MR 300 — WARFARE — PACIFIC (Sec. 10)

October 16, 1944

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11683, Sec. 3(D) and 8(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

MR
Box 95

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea
To: War Department
Nr: C 51320 31 October 1944

From G6G SWPA sgd MacArthur to Chief of Staff War Department, Cite C 51320: Operations report SOWESPAC area period 1500Z/29 to 1500Z/30 signed MacArthur.

Philippines: Luzon:
Minimum 45 fighters 65 bombers photographed by 3rd Fleet aircraft on Clark Field, 30 in Nichols Field revetments.

Mindoro: 9 seatrucks 12 seaplanes reported camouflaged in Paluan Bay.

Palawan: Convoy reported moving up west coast October 30 including large transport 3 small freighters 2 destroyer escort, off east coast another convoy of 2 destroyers 1 destroyer escort 4 other vessels.

Celebes: Photographs Macassar October 29 show 2 bombers 1 fighter on 2 airstroes, in harbour 1 freighter transport (3000 tons) 11 small vessels totalling 2500 tons.

Borneo: Photographs October 29 show 3500 foot strip considerable dispersal area other runways.

Portion missing being serviced*. Celebes.

CM-IN-29398 (31 Oct 44)

*DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11852, Sec. 2(B) and 5(D) or (E)
OSS letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS

COPY No. 73
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Operations October 28:

(2) 7 Beauforts attacked coastal targets west Wewak.

(3) P-38's damaged 2 of 17 enemy fighters over Masbate Island.

(4) Single B-24 scored direct hit on troop train southeastern Luzon.

Operations October 30:

(5) 6 B-25's fired fuel dump and cratered runways Wewak; 5 B-25's bombed Boram airbase 5 A-20's attacked village and guns Kairuru and Muschau Islands.

(6) Main strikes prevented by weather; Leyte reported heavy wind and rain.

(7) 6 Dutch B-25's started fires Matsawai, southeastern Soemba Island; signle RAAF B-25 damaged small seatruck Lombok Island.

(8) 1 Darwin B-24 bombed runways and gun positions Cape Chater; another bombed Lahane Barracks near Dili.

(9) 8 Dutch B-25's bombed and strafed Seba village on Sawoe Island, southwest Timor.

(10) Single B-24 bombed small freighter south
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: C 51320

31 October 1944

Boeroe Island and damaged seaplane base and Archipelago

Solomons' Forces. Air.

Operations October 29:

(11) 1 Avenger, 15 Dauntless, 16 Marine and 10 New Zealand Corsairs hit buildings and motor park, destroyed bridge and exploded fuel dumps Bougainville.

(12) 12 Corsairs, 2 New Zealand Venturas harassed Kavieng; 11 Dauntless, 16 Corsaires bombed plantations New Ireland.

(13) 42 Corsairs bombed Rabaul and targets Gazelle Peninsula; 8 B-25's, 20 Dauntless and 12 Corsaires bombed radio station and buildings Pond Point.

Land. Leyte:

October 29 ° by approximately 450 heavily armed enemy forced 7th Cavalry elements to withdraw Carigara to Barugo.

24th Division: 34th Infantry attacking south from Maint River bridgehead at Cavite (3759) captured Jaro; 1st Battalion 19th Infantry reached Bonga Bonga (4546).

XXIV Corps: 96th Division: 381st Infantry captured upper slopes Catmon Hill, enemy still hold eastern slopes.

CM-IN-29398 (31 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Date: 31 October 1944

7th Division: 17th Infantry took southern half of Dagami, encountered stiff resistance in north part of town. Two battalions 184th Infantry now south and southeast of Santa Ana (5022); one battalion 184th Infantry now south of La Paz (5319). All Samo except some sections central part and west coast in hands of our troops or guerrillas.

October 30: Preliminary report:

XXIV Corps: 96th and 7th Division elements repulsed minor night counter attacks Dagami area; reduction of Catmon Hill pocket continued.

