE, AND UNITS OF
CTF 93 WILL BE MADE AGAINST IWO JIMA 24 DEC. FIGHTER ESCORT BY 3 B-29'S
MAKE A FIGHTER SWEEP AT 240015Z FOLLOWED BY FOUR GROUPS B-24'S
ATTACKING FROM 240100Z TO 240300Z. NAVAL VESSELS BOMBARD FROM 240300Z
TO 240335Z. XXI B C ATTACKS FROM 240415Z TO 240500Z DROPPING 5TON
500 LB GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE AND 1/40 SEC. TAIL. TWO AIRFIELDS WILL
BE ATTACKED BY SQUADRON FORMATION FROM BASE ALTITUDE OF 19,000 FEET.
ROUTE-BASE, 1700N-1400E, 2400N - 1411E 2464N -14117E, (IP),
TARGET 2500, - 14220E, BASE, TAKE OFF AT 240045Z AND LAND AT 240720Z.
3 B-29'S ESCORTING FIGHTERS TAKE OFF 232001Z LAND 240316Z.

END

TOD : 240005H.V.M.
UNQUOTE

END

TOD:-240059Z RH

~~TOP SECRET~~

Copy to opr

WAR DEPARTMENT SIGNAL CENTER

WAR DEPARTMENT SIGNAL CENTER

~~TOP SECRET~~

SPECIAL TELETYPE CONFERENCE FROM DEP COMAF 20 TO COMAF 20

STATION YF
AF: 231500Z

REQUESTED BY COL ANKENBRANDT

SUBJECT: 20TH AF MATTERS

PRESENT: LT KING

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO. FN-23-8

SECRET (OPERATIONAL PRIORITY)

231050Z

~~TOP SECRET~~

TO COM GEN AF 20
FROM COM GEN TWO ONE BOM COM

SUBJECT: SCHEDULED INTENTIONS FOR 24 DECEMBER 44 (LOCAL TIME)

1. ROCKCRUSHER ONE TO IWO JIMA. SCHEDULED FOR TAKE OFF AT

240035Z ~~00~~ - 232035 *Washington time* 8:35 pm

2. NO PHOTO RECON MISSIONS.

3. WEATHER STRIKE MISSIONS SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

WSM NO 55 WILL TAKE OFF AT 240300Z TO TOKYO

WSM NO 56 WILL TAKE OFF AT 241000Z TO TOKYO

WSM NO 57 WILL TAKE OFF AT 241200Z TO TOKYO

END

TOD 231155Z HS

UNQUOTE

...END...

TOD 1

//231525ZRT

~~TOP SECRET~~

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO. BM-15-4-24 249948Z (SECRET) OPER PRTY.
TO COMGENAF20 -INFO. DEPCOM20 FROM BOMCOM21
SUBJECT: TAKE OFF REPORT -- ROCKCRUSHER NO.1 -- 24 DEC. 4&

NAME OF GROUPS :1 499TH 500TH
NO. A/C SCHEDULED : 18 13

NO. A/C TAKING OFF : 15 11

TIMES OF TAKE OFF - 1ST A/C: 240036Z 240053Z
LAST A/C: 240052Z 240104Z

DISPATCHED HQ. XXI BOMCOM 240110Z

END...
TOD...240259Z HV.
UNQUOTE

END
TOD 240303Z JB

SECRET

SECRET

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO FN 23-13 232205Z (SECRET) OPN PRTY

TO COMGENAF 20 INFO DEPCOMAF 20 FROM BOMCOM 21

~~SUBJECT~~ TAKE-OFF REPORT FOR NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT ON ROCKCRUSHER

THREE B-29'S TOOK OFF 23001Z TO ACT AS NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT FOR FIGHTER
~~XXXXXXXX FOR FIGHTER "FOR FIGHTER"~~

STRIKE ON IWO JIMA THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21ST BOM COM

222130Z.

...END...

Z 06 3RD WD 2ND LINE 029XXX IWO RPT IWO

410413
3 55 10
FOR 240155Z RH

SECRET

SECRET

R-20
YAF

John

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 24 03 03

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 24 02 04

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 6063*
By *NAKA* Date *11/10*

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO BM-15-3-24 240058Z (SECRET) OPER PRTY
TO COM GEN AF 20 INFO DEP COM 20 FROM BOM COM 21
SUBJECT: TAKE OFF REPORT -- ROCKCRUSHER NO. 1 -- S-15 - 24 DEC 1944.

FIRST AIRCRAFT AIRBOURNE /RPT 240036Z. TOTAL A/C SCHEDULED 31 TARGET
FORECAST INDICATES FIVE-TENTHS LOW CLOUD AND SEVEN-TENTHS MIDDLE CLOUD
TARGET. BASE CONDITIONS, SCATTERED SHOWERS FOR TAKE-OFF AND RETURN.

RECEIVED XXI BOMB COM HQ. 240039Z. DISPATCHED 240050Z.

...END...

TOD..240218Z HVM.1

UNQUOTE

END

TOD 240221Z JB

ACK PLS

SECRET

SECRET

*R-21
YAF*

dupes to apru

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 24 02 22

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 6063*
By *NAKA* Date *11/10*

SECRET

Aircraft: Scheduled 31
Airborne 26
Bombed 25
Early Return 1

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET
By authority of
CG Twentieth AF

Copy For CHIEF OF STAFF
Officer _____ Section _____

20 Dec 44
Date Initials

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

Washington, D. C.

