# CONFIDENTIAL

### ACTION REPORT

USS SUWANNEE

BERIAL 028

CVE 27

10 MAY 1944

ACTION REPORTS.

FORWARDS 4 ACA-1 FORM REPORTS OF AIR SUPPORT PROVIDED BY TASK GROUP 78.1 FOR INITIAL LANDING AT AITAPE, NEW GUINEA BY TASK GROUP 77.3, REPORT COVERS 22 APRIL 1944.

72504

IN REFLY REFER

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

A16-3(10)(6)

CVE-27/A16-3(1) (10-grs) Serial:028

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

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

10 MAY 1944

From: To: Via:

The Commanding Officer.

The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

(1) Commander Task Group 78.1 (Commander Carrier Division Twenty-Two].

(2) Commander Task Force 78 (Commander Carrier

Division Twenty-Four). (3) Commander Seventh Fleet.

(4) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject:

Action Reports.

Reference:

(a) PacFlt Conf. Ltr. 2CL-44.

Enclosure:

(A) Commanding Officer VT-60 Aircraft Action

ACA-1'

Report- - - - 2-44.

detached 00-16-VA

(C) Commanding Officer VT-60 Aircraft Action Report- - - - - 3-44.

(D) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action

This vessel took part in the Aitape, New Guinea operations as a unit of Task Group 78.1. Operations in support of the attack forces and routine combat air patrols and antisubmarine patrols were conducted.

Forwarded herewith as enclosures are action reports of attached aircraft units. Other than these aircraft actions this vessel had no action with the enemy.

Copy to:

Cominch (advance copy) CincPac (advance copy) ComAirPac

Johnson.

#### I. GENERAL

Date of Action 21 April 1944. (e) Take off: Time 2005-2023 (GCT): Lat 2005 Long 300 Support Mission Attack energy Installations on Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace, Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace, Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace, Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace, Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Target Area 360, Ted 31 Airdrone. Attace, Soleo I., Attace Barbor, and Ted 30, Airdrone. Air	a) Unit Re	porting	VT-60	(b)	Based on or			wannee, a	t sea.	c) Repor	t No	1-44
Mission and Target Area 360, Tadji Airdrome. Aitage, New Guines, Time of Return 2252-2257(Got 11. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.  (1a) YIPE SQUADRON MORTHS SOUNDER NO. 10 TARK INC. ARRIED FER PLANE!  (1b) VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-31 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE VO-33 6 U. S. COTTESTADO VIII BASE  VIII. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  TYPE SQUADRON NU	d) Date of	Action 21	April. 1	944. (0)	Take off: T				+ 30	×	long	XXX
III. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.  (a)  (b)  (c)  (c)  (c)  (d)  (d)  (d)  (d)  (d		Support	Mission.	Attack e	nemy Insi	tallati	ons of	n Seleo I	., Aita	pe Har	bor,	
TYPE SQUADRON NO. FOR THE SOURCE SOUR								New Guine	g) Time	of Return	2252-2	<b>251</b> (GC
THE SOUNDERN SORTIES ENEMY A/C INSTARGET CARRIED PER PLANE)  WHEN VP-60 6 0 6 12x100# G.P. Bombs.  III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  WHEN VC-7 12 U.S.S. Mantla Bay WB YR-37 9 U.S.S. Sanganon  WEB VC-41 6 U.S.S. Corregidor WTB VT-35 9 U.S.S. Chenango  IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (GCT)  (GCT							200	(f)			(-)	
III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.  TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  VC-7 12 U.S.S. Manila Bay VTB VT-37 9 U.S.S. Sangamon  VTB VC-41 6 U.S.S. Correction VTB VT-35 9 U.S.S. Chenango  VTB VC-33 6 U.S.S. Correction VTB VT-35 9 U.S.S. Chenango  IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a) 10 COVAN A/CN ENCOUNTERED (BY Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (GCT) (GCT) (GCT)  Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) 1/10 Covered 4500 Celling Unlimited. Clear  (j) Sun or Moon Sun Behind Clouds (k) Visibility 10-15 Miles.  V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:  (g) (GC) VYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, ANGLE CLAIM			NO. OF 1	NO. ENGAGING N	NO. ATTACK-		BOMBS A	ND TORPEDOES (PER PLANE)				NG
TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE  VIB VC-7 12 U.S.S. Manila Bay VIB VI-37 9 U.S.S. Sangamon  VIB VC-41 6 U.S.S. Corregidor VIB VI-35 9 U.S.S. Chenango  IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a) 100 NO ENAGING TIME ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (GCT) (GCT)  (GCT	VTB	VT-60	6	0	6	12:10	o# G.	P. Bombs.		Inst	. Nose	
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VC-41 6 U.S.S. Corregidor VTB VT-35 9 U.S.S. Chenango  IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a) 100 OBSERVED NO ENCACING OWN A/C ENCOUNTERED LOCATION OF ENCOUNTERED (GCT)  (GCT) (GCT)  (G										22 0		
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IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a) (b) (c) (c) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d		100000000000000000000000000000000000000					110	47-22	7	0.00	o. Ousu	ango
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(GCT)  Apparent Enemy Mission(s)  Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) 1/10 Covered 4500*. Ceiling Unlimited. Clear  (j) Sun or Moon Sun Behind Clouds  (k) Visibility 10-15 Niles.  V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a)  (b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:  TYPE NEMY A/C  TYPE A/C  SQUADRON  PILOT OR GUNNER  GUNS USED  WHERE HIT, ANGLE  CLAIM	(a)	(b) NO	NO. ENGAGING	(d) TIME	LOCATI	ON OF	-		DES CARRIED SERVED	);	CAMOUFL/ MARK	AGE AND
(GCT)  Apparent Enemy Mission(s)  Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) 1/10 Covered 4500°. Gailing Unlimited. Clear  (j) Sun or Moon Sun Behind Clouds  (k) Visibility 10-15 Niles.  V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).  (a)  (b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:  (c)  TYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, ANGLE				(GCT)			1					
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(a) TYPE NEMY A/C TYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, ANGLE CLAIM											10-15 N	iles.
					AAGED IN A	AIR (By O	wn Air	craft Listed	in II Only			(d)
	TYPE NEMY A/C	-			OR GUNNER		GUNS U	SED	WHERE		E	DAMAG CLAIME
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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) Where hit, angle	EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1				786
2		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
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5 M				
6 <b>B</b>	33			
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12	- , 海	The second secon		
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
	N			
	0			
	N			
	E			