Our casualties to October 30:

Killed 706
Wounded 2245
Missing 270

Locations of front lines: Mouth of Sapanitan River (3478) east to San Juanico Strait below Udan (5577); mouth of Cawayan River (5473), San Miguel (4068) inclusive, Calampanan (5458), hill 101 (5755), north of Palo/Cavite road to Cavite inclusive, Jaro inclusive, Tingib, Manaybanay (4847) south to Binahan River, Dagami, east of Dagami/Bureauan Road to Marebog River, Santa Ana inclusive, northwest to Marebog River, east along river to Cogon (6026), La Paz inclusive, then east and south to Abuyog inclusive.

Enemy pockets at Catmon Hill (6035) and along

CM-IN-29398 (31 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: C 51320 31 October 1944

Tanaua/Dagami road vicinity Kiling (5442).

Part 3.

(1) Dropped 10 100 lb bombs from 10,500 feet.

(2) Dropped 14 500 lb bombs, fired 200 rounds 50, 600 rounds 30 calibre.

(3) No details.

(4) Dropped 6 by 100 lb bombs.

(5) B-24's dropped 48 1000 lb bombs from 8000 feet; B-25's dropped 20 300 lb bombs from 9000 feet; A-20's dropped 20 300 lb bombs 8 to 15 seconds delay from minimum altitude, fired 7900 rounds 50 calibre.

(6) No details.

(7) Dutch B-25's dropped 36 120 lb frags, 21 500 lb incendiaries, met slight to moderate heavy inaccurate anti-aircraft fire; RAAF B-25 fired 2400 rounds 30 calibre.

(8) Dropped 8 250 lb bombs from 12000 feet Cape Chater; dropped 8 300 lb bombs 1/10 second delay, met slight heavy inaccurate anti-aircraft fire Dilli.

(9) Dropped 32 500 lb bombs 5 seconds delay from 1500 feet and under, fired 4000 rounds 50 calibre, met slight
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: 0 51320 31 October 1944

light some medium inaccurate anti-aircraft fire.

(10) Dropped 8 250 lb general purpose bombs, fired 1000 rounds 50, 400 rounds 30 calibre.

End

** Being serviced.

ACTION: OPD

INFO: CC/S
CG AAF
ASF
G-2
Statistics

Adm King
Col Park
Field Marshal Dill
Log

CM-IN-29398 (31 Oct 44) 1814Z pa
IN 3 DAY PERIOD 44 ENEMY PLANES SHOT DOWN OVER LEYTE GULF BY OUR PLANES AND SHIP GUN FIRE. PART OF COVERING FORCE RETURNING TO REPLENISH. 3 OBB 1CA 3CL 12 DD REMAIN WITH OTHER SHIPS IN LEYTE GULF. ON 28TH NAVY SEARCH PLANE GOT TWO HITS 1 TANKER IN MAKASSAR STRAIT. ANOTHER SEARCH PLANE BOMBED AND STRAFED JENJLAD NEW RAILROAD TRAIN IN SOUTHEASTERN LUZON. MACARTHUR.
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM: CTG 38.4
RELEASED BY: [Signature]
DATE: 31 OCTOBER 1944
TOR CODE ROOM: 1125/34
DECODED BY: STRONG
PARAPHRASED BY: THOMSON

TO: 24-G

ORG ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME:
DATE: [Insert Date]
TIME: [Insert Time]
ACTION: [Insert Action]

RADIO HONO INTERCEPT

CTG 78.2 RELAYS.
CTG 38.4 REPORTS HE IS UNDER AIR ATTACK NOW.
TIME 1505.

PASS TO 24-G

SECRET

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

E.O. 11665, Sec. 5(D) and 8(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS Date: MAY 21, 1973

DECLASSIFIED
COM 3RD FLEET SENDS ACTION CTG 38.4 INFO ALL TASKFORCECOMS AND ALL TASKGROUP CONS 3RD FLEET SARGENT BAY.

(PASS TO COMINCH FOR INFO BY RDO HONOLULU AS 300526)

PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO CLOSE AND RENDER ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE SARGENT BAY AND OILER GROUPS UNDER AIR ATTACK LAT 13-20N LONG 129-40W.

DELIVERED TO 20-0.  