Mission 15
XVII BC

Information for Briefing on XX/ Bomber Command

Mission No. 15 - 24 December 1944
Date

Mission Code Name "ROCKCRUSHER ONE" (As of 24 Dec 44)
Date

Targets: Primary - TWO JIMA

Secondary - _____

Last Resort - _____

Take-off Times: 232036-232104 Washington Time (240036Z - 240104)

Time Over Primary Target:- 241328-241417 Saipan Time

240028-240117 Washington Time

240428Z-240517Z

Tactics: Both visually and by radar.

Aircraft Participating: 25

Primary Target - 25

Secondary Target - _____

Other Targets - _____

Bomb Load: 5 tons - 500 lb. GP bombs fuzed 1/10' nose, 1/40' tail

Losses: None

Target Weather: 3/10 to 10/10 cloud coverage

Fighter Opposition: Nil

Anti-Aircraft Encountered: Slight to none, inaccurate

Results of Bombing: Heavy explosions observed

Remarks: This information is fragmentary and is subject to change so
should not be used or presented as final.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority ND 60063
By NAKA Date 1/10

TELECON MESSAGE FN-24-6 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET) 240729Z

TO COM GEN AF 20

FROM COM GEN BOM COM 21

INFO DEP COM AF20

SUBJECT: CONSOLIDATED IN FLIGHT REPORT, ROCKCRUSHER ONE, S-15.

529

/// TWO SQUADRONS REPORTED. BOTH BOMBED PRIMARY AT 240424Z AND 240517Z,
ONE BY VISUAL AND THE OTHER BY RADAR. RESULTS HEAVY EXPLOSIONS AND UNOB-
SERVED. AA SLIGHT TO NONE, INACCURATE. THREE TO TEN TENTHS CLOUDS.
FIGHTER OPPOSITION NIL. A/C LOSS TO ENEMY ACTION NIL. THIRTY -ONE

A/C SCHEDULED, TWENTY-SIX AIRBORNE. ONE EARLY RETURN AS OF 240700Z.

THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21ST BOM COM 240720Z

END

TOD:240755Z WL

END

UNQUOTE

END

TOD: 241126Z MR

PLS MAKE THAT RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21-09 RPT ALSO

SECRET

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By

NAKA Date

Authority AND 60063
By NAKA Date 11/10

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 11 30

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 6063*
By *NAKA* Date *11/10*

12 - YAF

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

SECRET

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE BM-15-7-24 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET) 240502Z

TO: COM GEN AF 20

FROM: CMM GEN BOM COM 21

INFO: DEP COV AF 20)

SUBJECT: BOMBS AWAY REPORT, ROCKCRUSHER ONE, S-15.
FIRST SQUADRON BOMBED PRIMARY TARGET THREE TENTHS CLOUD BY VISUAL
BOMBING AT 240428.

THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21ST BOM COM 240455Z

END

TOD 240635 EBW H

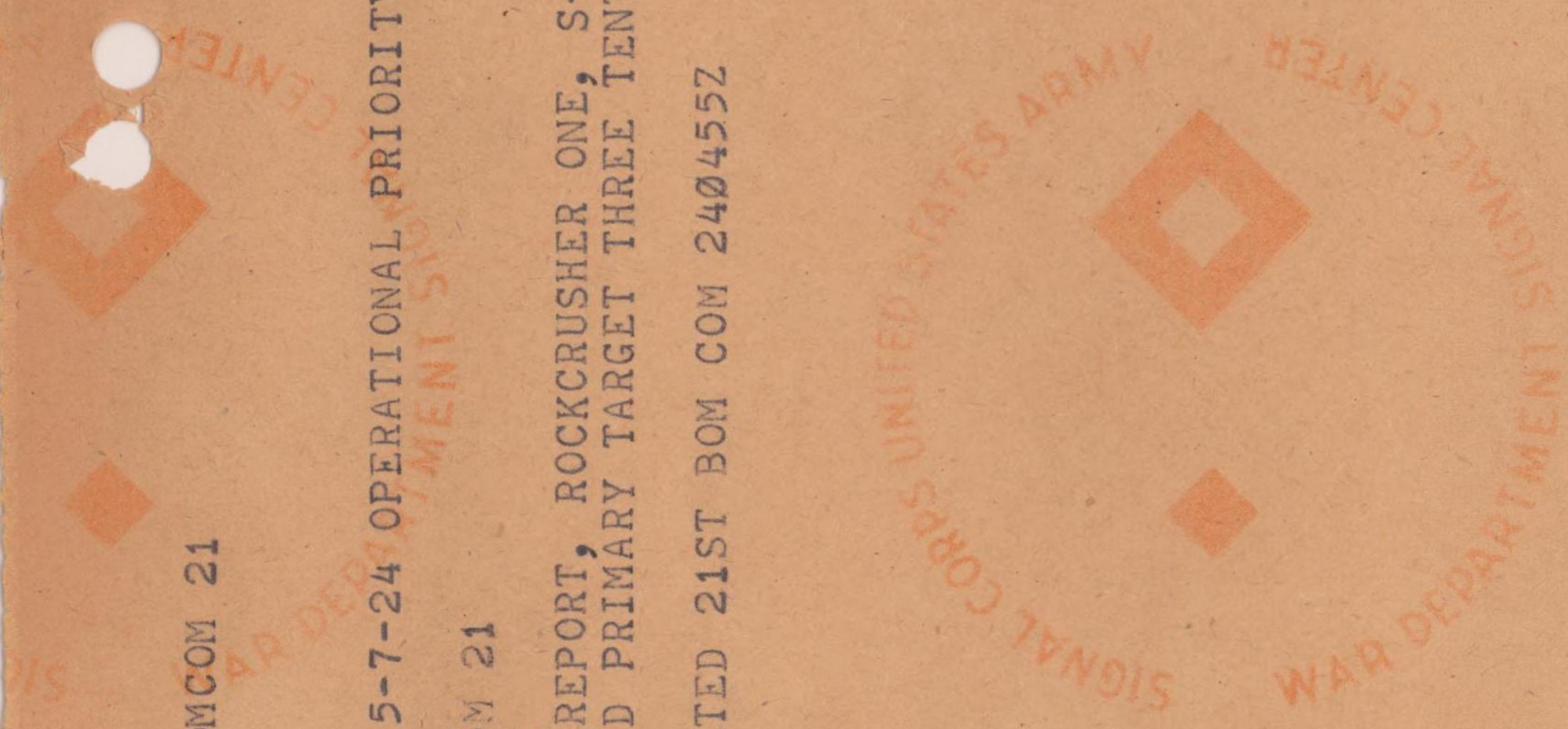
UNQUOTE

END

TOD 240636Z JB

ACK PLS

SECRET



WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 24 06 36

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 6063*
By *NAKA* Date *11/10*

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE

By authority of
CG Twentieth AF

Washington, D. C.

26 Dec 44
Date Initials

PRELIMINARY MISSION REPORT OF XXI BOMBER COMMAND
ZERA KING OPERATION NO. 15 - 24 DECEMBER 1944
"ROCKPUSHER I"

Targets: Primary - Airfields No. 1 & 2, Iwo Jima
Last Resort - Airstrip on Pagan Island

Take-off: 232036 - 232104 Washington time (240036Z - 240104Z)

Time Over Target: 241328 - 241417 Theater time, 240028 - 240117 Washington time, (240428Z - 240517Z)

Aircraft:

Total Bombing	34
Primary	23
Last Resort	1

Tactics: Bombing both visually and by radar at altitude of from 20,000 ft to 21,000 ft.

Weather: 5/10 to 10/10 cloud cover

Missing: None

Bombs dropped: 508 x 500 lb GP fuzed 1/10' nose, 1/40' tail

Fighter Opposition: None

Flak: 1st squadron encountered heavy, meager, low and trailing, inaccurate flak. 3rd squadron encountered heavy, meager, and inaccurate - bursts were black. 2nd and 4th squadrons encountered no flak.

Miscellaneous: 3 B-29's without bombs performed navigational escort for P-78's on strafing mission prior to bombing mission.

1st Phase FI: Airfield No. 1 - temporarily inoperational
Airfield No. 2 - operational

Air Raid: Approximately 12 enemy aircraft attacked Saipan 251005Z strafing and dive bombing. 1 B-29 destroyed, 5 damaged. Personnel - 1 seriously injured, 2 slightly. 2 enemy aircraft reported destroyed.

Remarks: This report is as yet fragmentary and subject to change, and therefore not to be used for official records.

20 500
10/10
2/8
508
74 500
25 400
127

As of 0800, 26 December 1944

Lauris Norstad
LAURIS NORSTAD
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Chief of Staff

SECRET

WASHINGTON PARTIES

KHARAGPUR / HONOLULU PARTIES

LT. COL. H. H. HEWITT

COL. ANNEBRANDT COL. HERMAN

TELECON MSG NO K-25-Q RPT K-25-1 ((SECRET))
SUBJECT PRELIMINARY MISSION REPORT, ROCKCRUSHER NO. 1
TO COMGEHXRPT COMGENBOMCOM 20 FROM COMGENAF 20

73RD WING OF XXI BC ATTACK ON IWO JIMA
TARGETS: PRIMARY - AIRFIELDS 1 & 2 AT IWO JIMA
LAST RESORT - AIRSTRIP AT PAGAN ISLAND

TAKE-OFF: 240036Z - 240104Z
TIME OVER TARGET: 240423Z - 240525Z
AIRCRAFT: AIRBORNE 26
TOTAL BOMBING 24
PRIMARY 23
LAST RESORT 1
EARLY RETURNS 2

SECRET

MISSING : NONE
ALTITUDE: 20,000 TO 21,000 FT
CASUALTIES: NONE
ENEMY CLAIMS: NONE - NO E/A ENCOUNTERED
FLAK: 1ST SQUADRON ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER, LOW AND TRAINING
INACCURATE FLAK.

3RD SQUADRON ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER, AND INACCURATE (AC-
CULATE FOR ALTITUDE) FLAK THAT WAS INACCURATE FOR COURSE AND
DEFLECTION. BURSTS WERE BLACK.

