

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**ACTION REPORT**

**DECLASSIFIED**

USS SUWANNEE

CVE 27

SERIAL 0112

7 JULY 1945

ACTION REPORT, OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF OCCUPATION OF  
BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO, 30 JUNE - 2 JULY 1945.

[COVERS AIR SUPPORT FOR OBOE 2 OPERATION.]

132159



*Aug*

REG. NO 2282  
F. S. NO 7 03702  
REC. SHEET NO 202

U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT

BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

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CVE-27/A16-3(1)

(95-wrb)

Serial:

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U.S.S. SUWANNEE

(CVE-27)

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,

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7 JUL 1945

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Via: (1) Commander Carrier Division TWENTY-TWO  
(Commander Task Group 78.4).  
(2) Commander Amphibious Group EIGHT  
(Commander Task Group 78.2).  
(3) Commander SEVENTH Amphibious Force  
(Commander Task Force 78).  
(4) Commander SEVENTH Fleet  
(Commander Allied Naval Forces, Southwest Pacific Area).  
(5) Commander in Chief, United States Army Forces in the Pacific.

DECLASSIFIED - OPNAV INST 5500.30  
BY SP-1 KRM DATE 20 AUG 57

Subject: Action Report, Operations in Support of Occupation of  
Balikpapan, Borneo, 30 June - 3 July 1945.

Reference: (a) Articles 712, 874(6) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1920.  
(b) PacFlt Conf. Ltr. 1CL-45 dated 1 January 1945.  
(c) Commander Carrier Division 22 Operation Order No. 3-45.

Enclosures: (A) Weather Reports covering period 30 June - 3 July 1945. -p.18  
(B) Navigational track of U.S.S. SUWANNEE. -p.22

1. In compliance with reference (b), subject action report in eight parts, with enclosures (A) and (B), is submitted herewith.

  
D.S. CORNWELL.

Copy to:  
Cominch(1)(Advance)  
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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART I

This ship, with Air Group FORTY aboard, participated in the occupation of Balikpapan, Borneo, during the period 30 June to 3 July 1945, providing air cover for the naval forces involved and air cover and direct air support for the ground forces during the assault and landing phases and subsequent operations.

PART II

This ship operated as part of Task Unit Seventy-Eight point Four point One, which comprised SUWANNEE (CVE-27), BLOCK ISLAND (CVE-106), and GILBERT ISLANDS (CVE-107). This Task Unit was under the operational command of Task Group Seventy-Eight point Four.

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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART III - CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT

A. Weather.

1. Weather conditions in the operating area were generally favorable for flight operations. Over the target area, however, cloud cover constituted a slight handicap to bombing operations and observation.

2. Copies of weather reports are enclosed (Enclosure "A") covering the period of operations in the Balikpapan area.

B. A navigational track of the ship is enclosed (Enclosure "B").

C. Chronological Account.

1945

26 June Departed San Pedro Bay (Leyte) at 0607(I). Gunnery exercises with towed targets. Recovered planes from Tacloban Airfield.

27 June Flew local patrols. Conducted training exercises and gunnery exercises.

28 June Flew local patrols. Conducted training exercises.

29 June Flew local patrols.

30 June Flew local patrols, and target combat air patrols over Balikpapan area.

1 July Flew local patrols, target combat air patrols and support missions over Balikpapan.

2 July Flew special search for enemy vessels reported approaching from south; also local patrols and target combat air patrols over Balikpapan.

3 July Flew local patrols, target combat air patrols and support missions over Balikpapan. Departed Balikpapan area at 1716(I).

4 July Flew local patrols.

5 July Flew local patrols.

6 July Dropped anchor in San Pedro Bay (Leyte) at 1532(I).



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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART IV - ORDNANCE

A. Performance of own ordnance material and equipment.

1. The following ammunition was expended in A/A practice:

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of Rounds</u>
5"/38	A/A Common	28
40MM	HEIT	4,687
40MM	HEP	2,858
20MM	Incendiary	4,500
20MM	Tracer	2,400

2. The performance of all ordnance equipment and material was satisfactory.  
No ship's ordnance was used against the enemy.



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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART V - DAMAGE

A. Battle Damage to Own Units.

1. This vessel received no battle damage.
2. Details of damage to own aircraft will be found in Part VI(A)(3).

B. Battle Damage Inflicted on the Enemy.

1. Details of damage to the enemy by air attack will be found in Part VI(A)(4).



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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART VI - SPECIAL COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

SECTION (A) - AIR OPERATIONS (1) Table of sorties and plane availability by days.

AVAILABILITY			TARGET		SORTIES						OTHER SORTIES	
DATE	VF	VT	AIR		TCAP	OTHER	SEARCH		LCAP	ASP		
			STRIKE	SUPPORT			VF	VT				VF
1945												
JUNE												
26	20	12									4VF, 3VT Ferry	
27	18	11							4	2	8VF, 8VT Training	
28	20	11							8	6	8VF, 7VT Training	
29	20	11							4	2		
30	20	11			12				8	4		
JULY												
1	20	11		5 8	16				12	4		
2	18	10			12	1VT, Observ.	4 4	12	6		1VT, Test	
3	20	10		10 8	12			12	6			
4	20	10						4	2			
5	20	10						4	2			
6	19	10									6VF, 4VT Ferry	



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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART VI - SPECIAL COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

SECTION (A) - AIR OPERATIONS (2) Table of bombs and rockets dropped.

STRIKE No.	DATE 1945	TIME OF LAUNCH	TARGET ATTACKED		SORTIES AT TARGET		BOMBS AND ROCKETS		FUZING	
			GENERAL	SPECIFIC	VF	VT	No	Type	NOSE	TAIL
4	JULY 1	1245	Balikpapan	30 - 35 M/T				Strafing		
6		1530	Balikpapan	Barracks, Storage area	5		4	500 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
						8	12	500 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
							60	100 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
							29	5" HVAR Rockets	.02	D.B.
5	3	1445	Balikpapan	Buildings, Troops	10		9	500 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
							48	5" HVAR Rockets	.02	D.B.
						8	16	500 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
							42	100 lb. GP	Inst.	.01
							28	5" HVAR Rockets	.02	D.B.



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U.S.S. SUWANNEE (CVE-27)

ACTION REPORT - BALIKPAPAN, BORNEO

PART VI - SPECIAL COMMENTS AND INFORMATION

SECTION (A) - AIR OPERATIONS (3) Own loses - Aircraft, (4) Damage to enemy.

(3) Own loses - Aircraft.

DATE	TIME OF LAUNCH	TYPE AIRCRAFT	CIRCUMSTANCES - PLACE AND CAUSE OF PLANE LOSE
JUNE 27	0900	TBM-3P	Crashed barrier - Jettisoned

(4) Damage to enemy.

- (a) No enemy aircraft were damaged and none were seen.  
 (b) Damage to land targets.

STRIKE No.	DATE 1945	LOCATION	TARGETS	EXTENT OF DAMAGE
4	JULY 1	Balikpapan	30 - 35 M/T 2 Barracks	Destroyed (4 by burning) Damaged
5	3	Balikpapan	Truck Buildings	Probably Destroyed 1 Destroyed, 1 Probably Destroyed, 2 Seriously Damaged, 15 Others Damaged to some extent