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11592, Sec. (B), (C) or (M)
ODS letter, May 5, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1972

300345

UTC 2100 12th April 1944

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12256, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 11-2-44
**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

**CINCPAC**

**TO:** COM 3RD FLEET

**TO:** COM 7TH FLEET

**RELEASED BY:** 31 OCTOBER 1944

**TOR CODEO: 0255**

**DECODED BY:** MCDougall

**PARAPHRASED BY:** Diebel

**ROUTED BY:** Diebel

**FOR ACTION:**

**ADDRESS: COM 3RD FLEET**

**ADDRESS: COM 7TH FLEET**

**PRECEDENCE:**

- URGENT
- PRIORITY
- ROUTINE
- DEFERRED
- BASEGRAN

**IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW:**

**300135**

**NCR 6569**

**Originator will in DATE AND TIME GROUP**

**Use S. C. T.**

**HONOLULU INTERCEPT**

CINCPAC SENDS A LINDSYE* FOR 3 CGHS* COM 3RD FLEET. INFO COM 7TH FLEET.

ULTRA.

JAP AGHIS* REPORTED SOMETHING NEAR 15-57N 125-23E AT 300320/1.

6 COPIES TO F-341

1 COPY TO 28-G.

*AS RECEIVED

**ACTION:** F-20

**DECLASSIFIED**

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 4, 1972

By DBS

Date MAY 21, 1973

**TOP SECRET**

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 76, Navy Regulations.

**320135**

OPNAV 19-78

DECCLASSIFIED

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/94
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea
To: War Department
No. 0 51280 30 October 1944

Chief of Staff War Department 051280, signed MacArthur.

Operations report SOWEPAC Area period 1500Z/28 to 1500Z/29.

Philippines:
4 medium merchant vessels with 3 destroyer escorts sighted heading up west coast Palawan morning October 29.
1 heavy cruiser course 290 degrees sighted 80 miles west by south Manila October 29.

Photographs of convoy southbound from Lingayen Gulf October 26 show 4 heavy laden merchantmen totaling 39,400 tons probable aircraft tender (400 feet) 4 escorts.

Leyte Gulf:
16 raids by groups of up to 8 planes reported October 26, lessening next day, 50 enemy aircraft over area during October 29.
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51280 30 October 1944

Borneo:

1 large, 1 medium tanker, 2 escorts, 1 floatplane
reported by reconnaissance aircraft 75 miles south
Balikpapan course 210 degrees October 29.

Part 2. Air.

Enemy action:

13 more planes shot down during harassing raids
against shipping and shore installations Leyte Gulf
through October 29.

2 planes attacked PT boats south Surigao Strait
at night.

Operations October 28:

1. RAF operations from Noemfoor Island cancelled
due weather.

2. 3 B25's attacked 4 barges around Ambon;
11 P38's and 23 B25's bombed Ambon Town; 17 other bombers
caused many fires and destroyed power plant same target;
11 P38's caused large fires Saparoea Town, East Ambon.

3. 2 pre-dawn B24's caused explosion and fires
Puerto Princesa airdrome Palawan Island; reconnaissance
P38 shot down 2 intercepting planes central Philippines;

CM-IN-28581 (30 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

7th Fleet planes strafed 20 barges, setting many a fire Ormoc
Bay, Leyte Island.

Operations October 29:

(4) 5 B25's attacked Brandi Plantation; 6 B24's
hit Wewak Point; 5 A20's struck village and gun positions
Kairiru Island; 4 Beauforts bombed targets further west.

(5) 2 B25's and 20 A20's cratered runways and fired
revetments Utaron.

(6) Single B24 destroyed coastal vessel and dam-
gaged seaplane Sandakan, northern Borneo; another patrol
plane scored 2 direct hits on large tanker in convoy south
Balikpapan.

(7) 10 pre-dawn Darwin B24's started large fires
along waterfront and through town area Macassar, 1 B24
missing.

(8) 1 B24 attacked Lahane barracks near Dili;
2 others bombed Leutem, another hit Cape Chater, Timor.

(9) 1 RAAF B25 silenced gun position Kai Islands.

Solomons Forces.

Naval:

PT boats strafed and mortared shore targets Northern

CM-IN-28651 (30 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51280 30 October 1944

Choiseul, Northeastern New Ireland and Gazelle Peninsula night October 28.

