

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

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

RVC/arp

A.P.O. # 719,
14 December 1944.

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-393A

- A. MISSION NO. : 307-393A, 14 December 1944, 372nd Bombardment Squadron (H) AAF, 6 scheduled B-24's.
- B. TARGET : Balogo Runway, Negros, Philippine Islands.
- C. TIME OF ATTACK AND ALTITUDE : 1143 I to 1152 I.
: 10,700 to 10,850 feet true.
- D. RESULTS OF BOMBING : EXCELLENT. 80% of our bombs fell within 1,000 feet of the runway, with approximately 20 direct hits on the surfaced strip. Three strings hit near the center of the runway, another one in the northern one-third, and a salvo hit the east edge of the runway in the southern one-third. On a second run, one A/C dropped its bombs 600 feet off the north end of the runway. Enemy losses: Nil.
Friendly losses: Nil.
- INTERCEPTION : Nil.
- F. BRIEF DETAILS OF COMBAT : Nil.
- G. ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED : Nil.
- H. PHOTOS : A/C No. 354, 352 and 367 took photos of the target at 1150 I.
- I. ROUTE AND SIGHTINGS : Route: Base to Flecha Point to Tagala Point to Sojoton Point to IP to target.
Sightings:
1. 3 T/E A/C and 3 U/I 367 A/C were sighted on Balogo Airbase. Serviceability undetermined.
2. 4 barges were sighted at 1150 I from 10,000 feet off the west shore of Negros Island in the vicinity of Balaring Town.
3. At 1000 I from 9,500 feet a sod and dirt runway was sighted at 08°12'E-123°20'E. The strip was in a cleared area but there were no A/C and no installations in the vicinity.
4. At 0750 I A/C #367 noticed that its radio compass, which was tuned to 518 KC, swung steadily as if fixed on a heading beacon for 20 minutes. The navigator plotted the beam and found it ran direct through Palmas Island, south of Mindanao. Beam cut off when A/C passed the Talaud Islands.
5. At 1415 I from 9,000 feet, a single column of white smoke rising to 1,000 feet was seen coming from a wooded, hilly area at 08°35'N-124°56'E. No activity was seen in the area.

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- J. WEATHER : Base to Target-- Light frontal activity with .3 cumulus at 4,000 feet, 10/10 stratus at 12,000 feet to 05°N. From 05° to target--.3 altostratus at 12,000 to 15,000 feet and .5 low cumulus over land areas up to 5,000 feet. Heaviest cloud cover on East side of Negros. Wind 320° at 10 knots. Target-- .4 to .5 cumulus at 5,000 feet but target open. Return-- same as route out.
- K. GENERAL REMARKS : The group leader called for a second run as our planes came over the target so our lead bombardier shut his doors and made a second run. However, the other 5 planes of our squadron could not catch the signal before their bombs were away and dropped on the first run.
- L. TYPE & NUMBER OF BOMBS DROPPED ON TARGET : 6 A/C each dropped 12x500 GP bombs. All except 3 bombs were fused .1 sec delay nose and .01 sec delay tail. The other 3 were fused 24 hour delay. Ammunition was expended for test firing only.
- M. BOMBING DATA : Formation : Squadron in trail, javelin down within the squadron.
Bomb Run : 90° and 295° mag headings.
Bomb Trains : 200 feet.
Sighting : Lead bombardier sighted for range and deflection; all others for range only.
AFCE : Used by lead bombardier only.
Aiming Point: Lead bombardier dropped on second run, and sighted 100 feet East of NE corner of E/W.
Target : Wansay, Malaga A/D, Negros, P.I.

MILFORD V. GILL,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

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AP. 862 A-1

Lt. Blauvelt
Lt. Scott, D.J.
Lt. Kristie
Lt. Smitherman
Y/Sgt. Smith, W.B.
S/Sgt. Brown, W.
Y/Sgt. Reisch
Sgt. Yano
S/Sgt. Hanson
S/Sgt. Buchholz
Sgt. Stabile, G.H.

AP. 854 A-2

Capt. Kimmerly
Lt. Schuster
Elt. Newby
Lt. St. John
Y/Sgt. Yates
S/Sgt. Taylor
Y/Sgt. McCue
S/Sgt. McClellan
S/Sgt. Oakley
S/Sgt. Schrebeck
Sgt. Bittner

AP. 848 A-3

Lt. Harris
Po. Nichols
Capt. Terry
Lt. Rodabaugh
Y/Sgt. McHally
S/Sgt. Van Gardner
Y/Sgt. Kendall
S/Sgt. Gillum
S/Sgt. Geris
S/Sgt. Bissell
Y/Sgt. Councilly

AP. 858 B-1

Lt. Franklin
Lt. Durrin
Lt. Gray
Lt. Durst
Sgt. Hostetler
Sgt. Haug
Sgt. Skidas
Sgt. Mc Curry
Sgt. Brenn
Sgt. Kehayias

AP. 867 B-2

Lt. Bloomer
Lt. Harnon
Lt. Cohen
Lt. Dickinson
Y/Sgt. Tinney
S/Sgt. Smelcer
Y/Sgt. Machman
S/Sgt. Crowe
S/Sgt. Wilson
S/Sgt. Boddicker
S/Sgt. Avenius

AP. 862 B-3

Capt. Lawson
Lt. Freedman
Lt. Frost
Lt. Heschman
Y/Sgt. Wilbur
Cpl. Van Anda
Y/Sgt. Rackman
S/Sgt. Costas
S/Sgt. Hagenderff
S/Sgt. Gehring
S/Sgt. Rehnert

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