

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**ACTION REPORT**

USS SUWANNEE

CVE 27

SERIAL 062

17 AUGUST 1944

FORWARDING OF AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORTS.

FORWARDS WITH IDENTIFYING COMMENT AIR-  
CRAFT ACTION REPORTS FOR CARRIER AIR GROUP  
60 (NOS. 8-44 THROUGH 32-44), VF-60 (NOS. 17-44  
THROUGH 45-44) AND VT-60 (NOS. 6-44 THROUGH  
11-44) IN SUPPORT OF MARIANAS ISLANDS CAM-  
PAIGN - BASED ON SUWANNEE IN TASK GROUP  
53.7.



2/8 014456 Original  
1190

IN REPLY REFER  
TO No.

CVE27/A16-3(1)  
(10-gjh)  
Serial: 062

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

RECEIVED

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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

17 AUG 1944



From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Via: (1) Commander Task Group 53.7.  
(2) Commander Task Force 53.  
(3) Commander 5th Fleet.  
(4) Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Reports.

Reference: (a) PacFlt Conf. ltr. 20L-44.

Enclosure: (A) Commander Air Group 60 Aircraft Action Reports (Form ACA-1) #6-44 through #32-44 inclusive.  
(B) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Reports (Form ACA-1) #17-44 through #45-44 inclusive.  
(C) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Reports (Form ACA-1) #6-44 through #11-44 inclusive.

1. This vessel took part in the Marianas Islands operation as a unit of Task Group 53.7. Air operations in support of the attack forces and combat air patrols and anti-submarine patrols were conducted.

2. Forwarded herewith as enclosures are action reports of attached aircraft units during this period.

W. D. JOHNSON.

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**AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT**

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
 RESTRICTED  
 (Reclassify when filled out)

**I. GENERAL**

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Swannoe, at sea. (c) Report No. AG-60 16-14  
 (d) Take off: Date 14 July, 1944 Time (LZT) 0545 -10 (Zone); Lat. XXX Long. XXX  
Glide Bomb and Strafe Buildings and Installations, Target Area 602.  
 (e) Mission Sections G-L-M-Q-R, Adelup Point, Guam I, Marianas Is (f) Time of Return 1020 -10 (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)		
<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None.</u>	
<u>TBM-1/c</u>	<u>VT-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1g350/ Depth Bombs.</u>	<u>Inst. Nose. Hydro Tail.</u>

**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) None.  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, High Overcast, Clear. (k) Visibility 25 Miles.  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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		



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REPORT No. 10-60 6-44

**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 <u>N</u>				
2 <u>O</u>				
3 <u>N</u>				
4 <u>E</u>				
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
		<u>NONE</u>		

**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	
<u>PGW-3</u>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>4:30</u>	<u>350 GL.</u>	<u>270 GL.</u>		<u>5650</u>			<u>8</u>
<u>TBI-10</u>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>NONE</u>	<u>4:30</u>	<u>300 GL.</u>	<u>185 GL.</u>					<u>4</u>

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes
- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft seen in the air.



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 12-60 6-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Sections G-1, G-2, G-3 in Target Area 002, Adamp Point  
Guan I, Marianas Islands. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0935 -10 (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 1500', Cumulus, 1/10.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear. (e) Visibility 25 Miles.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used Mk. 30, Mod. 4, Torp. Dir. Mk. 8 Gunsight.  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 4 Spacing Manual release Altitude of Bomb Release 2000' av.  
(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 <u>Buildings and Installations.</u>		<u>4XTM-1c</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>15x350f Depth Bombs.</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>See Below</u>
2 " "		<u>2xF6F-3</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>5650 Rds. .50 Cal.</u>		" "
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).

- The areas were very well covered by 13 hits. Two bombs landed in the water and one bomb failed to release. Hits were observed on two buildings in area 1, but the remaining hits were unobserved due to dust and debris in the air.
- The fighter planes strafed the buildings and installations in these areas with unobserved results.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.



**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

1. **No enemy aircraft were observed in the air.**
2. **It is the opinion of the pilots on this hop that the grid charts were inadequate due to the fact that this particular target area appeared on two different sheets neither one of which showed the whole area. On Guam sheet 5A only one fifth of the target area was shown and on Guam sheet 6A only a little more than four fifths of the area was shown. There is enough space on these target charts to show at least one more area on either side of the page and by the use of this overlapping, a true picture of the areas could be made.**



**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

1. All aircraft functioned in a normal manner with the exception of a few minor radio difficulties in the fighters.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.E. Richmond, Lieut. USNR, AGI Off. VT-60  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

H.O. Feilbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR, OAG 60, 14 July, 1944.  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE



**AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT**

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**I. GENERAL**

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Suwannee, at sea. (c) Report No. AG-60 17-44  
 (d) Take off: Date 14 July, 1944 Time (LZT) 0840 - 10 (Zone); Lat. XXX Long. XXX  
Glide Bomb and Strafe Dual Purpose Gun Positions, Sections X & Y.  
 (e) Mission Target Area 430. Guan I. Marianas Islands. (f) Time of Return 1320 -10 (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)		
<u>PGF-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None.</u>	
<u>TRN-1c</u>	<u>VT-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4x350# Depth Bombs.</u>	<u>Inst. Hbse. Hydro. Tail</u>

**III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.**

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>NONE</u>							

**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
<u>NONE</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None.  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, Clear (k) Visibility Unlimited, Over 25 mi  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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		
<u>NONE</u>					



REPORT No. AG-60 7-44

**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				
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**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	
<b>F6F-3</b>	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>4:40</b>	<b>350 GL.</b>	<b>250 GL.</b>			<b>2850</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>FBI-1c</b>	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>XXXX</b>	<b>4:40</b>	<b>300 GL.</b>	<b>210 GL.</b>					<b>4</b>

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes
- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

**No enemy aircraft seen in the air.**



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. AG-60 7-44

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Dual Purpose Guns, Target Area 430, Sections X & Y. Guam I., Marianas Islands. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1235 - 10 (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000', Cumulo Nimbus, 7/10 Covered.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear below clouds. (e) Visibility Unlimited, over 25 mi.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb. Bomb Sight Used Mk. 30, Mod. 4. Torp. Dir. Mk. 8 Gunsight.  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run Four Spacing Manual Release. Altitude of Bomb Release av. 2125'.  
(NUMBER) (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 Gun Posits. Target Area 430. Sect. X & Y.		4xTFM-1c VF-60	16x350/ Depth Bombs.	14	See Below.
2 " "		6xF6F-3 VF-60	None. 2000 Rd. .50 Cal.		" "
3 Barges in Target Area 278 Sect. W		2xF6F-3 VF-60	No Bombs. 850 " "		" "
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).

- 14 Bombs were seen to explode inside target area sections X and Y and 2 in section T. The area was very well covered, but due to dust and debris, the results were unobserved.
- Installations in sections X and Y were strafed, but the results were unobserved.
- Two fighters were ordered to investigate a reported 5000 Ton AK in Talafofo bay on the east side of the island, but found that the ship had already been previously sunk. However in target area 278, section W, two Jap barges were observed and were strafed, results unobserved.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.