Air:
Operations October 28:
(10) 69 Marine and New Zealand Corsairs, 9 Dauntless and 2 Avengers attacked Bougainville supplies and trails; 17 Dauntless, 14 Corsairs, 4 B25's and 2 New Zealand Venturas destroyed 1 bridge and many buildings New Ireland; other strikes weathered out.

Land:
Leyte:
October 28:
X Corps:
1st Cavalry Division: Units of 12th Cavalry patrolling toward Sant Elena (5544) and Santa Feidro (5343) contacted elements 96th Division along Binhane River; 8th Cavalry patrols pushed south from San Miguel toward Cavite (3759).

24th Division: 34th Infantry attacking north-west along highway number 2 encountered heavy machine gun and mortar fire Mainitt River bridge (3758); 19th Infantry

CM-IN-86581 (30 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51280  30 October 1944
at Pauana attacked west toward Jaro (3255).

XXIV Corps:
96th Division: 376th Infantry pushing north
from Tabontoben reached Tanuan/Dagami road, and 1 Battalion
turned east to contact force moving west from Tanuan;
381st Infantry captured hill 1000 yards southeast of Catmon
Hill against strong pillbox positions.

7th Division: 17th Infantry destroyed 22 pillboxes of extensive system 600 yards south of Dagami.

October 29th:
X Corps:
24th Division captured Cavite, Santa Cruz (3850)
Tingib (3846).

XXIV Corps:
Forward elements of 7th Division entered Dagami
and advanced rapidly north toward Pauana with 96th Divi-
sion to effect junction with X Corps. Patrols moved
west along Abuyog/Bay Bay road (3593). 21st Infantry at
Panaon Strait with guerrilla assistance extended operations
in southern Leyte. Allied casualties to October 28:

X Corps  Killed 360, wounded 887, missing 110
XXIV Corps  Killed 485, wounded 1405, missing 238.

CM-IN-28581 (30 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/21/97

COPY NO.
THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
       Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 051280  30 October 1944

Part 3.

(1) No details.

(2) 170 500 lb bombs dropped from 11,000 to 7000
    feet Ambon Town, 11 500 lb bombs dropped Saporoea.

(3) B24's dropped 40 100 lb bombs from 8000 to 3000
    feet, fired unstated number rounds, met slight to intense
    inaccurate anti-aircraft fire of all calibres.

(4) B25's dropped 20 300 lb bombs 8 to 15 seconds
    delay from minimum altitude, fired 1300 rounds 50 calibre;
    B24's dropped 48 1000 lb bombs from 8000 feet, fired 9800
    rounds 50 calibre; A20's dropped 16 300 lb general purpose
    bombs from minimum altitude, fired 4200 rounds 50 calibre;
    Beauforts dropped 8 500 lb medium capacity, 4 250 lb general
    purpose bombs from 3000 feet, fired 200 rounds 30 calibre.

(5) Dropped 18 tons 500 lb bombs.

(6) No details.

(7) Dropped 30 500 lb, 180 100 lb bombs,
    36 500 lb incendiaries from 14,500 to 10,500 feet, met slight
    medium and heavy inaccurate anti-aircraft fire.

(8) Dropped 8 300 lb, 16 250 lb bombs, 9 500 lb
    incendiaries from 12,000 to 5,300 feet.

(9) Fired 3000 rounds 50 calibre.

End.

ACTION: OPD
INFORMATION: CC/8 ASP adm king Field Marshal Dill
               GG AAF G-2 col park log

CM-IN-28581 (30 Oct 44)  2048Z bjm

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11852, Sec. 3(3) and 3(1) or (2)
OSD Letter, May 1, 1973

By DBS  Copy No.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
SECRET

ACTION SUMMARY 24 - 26 OCTOBER.

ENEMY CARRIER FORCE SAN BERNARDINO FORCE AND SURIGAO FORCE
HEREAFTER CALLED NORTHERN CENTER AND SOUTHERN FORCES.