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(a)	(b)	(c) MILES	AV. HOURS	(e) AV. FUEL	(f)	(g) TOTAL	AMMUNITIO	N EXPENDED,	PLANES RETUR	RNING
(a) TYPE A/C	MILES	RETURN	IN AIR	LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM	MM.
VTB	XX	XX	2:55	300 Gl.	135 01.	None.				

IX. 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.

CONFRESTRICTED TAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

(c) Weather and Clouds Over Target 1/10 Co	overed 4500°. Co		lity <u>10-15</u>	lilea.
XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.				
(a)  DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
Seleo Island.	4 VTB VT-60 2 VTB	42×100# G.P.	av.1900	36 #
Target Area 360. Tadji Airdrome	The second secon	24×100// G.P.	av. 1800	24 #
<b>1</b>				
6				
7				
8				

- \* Three planes dropped all bombs, six of which landed in the water just off shore. One plane made only one run dropping six bombs. The target areas were well covered, but the results were unobserved.
- \*\* All twenty four bombs dropped by these two planes landed in a wooded area along the center of target area 360, just north of the north landing strip. The results were unobserved.

<sup>(</sup>g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

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 Release Pull-Out Dive Angle Strafing Retirement Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY
Evasive Tactics, Ships Concealment Anti-aircraft Searchlights Night Fighter Tactics

#### 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

No enemy aircraft nor anti-aircraft fire was observed.

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

All aircraft seemed to function in a normal manner with the exception of the radios in two planes. In one the receiver was out for the greater part of the flight, but communications were finally established along towards the end of the hop. In the other plane the transmitter failed completely.

