

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

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

LES/j

APO # 719

8 December 1944

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-304D

- A. MISSION NO. : 307-304D, 8 December 1944, 372nd Bombardment Squadron (H) AAF, 12 of 12 scheduled B-24's bombed individually.
- B. TARGET : 9 A/C bombed Hatetabako Runway, Halmaheras.
3 A/C bombed Miti Airdrome, Halmaheras.
- C. TIME OF ATTACK AND ALTITUDE : Hatetabako - 1059 to 1206/I from 13,000' to 16,900' True.
Miti - 1109 to 1321/I from 8,000' to 10,500' True.
- D. RESULTS OF BOMBING : Hatetabako Runway: Excellent. 39 bombs hit the runway, 15 bombs walked NNE up the third taxiway from the East. 15 fell in the water, the balance on aprons and nearby dispersal areas.
Miti Airdrome: Excellent. 12 bombs landed on the middle of runway. 15 bombs dropped on two runs over East-Central dispersal area destroyed one Twin-Engine bomber that appeared serviceable from 8,000' through the telescope. The balance of bombs fell in the water and wooded area close to the Northeast shore of Miti Island.
Friendly losses: A/C 567 was holed just above and forward of right waist window.
Enemy losses: One Twin-Engine aircraft destroyed on ground at Miti.
- E. INTERCEPTION : Nil.
- F. BRIEF DETAILS OF COMBAT : Nil.
- G. ANTI-AIRCRAFT : Heavy, moderate to intense AA reported as accurate by five aircraft. Four aircraft reported it accurate as to altitude but off course.
- H. PHOTOS : A/C 554 took 15 photos over Hatetabako A/D at 1059/I from 16,900' True.
A/C 544 took 12 photos over Hatetabako A/D at 1206/I from 15,000' True, 4 photos of Lolobata A/D at 1206/I from 15,000' True and 2 photos of two hulks near Heles Point in Kace Bay.
- I. ROUTE AND SIGHTINGS : Route: Noonfoor to Northern Halmaheras, Northern Halmaheras to Kace Bay, Kace Bay to Hatetabako with a right break away, Kace Bay up to Miti to Morotai.
Sightings: 1. Two possible barges sighted in mouth of Lolobata River from 15,000'.

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BASIC: Narrative Combat Report of Mission # 307-384D, 372nd Bomb Sq, 5 December 1944

- I. SIGHTINGS (CONT'D)
2. Eight barges seen off the middle of South coast of Basile Bay.
 3. At 1145/1 from 10,000', a possible camouflaged strip was sighted 8 miles Northwest of Kase Town on the East bank of the Kase River. The clearing appeared to be about 2,600' to 3,000' in length and approximately 150' in width. It lay on a bearing of 130° - 310°. Grass shocks were built on either side. One unidentified bright object was seen in trees near the clearing.
- J. WEATHER : Stratus and alto stratus over entire route, base 1,000', top up to 22,000' and .6 to .10 cover.
- K. GENERAL REMARKS : VHF on A/C 175 was inoperative and could not raise the tower on assigned frequency of 6495 KCs.
- L. TYPE AND NUMBER OF BOMBS DROPPED OVER TARGET : 12 aircraft each carried 16 X 250# GP bombs with .1 nose and .01 tail fuzings.
.50 cal. ammo expended for test firing only.
- M. BOMBING DATA :
- Formation : All aircraft bombed individually.
 - Bomb Run : At Hatetabako R/W mag. headings varied from 12° to 360°.
At Miti from 180° to 330°.
 - Bomb Train : Bomb trains of six aircraft were 640', two aircraft 580' and four aircraft 800'.
 - AFCE : Ten aircraft used AFCE on bomb runs. Two aircraft could not as AFCE was erratic.
 - Aiming Point : All bombardiers sighted for both range and deflection.
 - Target : 1. Hatetabako Runway.
2. Miti Runway and dispersal area.

LEX K. SCUTER,
Capt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

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372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
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AFG # 719
5 December 1944

NARRATIVE COMBAT REPORT OF MISSION # 307-364D

LOADING LIST

AP. 929

Maj. Casper
Lt. Dryer
Lt. Reed
T/Sgt. Davies
T/Sgt. Frazier
Maj. Standart
Lt. Gill
Lt. Wilson
T/Sgt. Grove
T/Sgt. Wanner

AP. 1153

Lt. Steffy
Lt. Morgan
Lt. Wagner
Lt. Antower
T/Sgt. Harris
S/Sgt. Babim
T/Sgt. Wintringham
S/Sgt. Brodenstiner
S/Sgt. Murphy
S/Sgt. Nikel

AP. 0962

Lt. Dodi
Lt. Faist
Lt. Hale
Lt. Eggers
Sgt. Correll
Sgt. Browner
Sgt. Kromer
S/Sgt. Bura
Sgt. Sheldon
Sgt. Fink

AP. 1417

Lt. Grizzle
Lt. Schuster
Lt. Newby
Lt. St. John
T/Sgt. Yates
S/Sgt. Taylor
T/Sgt. McCus
S/Sgt. Fallon
S/Sgt. Oakley
S/Sgt. Rohrbouck

AP. 0964

Lt. Bowles
Lt. French
Lt. Qualls
Lt. Scott
T/Sgt. Minns
S/Sgt. Caputo
T/Sgt. Connolly
S/Sgt. Tabor
S/Sgt. Rehmer
S/Sgt. Geris

AP. 1370

Lt. Kimble
Capt. Kimmery
Lt. Gray, R.W.
Lt. Pfirman
S/Sgt. DeBussan
S/Sgt. McClintic
T/Sgt. Walters
S/Sgt. Vogel
S/Sgt. Rennaker
Cpl. Yance