SECRET

SECOND AND FOURTH SQUADRONS ENCOUNTERED NO FLAK

ORIGINATOR OF MESSAGE

Do not write up
Supp to opp

DISTRIBUTION

C/S DC/S Opr DC/S Adm A-1 A-2 A-3 Top A-3 OCCR A-4 A-5 Plans

ACTION

AG Sure Air Insp PRO COMM OF ANAL STAT CON

INFORMATION

C/S DC/S Opr DC/S Adm A-1 A-2 A-3 Tns A-3 OCCR A-4 A-5 Plans
AG Sure Air Insp PRO COMM OFANAL STAT CON



HEADQUARTERS, TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



25 December 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL Arnold

SUBJECT: Fragmentary Mission Report on Operation No. 15, "Rockcrusher One" by 73rd Wing of XXI Bomber Command

Targets:

Primary - Airfields 1 and 2, Iwo Jima
Last Resort - Airstrip on Pagan Island

Take-off:

232036 - 232104 Washington Time (240036Z - 240104Z)

Time Over Targets:

241328 - 241417 Theater Time, 240028 - 240117 Washington Time, (240428Z - 240517Z)

Tactics:

Bombing both visually and by radar at altitude of 19,000 ft.

Aircraft:

Total Bombing	24
Primary	23
Last Resort	1

Missing:

None

Bombs Dropped:

120 tons (500 lb GP bombs fused 1/10' nose, 1/40' tail)

Weather:

5/10 to 10/10

Enemy Claims:

None - no enemy opposition

Flak:

Moderate and accurate to nil

Miscellaneous:

3 B-29's without bombs performed navigational escort for P-58's on strafing mission.

Remarks:

This report is fragmentary and is not to be used for official records.

As of 1000 - 25 December 1944

LAURIS NORSTAD
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Chief of Staff

WASHINGTON PARTIES

KHARAGPUR / HONOLULU PARTIES

LT. COL. H. H. LEWITT

COL. ANKERBRANDT COL. HERMAN

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE NO BM19-10-24 241326 OP SECRET
TO COMGEN AF 20
FROM BOM COM 21
INFO DEP COM 20

SUBJECT PRELIMINARY MISSION REPORT -S-15- ROCKCRUSHER NO 1 24 DEC 1944.

NAME OF PRIMARY AIRFIELDS NO 1 AND 2, IWO JIMA.
NAME OF SECONDARY NONE
NAME OF LAST RESORT AIRSTRIP ON PAGAN ISLAND
TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY NONE
A/C ATTACKING PRIMARY 23A/C WITH 115 TONS 500LB GP, 2 SQUADRONS BOMBED

VISUALLY, 2 SQUADRONS BOMBED BY RADAR
A/C ATTACKING SECONDARY NONE
A/C ATTACKING LAST RESORT 1 A/C WITH 5 TONS 500 LB GP
A/C ATTACKING TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY NONE

NO A/C TAKING OFF 26

NO A/C EARLY RETURN 2

NO A/C MISSING OR LOST NONE

FLAK 1 SQUADRON MODERATE ACCURATE - 3 SQUADRONS NIL FIGHTER SUPPORT
NONE

WEATHER 2 SQUADRONS 5/10 TO 6/10THS CLOUD. 2 SQUADRONS 10/10TH CLOUD
IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS NONE

ESTIMATED ENEMY CLAIMS NONE (NO E/A OPPOSITION)

IN ADDITION TO ABOVE A/C, THREE B-29'S WITHOUT BOMBS PERFORMED NAVI-
GATIONAL ESCORT FOR P-38'S ON STRAFING MISSION. B-29ABORTED.

THIS REPORT IS FRAGMENTARY AND IS NOT FOR RECORD PURPOSES, BUT DOES
PRESENT ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT 241255Z

THIS MESSAGE DISPATCHED HQ XXI BOM COM 241256Z

END

TOD... 250007 Z HS

SECRET

SECRET

QUOTE

TELECON MESSAGE BM -15-9-24 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET) -40955Z
TO COM GEN AF 20
FROM : COM GEN BOM COM 21
INFO: DEP COM AF 20
SUBJECT: RETURN REPORT, ROCKCRUSHER, NR 7 4 DECEMBER 1944.

NAME OF GROUP: 499TH 500TH
NO. LANDED AT HOME GASE: 15 11

NO. LANDED AWAY FROM BASE: 0 0
NO. MISSING: 0 0
FIRST A/C LANDED 240740Z 240843Z
LAST A/C LANDED: 240854Z 240856Z

RECEIVED AO 2409340

THIS MESSAGE DIPATCHED XXI BOM COM 240955ZM

SECRET

TELECON MESSAGE BM-15-6-24 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET) 240502Z

TO : COM GEN AF 20
FROM : COM GEN BOM COM 21
INFO: DEP COM AF

SECRET

SUBJECT: CONSOLIDATED NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT LANDING REPORT, ROCKCRUSHER
S-15.

THIRD NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT A/C LANDED 240412Z.
240445Z
THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21UT BOM COM ~~240452Z~~

END
TOD 240637ZVEBW
UNQUOTE

SECRET

END
TOD 240639Z JB

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 12 49

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 05 41

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DEPARTMENT SIGNAL

RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

SECRET

QUOTE

ESSA

XXXX TELECON MESSAGE BM-15-5-24 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET) 240422Z

TO: COM GEN AF 20

FROM COM GEN BOM COM 21

INFO: DEP COM AF 20

SUBJECT: CONSOLIDATED RETURN REPORT, NAVIGATIONAL ESCORT, ROCKCRUSHE

S-15.