SOUTHERN AND CENTER FORCES SIGNITED BY CARRIER SEARCH TEAMS
WOMAN 24TH. MORNIN 24TH 38.4 ATTACKED 1 GROUP OF
SOUTHERN FORCE BELIEVED CONSISTING OF FUSO YAMASHIRO
CA ASHIGARA AND 4 DESTROYERS (PRISONER OF WAR STATES POSSIBLY
CARRYING TROOPS). 3 TO 4 BOMBE HITS PLUS ROCKETS BOTH BB.
1 CA BOMB HIT AND 4 DD DAMAGED BY ROCKETS AND STRAFING.
38.2 38.3 (AND IN AFTERNOON 38.4) ATTACKED CENTER FORCE
BELIEVED CONSISTING NAGATO YAMATOC HUSASHIK KORO HARA (5 BB)

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/94

By DBR
Date MAY 21 1973

23
CHOKAI HAGURO MYOKO TONE CHIKUMA KUMANO AND SUZUYA (7 CA) NOSHIRO
AND 13 DD. REPORTED DAMAGE: IN ADDITION TO BOMB HITS THERE WERE
AT LEAST 5 TORPEDO HITS DIVIDED BETWEEN THE 2 YAMATOS 1 STOPPED
BURNING DOWN BY HEAD. BOMB HITS IN 2 POSSIBLY 3 REMAINING BB AND
TORPEDO HITS IN 1 OR BOTH KONGO. 1 KONGO SLOWED AND APPEARED
BADLY DAMAGED. AT 1600 OBSERVER SAW 2 DAMAGED BB OF 4 IN FORCE
NORTHWEST OF MASBATE. MANY HITS ON CA'S INCLUDE DUPLICATION 2
KNOWN BADLY DAMAGED (1 OF THESE PROBABLY SUNK) AT LEAST 1 OTHER
DAMAGED. 1 AGANO TORPEDOED AND ROLLED OVER. 1 DD SUNK. MUSASHI
KUMANO HAGURO UNABLE SORTIE FROM SAN BERNARDINO DUE DAMAGE ACCORDING
PRISONER OF WAR AND APPARENTLY CORRECT. FORCE LAST SIGHTED AT
2145 NORTH OF MASBATE. ESTIMATE CONFIRMED BY PHOTO 4 BB (2 SERIOUSLY
2 SLIGHTLY DAMAGED) 5 CA (AT LEAST 1 DAMAGED) 1 CL AND 9 DD SORTIED
FROM SAN BERNARDINO MANY SHIPS TRAILING OIL.
AFTERNOON 24TH NORTHERN FORCE WAS SIGHTED LATITUDE 18-19 LONGITUDE
125-30. BASED ON ESTIMATE CENTER FORCE TOO HEAVILY DAMAGED TO BE
MAJOR THREAT 36.2, 36.3, 36.4 MADE FAST NIGHT RUN AND ON MORNING
25TH ATTACKED NORTHERN FORCE CONSISTING 4 CARRIERS, 2 BB/XCV, 1 CA,
4 CL AND 6 DD. DEFINITELY SANK ALL 4 CARRIERS 1 CL AND 1 DD.
POSSIBLY SANK 1 CL LAST SEEN SINKING CONDITION. DAMAGED ANOTHER
CL BY TORPEDO, 2 BB/XCV 1 OF WHICH HIT BY 2 TO 4 TORPEDOES AND MANY
BOMBS, 1 CA AND 1 CL EACH HIT BY SEVERAL BOMBS, 2 DD HEAVILY STRAFED.
SEE CTF 38 288537 FOR IDENTIFICATION.
ON URGENT REQUEST FROM CTF 77 FOR ASSISTANCE PUT STRIKE ON CENTER

Originator:COM 3RD FLEET D/T Group NCR 7136 Page 2 Of 4 Pages

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
FORCE FROM TG 38.1 WHICH WAS APPROACHING BATTLE AREA AND PROCEEDED SOUTH WITH TF 34 SENDING TO 34.5 IN ADVANCE AT HIGH SPEED. 38.1 STRIKE REPORTED BOMB AND ROCKET HITS ON NAGATO, 4 BOMB HITS ON YAMATO, 4 ON KONGO, AT LEAST 3 CA HIT WITH 1 OR MORE BOMBS, 3 ON THE CL AND 4 DD 1 HIT EACH. 7TH FLEET FORCES HAD GALLANTRY TURNED BACK ENEMY CENTER FORCE WHICH REENTERED SAN BERNARDINO STRAITS BEFORE TG 34.5 COULD INTERCEPT. TG 34.5 SWEPT FOR BB, CA AND DD REPORTED DEAD IN WATER EAST OF SAMAR INTERCEPTING AND SINKING 1 SHIP (ESTIMATED CA CRUISER OR DD) AND RECOVERING SURVIVORS FROM SUGUYA WHICH SANK WHEN HER OWN TORPEDOES DETONATED AS RESULT OF FIRES.