APPROVED BY:



I. GENERAL

III. OTHER TYPE SQU  IV. ENEMY  (a)	(b) PUADRON  T-60  R U. S. C  PUADRON  AIRCR	NO. OF SORTIES	AIRCRAFT E	NO. ATTACK-ING TARGET  EMPLOYED  BASE  By Own Airco	12x10	BOMBS CARRIE	ATION. SQUADRON	NUMBER	FUZE, SE  Inst. Nos	ETTING
III. OTHER TYPE SQU  IV. ENEMY  (a) TYPE OB	U. S. COULDERON TO STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	AFT ENCO	UNTERED (E	BASE  Angamon.  By Own Airc	IN THIS	TYPE	ATION. SQUADRON Only).		BAS	
IV. ENEMY  (a)  TYPE  OB	T-37  AIRCR	AFT ENCO	U.S.S. S	BASE  Angamon.  By Own Airc	craft List	TYPE	SQUADRON Only).			Ε
IV. ENEMY  (a) TYPE OB	T-37  AIRCR	AFT ENCO	U.S.S. S	BASE  Angamon.  By Own Airc	craft List	TYPE	SQUADRON Only).			iE
IV. ENEMY  (a) TYPE OB	T-37  AIRCR	AFT ENCO	U.S.S. S	BASE  Angamon.  By Own Airc	craft List	TYPE	SQUADRON Only).			E
IV. ENEMY  (a) TYPE OB	T-37	AFT ENCO	UNTERED (E	angamon, By Own Airc		ed in II	Only).			SE
IV. ENEMY  (a) TYPE  OB.	AIRCR	AFT ENCO	UNTERED (E	By Own Airc			(f)	OFS CARRIED		
IV. ENEMY  (a)  TYPE  OB:			(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED				(f)	OFS CARRIED:		
(a) TYPE OB			(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED				(f)	OES CARRIED:		
TYPE OB	NO. BSERVED	NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C		LOCAT	ION OF UNTER		BOMBS, TORPED	OFS CARRIED		(a)
N	-		(GCT)				GUN3 OB	SERVED	CAMOL	(g) JFLAGE AND ARKING
N										
E			(GCT)							9 7
			(GCT)							
			(GCT)							
		at Location		r(s)_ <b>9/10</b>					Clear loca	ally. Sca
Showers.	AIRCRA		n or Moon OYED OR DAM					_ (k) Visibi		ries.
THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA		YED OR DAMAGI		WAGED IN	MIK (Dy	OWII AII	Clair Listed	(	(c)	(d) DAMAGE
NEMY A/C TY	YPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT	OR GUNNER	1	GUNS L	JSED	WHERE H	HIT, ANGLE	CLAIMED
									_	
120						4				0.000
		1								

VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

TY	(a) PE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1	VTB	VT-60	Own Bomb Bursts	Engine Wings Fuselage	Engine Change. Other holes
2					small and easily repaired.
3					
4	VTB	VI-60	Own Bomb Bursts	One small hole each in	All holes easily repaired.
5				both wings, fuselage and	
6				horizontal stabilizer.	
7				One tire holed.	
8			and the second s		
9					
10		-			
11					
12		<b>1</b> (1)			
13					
14					

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

a) 10.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
	N			
	0			
	N			
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	100			

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(a) TYPE	(b) MILES	(c) MILES	AV. HOURS	AV. FUEL	AV. FUEL	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED, PLANES RETURNING						
A/C	OUT	RETURN	IN AIR	LOADED	CONSUMED	NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM	MM.		
VTB	XXX	XXX	2:30	300 gls.	av.100gl	. 4	950	1350				
-2,34												

IX. 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.

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X.	AT	TACK	ON	ENEMY	SHIPS	OR	GROUND	<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	(By	Own	Aircraft	Listed	in I	10	nly)

Houses and Buildings in Target Area 335.

Sun or Moon Sun behind clouds.  XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.		(e) VISIDII	ity 25 M11	OS.
DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
Houses, buildings and military installations.	VTB VT-60	48×100// G.P.	av. 8251	48
		-42-7		
				20
		(Fig. )		

Due to the fact that the cloud base at the time of this attack was 3000 ft.

the pilots had to push over at that altitude and by the time bombs were released

all planes were very low accounting for the damage to the planes. Many buildings

were hit, one being completely demolished and the rest of the area very well

covered. This particular hop was given a Very Well Done by the Air Co-ordinator.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

<sup>(</sup>g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).