TWO B-29'S LANDED 240333Z AND 240334Z. THIRD A/C NOT YET RETURNED. THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21ST BOM COM 240415Z

END

TOD: 240612Z

TOD 2406150 SMG

UNQUOTE

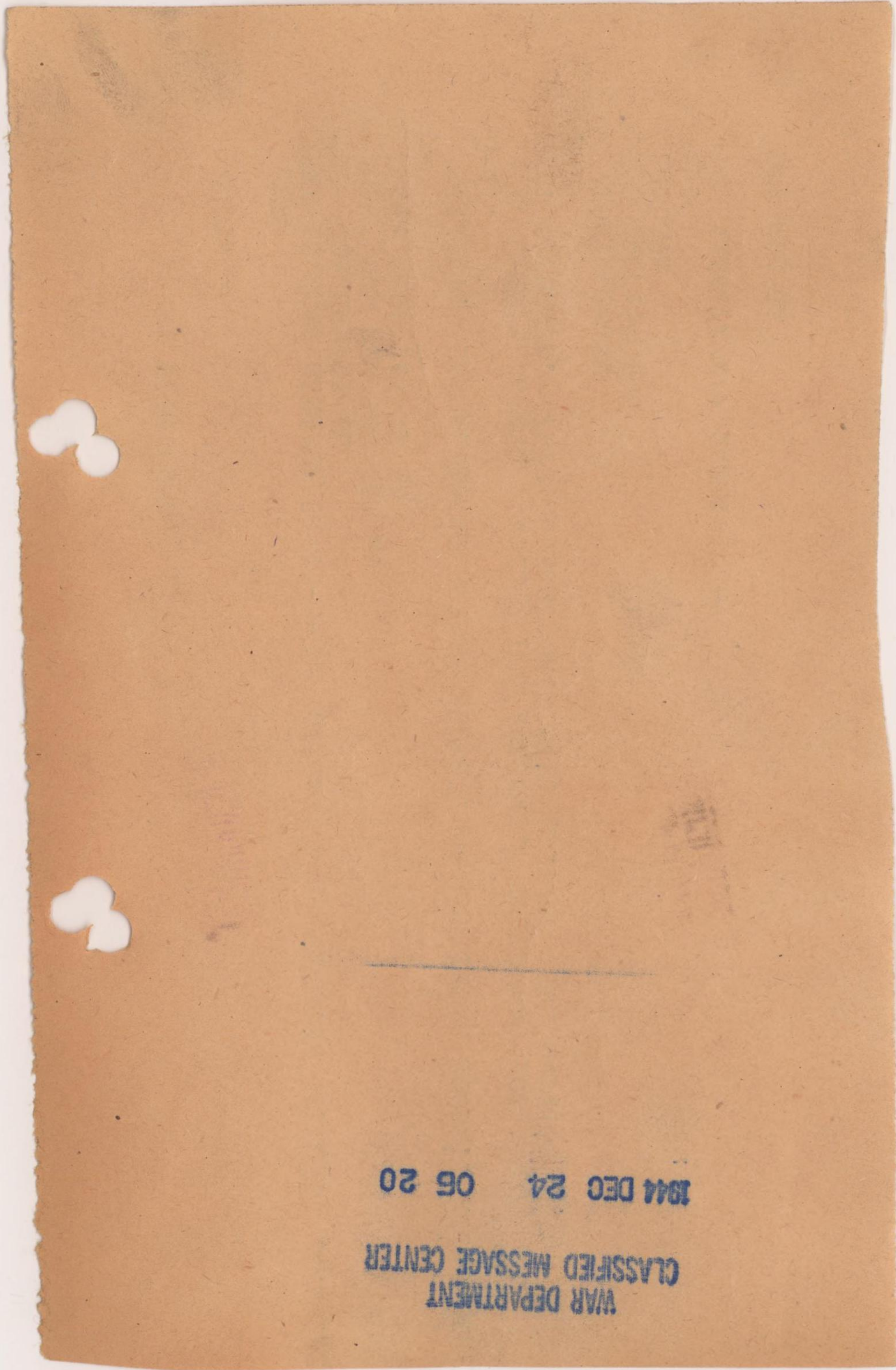
END

TOD 2306170000 240619Z JB

SECRET

ACK PLS GA

DEPARTMENT SIGNAL



WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 05 20

QUOTE

SECRET

TELECON MESSAGE FN 25-8 251400Z OPERATIONAL PRIORITY (SECRET)

TO COMGEN AF 20 INFO DEP COM AF 20 FROM COM GEN BOMCOM 21

SUBJECT: MISSION REPORT, ^{Rock crusher No. 1} ~~251400Z~~, 24 DECEMBER 1944.

DESIGNATION OF UNIT: 73RD BOMB WING.

TIME OF TAKE OFF: FIRST A/C - 240036Z.

LAST A/C - 240104Z

TIME OF RETURN FIRST A/C - 240338Z.

LAST A/C - 240856Z.

SECRET

NO. A/C TAKING OFF: 26.

NO. A/C ATTACKING PRIMARY TARGET: 23.

NO. A/C ATTACKING SECONDARY TARGET: 0.

NO. A/C ATTACKING LAST RESORT TARGET: 1.

NO. A/C ATTACKING TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY: 0.

NO. A/C WHICH FAILED TO BOMB: 2.

NO. A/C LOST TO FLAK: 0.

NO. A/C LOST TO E/A: 0.

NO. A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT: 0.

NO. A/C LOST BY REASONS UNKNOWN: 0.

