

CONFIDENTIAL

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
Office of the Intelligence Officer

A. 114
11 December 1944

REPORT OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ON THE 307-390A

- A. **MISSION** : 307-390A, 11 December 1944, 372nd Bombardment Squadron (H) AAF, five scheduled B-29s.
- B. **THEATRE** : Mandarries A/B, Shany Island, I. I.
- C. **TIME OF ATTACK** : 1155-1156 I
ALTITUDE : 10,000-11,100 feet F.
- D. **WEATHER** : Excellent. 80 per cent of our bombs landed on the runway and aprons with about 20 percent hit on the A/B. The strike trained almost directly down the A/B in the central and north central portion, and strike trained along the east apron in the south central portion, and one strike hit the A/B and east apron in the south portion.
visibility 100 miles Nil.
Shany Island 10 Nil.
- E. **DEFENSE** : Nil.
- F. **ENEMY AIRCRAFT** : Nil
- G. **ANTI-AIRCRAFT** : Nil.
- H. **REMARKS** : A/B 170 flying B-5 position, B-29 23 passes over the target from 9,800 feet F.
- I. **ROUTE AND SIGHTINGS** : Route: Base to Plocha Pt. to Salinaga Pt. to Sojatra Pt. to southern tip of Samar Island to 19 to target. Return reciprocal.
Sightings: 1. 20 A/B were visible on Mandarries A/B.
2. One large B2 was sighted anchored in north Ililo Strait, surrounded by a number of barges. Sighted at 1155 I from 10,500 feet F.
3. One medium B2 and 3 barges were sighted near the piers at Ililo Town at 1153 I from 11,000 feet
- J. **WEATHER** : Base to Mindanao: .3-.4 cumulus with tops around 2000 to 3000 feet F. .3-.6 cirro stratus around 25,000 feet F. Visibility 50 miles.
over Mindanao: .4 cumulus from 3,000 to 6,000 feet F. .6 altostratus at 20,000 feet F. Visibility 40 miles. Wind 30 at 5 knots with .5-.7 cumulus to 6,000 feet F. over S. Mindanao. Mindanao to targets: .6-.7 cumulus to 6,000 feet F. .4 altostratus at 20,000 feet F. Visibility 40 miles.

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

BASIC Narrative Bomb Report of Mission 337-392, 372nd Bomb Sq, 11 December 1944

- J. WITNESSES (A/C'S) : Over Target: .4 stratosphere at 20,000 feet. Visibility 40 miles. .7 circles at 8,000 feet. Target open.
Over Hindaseo: .7 towering cumulus to 9,000 feet over land.
.3 stratocumulus at 12,000 feet. Visibility 40 miles.
Over water: .2 cumulus at 12,000 feet. Rainstorm over southern Hindaseo up to 11,000 feet. .6-.7 stratus deck at 12,000 feet over the southern tip of Hindaseo.
Hindaseo to base: .3-.5 cumulus to 8,000 feet. .3 stratus at 12,000 feet. Visibility 50 miles.
- K. WITNESS : A/C 175, flying A-3, did not drop bombs on the target, believing that the bomb run was going to be a "dry run", because the approach was on other than the briefed heading.
- L. TYPE AND NUMBER OF BOMBS DROPPED : Four A/B each dropped 12 500g hp bombs, fuzed .1 delay nose and .01 delay tail. One A/C jettisoned 12 500g hp bombs safe in the water at $08^{\circ}57'N-122^{\circ}12'W$, at 1200 L from 8,000 feet.
- M. WITNESS DATA : Formation : Sq across in trail.
Bomb run : 35°
Bomb trains : 500 feet.
Sighting : Lead bombardier sighted for range and reflections; all others for range only.
A/B : Used by lead bombardier only.
Sighting Point : Reflections; longitudinal axis of A/B
Date : ; Center of A/B.
Target Area : Wadarrisco A/B, Panny Island, P.I.

WILFRED V. GIL,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
ass't intell. officer.

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

372ND BOMBARDMENT Sq. A B N (H) AAF
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A.F.S. 719
11 December 1944

NARRATIVE DOWBAT REPORT Serials 1507-300A

LOADING LIST

AP 354 A-1

Lt. Harris
Lt. French
Lt. Qualls
Lt. Rodabaugh
T/Sgt. McFally
S/Sgt. Caputo
T/Sgt. Kendall
S/Sgt. Gillis
S/Sgt. Geris
S/Sgt. Eisell

AP 370 A-2

Lt. Ray
Lt. Icon
Lt. Melnick
Lt. Sachma
T/Sgt. Houchin
S/Sgt. Foley
T/Sgt. Ottinger
T/Sgt. Mims
S/Sgt. Collins
S/Sgt. Day

AP 176 A-3

Lt. Muller
Lt. Kenyon
F/O Icen
Lt. Klein
S/Sgt. De Busman
T/Sgt. Connelly, P.
S/Sgt. Connelly, J.
S/Sgt. McClintic
S/Sgt. Hicks
Cpl. Young

AP 862 B-1

Lt. Bloomer
Lt. Carnon
Lt. Cohen
Lt. Dickinson
T/Sgt. Tinney
S/Sgt. Smelcer
T/Sgt. Sachman
S/Sgt. Crowe
S/Sgt. Wilson
S/Sgt. Soddicher

AP 354 B-2

Capt. Lawson
Lt. Freedman
Lt. Frost
Lt. Reasman
T/Sgt. Wilbur
Cpl. Van Anda
T/Sgt. Buckman
S/Sgt. Costas
S/Sgt. Magendorff
S/Sgt. Ghering