MORNING 26TH TG'S 38.3 AND 38.4 WERE FUELED TO'S 38.1 AND 39.2 RESUMED AIR STRIKES ON RETREATING ENEMY CENTER FORCE FURTHER DAMAGING SHIPS AS FOLLOWS: HEAVY SHIP REPORTED AS NAGATO BUT ESTIMATED PROBABLE KUMANO 2 TORPEDOES MANY BOMB HITS OBSERVED OUT OF CONTROL AND BELIEVE SUNK. 1 KONGO 2 TORPEDOES. SAME OR OTHER KONGO HIT WITH ROCKETS. NAGATO 1 TORPEDO YAMATO 1 BOMB HIT. CA ESTIMATE KONO 2 TORPEDOES ALSO BOMB HIT SUNK IN WATER WITH 2 SHIPS ALONGSIDE, NOT THERE LATER ALTHOUGH 2 DD'S SEEN SO CA PROBABLY SUNK. 1 CL TORPEDOED AND BOMBED POSSIBLY SUNK. 3 DD'S DAMAGED (1 BOM BLOWN OFF). 9,000 TON CVS SUNK.

MUSASHI NOT SEEN SINCE 24TH AND BELIEVED SUNK. ESTIMATE FOLLOWING SHIPS OF CENTER FORCE REACHED CHINA SEA: 4 BB'S ALL DAMAGED BY TORPEDOES AND BOMBS, 5 CA'S (SOME DAMAGED) AND ABOUT 10 DD'S POSSIBLY INCLUDING 1 CL. CA SITUATION NOT CLEAR BUT IT APPEARS THAT TAKAO WAS TORPEDOED BY BLUE SUBMARINE NORTH OF BALABAC ISLAND ON 23 OCTOBER.
EFFECTED EMERGENCY REPAIRS AND BY 2 SIGHTINGS APPEARED TO REJOIN CENTER FORCE VIA EAST OF PALAWAN 26TH. ALSO POSSIBLE THAT KUMANO OR HAGURO EFFECTED REPAIRS AND ESCAPED TO CHINA SEA.

HALSEY

COPY TO 22-G

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 8(D) and 8(D) or (B)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date May 21, 1973
COM 3RD FLT SENDS ACTION CINCPAC CINCOSWESPAC INFO COMINCH CTF 77 COM 7TH FLT ALL TFC'S 3RD FLT.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF EARLY MORNING SWEEP AND FIRST TWO STRIKES ON MANILA AND SOUTHERN LUZON AREA BY 38.2 ON 29 OCTOBER. 15 TOJOS SEEN MANDALUYONG, 25 WELL DISPERSED REVETTED PLANES NICHOLS, ABOUT 100 ON CLARK FIELD SINGLE ENG. ABOUT 33 INTERCEPTORS SHOT DOWN BY OUR BOMBERS FIGHTERS MAINLY OVER CLARK WHERE DISPERAL AREAS BOMBED STARTING 5 FIRES.

2 CAI'S 1 CL 4 DD'S 8 MEDIUM 14 SMALL MERCHANT VESSELS REPORTED MANILA BAY. 2 HALF TON AP'S HITS SEVERELY DAMAGED CA OFF CAVITE. 1 AO HIT BY 1000
POUNDER NEAR CAVITE.
12 VALS, JUDY'S, TOJOS AND ZEKES DESTROYED NEAR 38.2 TODAY.
2 OF THE VALS MADE SUICIDE DIVES AT THE FORCE 1 STRIKING
20MM GALLERY ON INTREPID. 1 20MM LOST AND 5 OTHERS OUT OF
COMMISSION OTHER DAMAGE INCONSEQUENTIAL. 6 KILLED 10 OTHERS
IN SERIOUS CONDITION.