TIME OF ATTACK: FIRST A/C - 240423Z.

LAST A/C - 240525Z.

ALTITUDE OF ATTACK: V20,000 FT TO 21,000 FT.

BOMBS ON EACH TARGET PRIMARY - 488 X 500 LB GP. — 508

LAST RESORT - 20 X 500 LB GP.

(1) BOMB LOADING : 520 X 500 LB GP.

(2) BOXBS UNACCOUNTED FOR : NONE.

NO. A/C JETTISONING BOMBS: 2 A/C - 26 X 500 LB GP.

NO. A/C BRING BOMBS BACK: 2 A/C - 26 X 500 LB GP.

PERSONNEL CASUALTIES : NONE.

NO. E/A DESTROYED, PROBABLY DESTROYED, DAMAGED: NONE.

REMARKS: (1) (FIGHTER OPPOSITION) NONE.

(2) (FLAK) FIRST SQUADRON ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER,

LOW AND TRAILING INACCURATE FLAK. THIRD SQUADRON

ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER, AND INACCURATE (ACCURATE

FOR ALTITUDE) FLAK THAT WAS INACCURATE FOR COURSE

AND DEFLECTION. BURSTS WERE BLACK. SIXCOND AND

FOURTH SQUADRONS ENCOUNTERED NO FLAK.

(3) (A/C LOST OR IN DISTRESS) NONE.

(4) (A/C SEROUSLY DAMAGED OR CRASHEDTON RETURN) NONE.

(5) (A/C BATTLE DAMAGE) NONE.

(6) (OBSERVATIONS) NONE.

(7) (FIRST PHASE PHOTO INTERPRETATION) SEE TELECON MSG

SECRET

NO. A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT: 0.

NO. A/C LOST BY REASONS UNKNOWN: 0.

TIME OF ATTACK: FIRST A/C - 240423Z.

LAST A/C - 240525Z.

ALTITUDE OF ATTACK: V20,000 FT TO 21,000 FT.

BOMBS ON EACH TZRGET PRIMARY - 488 X 500 LB GP. — 508

LAST RESORT - 20 X 500 LB GP.

(1) BOMB LOADING : 520 X 500 LB GP.

(2) BOXBS UNACCOUNTED FOR : NONE.

NO. A/C JETTISONING BOMBS: 2 A/C - 26 X 500 LB GP.

NO. A/C BRING BOMBS BACK: 2 A/C - 26 X 500 LB GP.

PERSONNEL CASUALTIES : NONE.

NO. E/A DESTROYED, PROBABLY DESTROYED, DAMAGED: NONE.

REMARKS: (1) (FIGHTER OPPOSITION) NONE.

(2) (FLAK) FIRST SQUADRON ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER,

LOW AND TRAILING INACCURATE FLAK. THIRD SQUADRON

ENCOUNTERED HEAVY, MEAGER, AND INACCURATE (ACCURATE

FOR ALTITUDE) FLAK THAT WAS INACCURATE FOR COURSE

AND DEFLECTION. BURSTS WERE BLACK. SIXCOND AND

FOURTH SQUADRONS ENCOUNTERED NO FLAK.

(3) (A/C LOST OR IN DISTRESS) NONE.

(4) (A/C SEROUSLY DAMAGED OR CRASHEDTQN RETURN) NONE.

(5) (A/C BATTLE DAMAGE) NONE.

(6) (OBSERVATIONS) NONE.

(7) (FIRST PHASE PHOTO INTERPRETATION) SEE TELECON MSG

BM-14-9-23

(8) (CREW COMMENTS) NONE.

(9) (NARRATIVE) PAGAN ISLAND WAS BOMBER BY ONE A/C. A

RADAR RUN WAS MADE BECAUSE OF A 10/10 OVERCAST. THREE

A/C TOOK OFF TO NAVIGATE FOR A GROUP OF P-38'S THAT

STRAFED THE PRIMARY TARGET BEFORE THE BOMBING RUNS

WERE MADE. ONE OF THESE ABORTED, BUT THE OTHER TWO

COMPLETED THEIR MISSION. THESE A/C DID NOT CARRY

BOMBS

THIS MESSAGE ORIGINATED 21ST BOM COM 251530Z

END

TOD.....

251504Z

TOD 251735Z WW

UNQUOTE

TOD 251820Z RM

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *ND 6063*
By *NAKA* Date *11/10*

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 25 18 20

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 25 18 20

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 25 18 20

WAR DEPARTMENT
SIGNAL CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY

6

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 25 18 20

WAR DEPARTMENT
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1944 DEC 25 18 20

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 25 18 20

S E C R E T

The making of an exact copy of this message is prohibited

3

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
WASHINGTON, 25, D.C.

COPY NO. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

"Secret -
"By authority of -
"C.G. Twentieth Air Force
"27 Dec 44
"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN
WASHINGTON and HONOLULU

Washington Parties: Honolulu Parties:
Lt. Col. H. H. Hewitt Colonel Ankenbrandt

TELECON MESSAGE NO. FW 27-1

SUBJECT: -- Corrected Abortive Report - "Rockcrusher No. 1" --
-- "-----" --
(From: COMENBOMCOM 21 to COMAF 20 info DEPCOMAF 20)

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>497th</u>	<u>499th</u>	<u>500th</u>
No. of A/C Abortive	1	20	3

CLASSIFICATION: Mechanical 0 Mechanical

DETAILED REASONS:

- 497th-Bomb Group -- No. 3 engine failed. No bombs carried.
- B-29 - 26 V 531 -- Bomb rack malfunction. 14 x 500 GP -- Jettisoned at sea. 6 x 500 lb. GP re-turned to base.
- 500th-Bomb Group -- B-29 - 29 V 533 -- Bomb rack malfunction. 12 x 500 lb GP jettisoned at sea. 8 x 500 lb GP on target.
- B-29 - 23 V 533 -- Oil pressure malfunction. 20 x 500 lb. GP jettiscmed at sea.

DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION: None.
Information: CS/ DC/s Op (2 cys) A-2 (10 cys) A-4 (1 cy) Stat Control (2 cys) Op An (1 cy) 5 extra cys for file.

S E C R E T
The making of an exact copy of this message is prohibited.

WASHINGTON PARTIES

Dec 24, 1944

KHARAGPUR / HONOLULU PARTIES

LT. COL. H. H. HEWITT

COL. AMKENBRANDT COL. HERMAN

TELECON MSG NR K-24-5 RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: COMMUNIQUE NUMBER 38

TO COMGENBOMCOM 20 FROM COMAF 20

FOLLOWING COMMUNIQUE RELEASED 241800 WASHINGTON TIME:

HEAVY EXPLOSIONS ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WERE OBSERVED BY B-29 CREWS OF BRIG. GEN. H. S. HANSELL'S XXI BOMBER COMMAND DURING THEIR SECOND ATTACK ON THE JAPANESE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA DECEMBER 24 (JAPANESE CALENDAR), GENERAL H. H. ARNOLD, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE TWENTIETH AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED TODAY AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

ALL SUPERFORTRESSES OF THE MEDIUM FORCE RETURNED TO THEIR BASE AT SAIPAN 750 MILES SOUTHEAST OF IWO JIMA.

SLIGHT AND INACCURATE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED AND FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS LACKING, PRELIMINARY REPORTS REVEALED.

(THE PREVIOUS MISSION OF THE XXI BOMBER COMMAND TO IWO JIMA WAS ON DECEMBER 8.)

RESTRICTED /

RESTRICTED

Red and white ref

TELECON MSG NO S-23-7

TO: COM GEN BOM COM 21

INFO DEP COM AF 20 AND COM GEN BOM COM 20

FROM: COM GEN AF

THE FOLLOWING PRESS FLASH WAS RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION HERE
0300 WASHINGTON TIME.

B-29'S OF BRIGADIER GENERAL H. S. HANSELL'S XXI BOMBER
COMMAND ON DECEMBER 24 (JAPANESE CALENDAR) BOMBED MILITARY INSTALL-
ATIONS ON THE JAPANESE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA, 750 MILES TO THE
NORTHWEST OF SAIPAN, GENERAL H. H. ARNOLD, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE
TWENTIETH AIR FORCE, ANNOUNCED AT THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED WHEN THE INFORMATION BECOMES
AVAILABLE.

END

TOD 240650Z RF

TELECON MSG K-23-9

TO: :9. &3, 19. :9.XXX RPT

TO: COM GEN BOM COM 21

8, 19 DEP COM AF 20 AND COM GEN BOM COM 20

FROM: COM GEN AF

THE FOLLOWING PRESS FLASH WAS RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION HERE 0300
WASHINGTON TIME.

B-29'S OF BRIGADIER GENERAL H. S. HANSELL'S XXI BOMBER COMMAND
ON DECEMBER 24 (JAPANESE CALENDAR) BOMBED MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ON
THE JAPANESE ISLAND OF IWO JIMA, 750 MI LES TO THE NORTHWEST RPT
NORTHWEST OF SAIPAN, GENERAL H. H. ARNOLD, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE
TWENTIETH AIR FORCE, ANNOUNCED AT THE WAR DPXXRPT DEPARTMENT.

174// RPT FURTEXXRPT FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED WHEN
THE INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

END.

TOD 240816Z RF

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By: NAKA Date

Authority: *AND 60063*
By: *NAKA* Date: *11/10*

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 06 51

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
1944 DEC 24 08 22

SECRET

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS PROHIBITED

Copy 3

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25 D.C.

(Secret)

B. authority of C. G.
Twentieth Air Force

24 Dec 44

(Date)

MB

(Initials)

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND HONOLULU (SAIFAN)

Washington Parties

Lt. Col. Hewitt

Telecon Message FK-25-1

Honolulu Parties

Colonel Ankenbrandt

Subject: First Phase FI Report, Rockcrusher No. 1, 4 December 1944

(To: COMCEMAF 20 From: COMBOMBOMCOM 21 Info: DEFCOMAF 20)

Airfields:

Airfield No. 1: Temporarily inoperational

Airfield No. 2: Operational

Several aircraft noted in same position as last coverage.

Airfield No. 1:

1 T/E A/C

4 S/E A/C

Airfield No. 2:

1 T/E A/C

6 S/E A/C

Bombing:

First concentration 1,300 feet E of NE-SW runway of A/F No. 1.

Second concentration 600 feet E of the EW runway of A/F No. 2.

