

CONFIDENTIAL
ACTION REPORT

ORIGINAL

USS SUWANNEE

CVE 27

SERIAL 044

8 JULY 1944

FORWARDING OF AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORTS.

FORWARDS AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORTS OF CARRIER
AIR GROUP 60 (NOS. 3-44 THRU 5-44) VT-60 (NOS.
4-44 AND 5-44) VF-60 (NOS. 5-44 THRU 16-44)
COVERING AIR SUPPORT FOR SAIPAN CAMPAIGN.
BASED ON SUWANNEE IN TASK UNIT 52.14.3.

Original
Reg

IN REPLY REFER
TO No.

CVE27/A16-3(1)
(10-grs)
Serial: 044

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

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

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

8 JUL 1944

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Via: (1) Commander Task Unit 52.14.3 (Commander
Carrier Division Twenty-Two).
(2) Commander Task Group 52.14 (Commander
Carrier Division Twenty-Five).
(3) Commander Task Force 52.
(4) Commander 5th Fleet.
(5) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Reports.

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

Enclosure:	(A) Commander Air Group 60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	3-44.
	(B) Commander Air Group 60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	4-44.
	(C) Commander Air Group 60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	5-44.
	(D) Commanding Officer VT-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	4-44.
	(E) Commanding Officer VT-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	5-44.
	(F) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	5-44.
	(G) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	6-44.
	(H) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	7-44.
	(I) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	8-44.
	(J) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	9-44.
	(K) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	10-44.
	(L) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	11-44.
	(M) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	12-44.
	(N) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	13-44.
	(O) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	14-44.
	(P) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	15-44.
	(Q) Commanding Officer VF-60 Aircraft Action Report - - - - -	16-44.

IN REPLY REFER
TO No.

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Serial: 044

U. S. S. SUWANNEE

1044
R/S 011686

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

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



8 JUL 1944

Subject: Action Reports.

1. This vessel took part in the Saipan, Marianas Island, occupation operation as a unit of Task Unit 52.14.3. Operations in support of the attack forces and routine combat air patrols and anti-submarine patrols were conducted.

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

W. D. JOHNSON.

Copy to:

- Cominch (Advance Copy)
- CincPac (Advance Copy)
- ComAirPac

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)
 CONFIDENTIAL

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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1				
2				
3				
4				
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

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM	MM.
FGP-3	XXX	XXX	2:15	250 Gls.	160 Gls.	3		4430		
TN-1c	XXX	XXX	2:15	300 Gls.	150 Gls.	1	130	120		

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.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

*Gun emplacements in area 227, I-I-P-Q,
 Saipan I., Marianas Islands.*

(a) Location of Target(s) _____ (b) Time Over Target(s) 0300-0320 GCT
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target 2/10 Covered, Cumulus at 3000'
 (d) Sun or Moon Sun 90 Degrees, Bright. (e) Visibility 20 miles.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
		(c) SQUADRON			
1	<i>Target area 227.</i>	<i>F6F-3's</i>	<i>3x500/ G.P.</i>	<i>av. 2300'</i>	<i>3 hits in area</i>
2	<i>" " "</i>	<i>VF-60</i>			
3		<i>TBM-1c</i>	<i>12x100/ G.P.</i>	<i>1500'</i>	<i>5 " " "</i>
4		<i>VF-60</i>			
5					
6					
7					
8					

(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).

1. The bombs dropped from the fighters all hit within assigned areas although none were directly on the gun emplacements. One of the bombs started a fire in the NE corner of L. number of buildings were strafed in areas Q-R-L-M and a gun position was strafed in between I & L. Accurate results were handicapped by poor visibility due to smoke and debris.

2. The TBM was told to drop his bombs two at a time, but after the second run, the pilot was told to secure. All of these bombs dropped in NE corner of L. Results unobserved.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? NO Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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 were observed.

Light, inaccurate, noisier anti aircraft fire was encountered, but none of the planes suffered any damage.

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

All aircraft on this mission operated in a normal

ALLSET

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.E. Richmond, Lieut. USNR, ACT. OFF., VF-60 H.O. Fellbach, LT. Cdr. USNR, C.O. VF-60 21, June '44

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Ananimo, at sea. (c) Report No. 4-44
 (d) Date of Action 22 June, 1944 (e) Take-off Time 2044-2055 (GCT); Lat. 22N Long. 128E
 (f) Mission Bomb and strafe AA positions in target area 203, sections U & V, Saipan Island, Marianas Islands. (g) Time of Return 2300-2315 (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>1x1000' S.A.P.</u>	<u>.01 Sec. delay Ball</u>
<u>YB-1s</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>12x100' G.P.</u>	<u>Inst. Rose.</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission (s) None

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter (s) Cumulus Clouds, 3/10 Covered at 3000'.

(j) Sun or Moon Sun 50 deg. Bright. (k) Visibility 20 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	GUNS USED		

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(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
P-51D-3	VP-60	.30 Cal. AA 12.7 mm. AA Probable shrapnel.	Right side and wing.	Flam burst top, patched Flam burst day. Replaced, flam next day.
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"

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
		NONE		

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING			
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM MM.
P-51D-3	1000	1000	2:16	250 GL.	190 GL.	16		9100	
P-51D-18	1000	1000	2:16	300 GL.	125 GL.				

IX. 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.