

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION REPORT

ORIGINAL

USS SUWANNEE

CVE 27

SERIAL 04

6 FEBRUARY 1944

ACTION REPORTS.

[COVERS ASSAULT ON ROI & NAMUR ISLANDS,
KWAJALEIN ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS ON
31 JANUARY - 1 FEBRUARY 1944.]

65626

OFFICE OF NAVAL RECORDS AND LIBRARY

In Reply refer to
File No.

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U. S. S. SUWANNEE

OVER7/A16-3(1)(10-hr)
Serial 04

Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif
6 February 1944

file with
RS#

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

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
Via: (1) Commander Task Group 53.6.
(2) Commander Task Force 53.
Subject: Action Reports.

Reference: (a) Pacific Fleet Confidential Letter 2CL-44.

Enclosure: (A) Compron 60 Aircraft Action Report 1-44. -p.2
(B) Compron 60 Aircraft Action Report 2-44. -p.7
(C) Compron 60 Aircraft Action Report 3-44. -p.13
(D) Compron 60 Aircraft Action Report 4-44. -p.18

ACA-1's
detached
by Op-16YA

MISSING
UPON RECEIPT
NR-4

1. This vessel took part in the [redacted] operation as a unit of Task Group 53.6. Operations in connection with air support of the Northern Attack Force and routine Combat Air Patrols and Anti-Submarine Patrols were conducted.

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

W. D. JOHNSON

Copy to:
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A16-3(16)(6)

184 FEB 52 TO 42

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COMMANDER IN CHIEF

65626

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5/25

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
 RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filed out)
 # 905

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-60 (b) Based on or at USS SUWANNEE, At Sea (c) Report No. 1-44
 (d) Date of Action 31 January, 1944 (e) Take off: Time 1900 (GCT); Lat. XX Long. XX
 (f) Mission Attack, Targets of Opportunity in Target Area 858, Camouflage (Namar) Is. Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Is. (g) Time of Return 2110 (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
TB-1c	VC-60	1	0	1	1 x 2000 # G.P.	.01 sec. delay nose and tail.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TB-1c	VC-35	8	USS CHENANGO				

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)	NONE		
			(GCT)	NONE		
			(GCT)	NONE		
			(GCT)	NONE		

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None
 (i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) Broken Cumulus, 6/10 Covered at 4800 Ft.
 (j) Sun or Moon Bright Sun. (k) Visibility 15 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		
			NONE		
			NONE		
			NONE		
			NONE		

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), Atoll.

(a) Location of Target(s) Target Area 858, Camouflage Is. Kwajalein (b) Time Over Target(s) 2022 GCT
(c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Cumulus Clouds, 6/10 Covered, 4800 Ft.
(d) Sun or Moon Bright Sun (e) Visibility 15 Miles

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	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	1	<u>Large Building, Target Area 858</u>	<u>1xTB-1c VC-60</u>	<u>1 x 2000# G.P.</u>	<u>2300 Ft</u>
2					
3					
4					
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).

**Bomb dropped in target Area 858 on large building. Target left
smoking and undoubtedly burning.**

(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 nor antiaircraft fire was observed which gave the pilot plenty of time to make a good run on the target.

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

Aircraft seemed to function perfectly in all respects.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. E. Richmond
H. E. RICHMOND, Lieut., USNR, ACT OFF.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. C. Vincent
W. C. VINCENT, Lieut., USNR,
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
C.O., VC-60

2 Feb. 1944
DATE

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE, PACIFIC FLEET

Serial

MEMORANDUM

SECRET

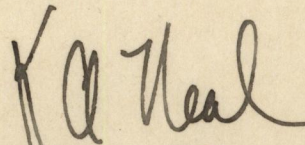
3 March 1944

SECRET

From: Officer-in-Charge, Operational Information Section.
To : Captain Waller. *noted*
Subject: Personnel and Plane Losses, VC-60 (FLINTLOCK Operations)
Reference: VC-60 ACA-1 Reports 1-4, 31 January to 1 February.
(Route Slip 905).

1. Operating off the U.S.S. SUWANNEE, in the two days of operations, VC-60 lost two SBD-5s as a result of mid-air collision.

2. Personnel missing in the above crash are Lt. Byron W. Strong, USN, Ens. William T. Sackrider, USNR, Phillip S. Barton, ARM 2c. One crewman was rescued by a destroyer.



KIRKE A. NEAL
Lieut., USNR

SM

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-60 (b) Based on or at USS SUWANNEE, At Sea (c) Report No. 2-44
 (d) Date of Action 31 January 1944 (e) Take off: Time 1800 (GCT); Lat. XX Long. XX
 (f) Mission Targets of opportunity in the Burlesque-Camouflage (Roi & Namur Is.) areas, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Is. (g) Time of Return 2225 (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
TBM-1c	VC-60	5	0	5	4x350# Torpex Loaded Depth Bombs.	Inst. Nose

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
NONE							

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
NONE						

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) NONE
 (i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) Cumulo Nimbus, 7/10 Covered, 4500 Ft.
 (j) Sun or Moon Average Sunlight (k) Visibility 10-15 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		
NONE						