This message originated 21st DomCom 242345Z

Distribution:

Action: None

Information: C/S; DC/S Opr (2 cys); A-2 (10 cys); Op Anal; Stat Con (2 cys); A-5 Plans
(2 cys); A-A

SECRET

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS PROHIBITED

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By: *MB* NAKA Date *1/11/03*

S-1
YAF

TELECON NOTE (SECRET)

TO COMGEN BOMCOM 21. FROM COMAF2

WHEN MAY WE EXPECT PRELIMINARY MISSION REPORTS.

THIS MSG ORIGINATED AT WAR HEADQUARTERS 242232Z

ENDPPLL

PLS ACK

GIVE LIST OF YOUR PARTY PLS

PRESENT HERE: CAPT I ISAACS

SECRET

SECRET

ACK FOR TELECON NOTE WR NRPT 241212Z MR
WILL GIVE ANS TO NOTE AS SOON AS RECEIVED HERE SECOND NOTE
ALREADY TO GUAM

YES, CONCUR WILL ASK GUAM IF THEY EXPECT DELAY MIN PLS
YOUR M NOTES HAVE BEEN SENT TO SAIPAN AND GUAM IS WAITING FOR AN ANS
NOW THEY (GUAM) DO NOT EXPECT A DELAY AT THEIR STATION DOES THIS
ANSWER YOUR QUERY GA PS PLS
GUAM IS WAITING FOR AN ANSER ANSWER FROM SAIPAN THEY CAN'T GIVE
US ADDITIONAL INFO UNTIL THEY RECEIVE THIS GA PLS

GUAM DOES NOT KNOW WHEN IT WILL BE THRU BUT THEY ARE TRYING TO FIND
OUT GA PLS KK

ROGER

FLASH - GUAM SAYS REPORT COMING INTO THEM NOW WILL RELAY AS SOON
AS WE REC V IT



RELAY FROM BOMCOM 21

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

1944 DEC 24 12 17

THAT NOTE ORIGINATED HERE EIGHT MINUTES AGO WHAT WAS THE DELAY IN
RELAYING THE MESSAGE?

ROGER

TELECON NOTE (SECRET)

TO COMGEN BOMCOM 21 FROM COMAF 20

WILL U PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN PRELIMINARY REPORT WILL
BE AVAILABLE FOR TRANSMISSION TO THIS HEADQUARTERS.

END

PLS ACK

OIC

HERE IS THE STORY . IF THERE IS GOI G TO BE A DELAY FROM GUAM
IN TRANSMITTING REPORT REQUESTED LET US KNOW AND WE WILL RETURN YOU
TO TRAFFICE AND U CAN CLL CALL US BACK IN WHEN REPORT IS RECD
INSTEAD OF OUR STANDING BY AND HOLDING UP CIRCUIT DO YOU CONCUR

THE REPORT ASKED FOR WILL ORIGINATE AT SAIPAN WOULD LIKE
TO KNOW FROM GUAM IF WE MAY EXPECT IT AND WHEN GA PLS

WILL STAND BY FOR ANOTHER FIVE MINUTES AFTER
THAT WE WILL RETURN YOU TO TRAFFIC AND HAVE YOU CALL US WHEN
YOU GET THE REPORT

OK WE WILL STAND BY

REC BN -9-XXX 15-9-24 AT 241245Z

NOTE: IF THIS IS ALL YOU HAVE WE WILL RETURN TO
TRAFFIC AND YOU MAY CALL US WHEN PRELIMINARY REPORT COMES ITXXX IN

DID YOU RECEIVED A OUR NOTE

ROGER

Mission 15
 XXI-159
 Iwo Jima

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
Chief of Staff
Deputy C. of S. Adm.
Deputy C. of S. Opr.
A. G.

CONFIDENTIAL

PHOTO INTELLIGENCE SECTION
 EVALUATION BRANCH
 PHOTOGRAPHIC DIVISION
 AC/AS, INTELLIGENCE

IMMEDIATE INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. I/I-106
OBJECTIVE AREA NUMBER (None)
 Date 6 January 1945

<u>PHOTO DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>PRINT NOS.</u>	<u>F/L & ALT</u>	<u>APPROX SCALE</u>	<u>TYPE COVER</u>
24 Dec 44	17PL/879BS/4M7	AC4750/1V1 AC3442/2V1-10 AC5245/3V1-4	24"/21,900' 24"/21,900' 12"/21,900'	1:10,950 1:10,950 1:21,900	Strike Attack

LOCALITIES COVERED

Iwo Jima

PHOTO REFERENCE
Print Nos.

All prints

LAST REPORT ISSUED
Report No. Date

105 5 Jan 45

INSTALLATIONS COVERED

No. 1 (South) A/F

TARGET NUMBER

None asgd

PRINT NOS.

3V:1-3
2V:2-6

No. 2 (North) A/F

None asgd

3V:2-4
IV:1
2V:4-9

PHOTO QUALITY

Fair
Fair
Fair
Fair
Fair

REMARKS:

15, possibly 17, A/C visible; type and serviceability undetermined. These are in addition to parts of A/C visible in dump areas. Bomb bursts visible E of both A/F's. Plot map accompanies this report. Map Reference: A.M.S. L771, Sheet 20

INTERPRETED BY:

D. W. MILLS

APPROVED BY:

Lewis E. Stevens
 LEWIS E. STEVENS
 Major, Air Corps
 Chief, Photo Intelligence Section
 Evaluation Br., Photographic Division
 Office of Asst Chief of Air Staff,
 Intelligence

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