CUSHING WHILE ON DUMBO MISSION DODGED A TORPEDO AT 2124/1
28TH POSITI 13-52 N 127-15 E. UNABLE TO DEVELOP CONTACT.
HELM SANK A JAP SUBMARINE AT 1230/1 28TH. 5 ATTACKS MADE
BY HELM AND 3 MORE BY GRIDLEY. HEAVY EXPLOSION FOLLOWED BY
2 SMALLER ONES AFTER HELM'S FOURTH ATTACK. OIL FRESHLY
SPLENDERED PLANKING AND PIECES OF NIP ANATOMY FOUND.
SUZUYA POW STATES TAIHO SEVERLY DAMAGED AND GENERALLY
BELIEVED SUNK PHILIPPINE SEA ACTION JUNE AND SHAKAKU AND
HITAKA DEFINITELY SUNK SAME ACTION.

COPY TO 20G.

DELAY DUE TO GARBLES

DECLASIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(El) and 5(D) or (R)
OSD letter, May 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

SECRET

DECLASIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94
HONO INTERCEPT

CTG 38.4 SENDS ACTION CTF 38. INFO COM 3RD FLT CTG 38.1. ADO HONO PLEASE PASS TO ALL.

DAILY OPERATIONAL SUMMARY.
A 29 OCTOBER
B 65 TARGET CAP 29 SURVIVOR SEARCH 10 TACLOBAN
   MOR PILOT PICKUP.
C 36
D 12
G 2 VF, 1 VF 4 VT UNACCOUNTED FOR. HEAVY FRONT
   ENCOUNTERED ENROUTE TO SHIP AND MAY HAVE RETURNED
   TACLOBAN.
I 1 PILOT VF
M 3 OSCARS TARGET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 5, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1972
KQ-00 01
VQNO 02

SECRET

Make original only. Delivered to Cyp room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (a) NAVREGS.)

OCT 30 - 07

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/44
OSCAR TARGET
ADD TO MY SUMMARY FOR 28 OCTOBER.
F 2 VF
G 3 VF LANDING AT DULAVAN
H 3 PILOTS VF
M 5 TONYS OR OSCARS TARGET
N 3 TONYS OR OSCARS TARGET
NEW SUBJECT.
WE 7872 0836
(CLEARED THROUGH MACARTHUR. ACTION COMINCH INFO CINCPAC COM 3RD FLT COM 7TH FLT ALL TFC AND TGC 3RD AND 7TH FLTS. CTF 77 ORIGINATOR)

SPORADIC AIR RAIDS CONTINUE. ONLY DAMAGE REPORTED TO NAVAL FORCES 1 PT BOMBED DAMAGED WITH SOME PERSONNEL CASUALTIES. FIGHTERS OVER CVES SHOT DOWN 12 ENEMY PLANES. CTF 77 IN WASATCH WITHDRAWING FROM LEYTE AREA WITH CVES AND PART OF COVERING FORCE FOR REPLENISHMENT. REMAINING AT LEYTE CTG 77.1 REAR ADMIRAL WEYLER (SOPA) WITH 3 BB 1 CA 3 CL 13 DD. REAR ADMIRAL FECHTLER IN FREMONT HAS ASSUMED ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES OF SOPA.

DELAYED DUE TO SERVICE
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea
To: War Department
No: C 51220 29 October 1944

Chief of Staff War Department C 51220. Operations report SWESPAC area period 1500Z/27 to 1500Z/28 signed MacArthur.

Nansei Islands:
Ten medium merchant vessels sighted leaving Okinawa for southwest October 28th.

Philippines:
Large transport many freighters reported Manila Bay October 27th, one heavy cruiser, one light cruiser, one destroyer approaching following morning;

Two medium, three smaller vessels sighted northbound off east coast Cebu afternoon October 27th;

40 to 50 enemy fighters reported by Third Fleet reconnaissance aircraft over Marinduque Island October 27th;

12 stack transport(8,000 tons) sighted west of Calamian Group miday October 27th, reconnaissance aircraft reported all targets Coron Bay same evening, damaged heavy cruiser one tanker several destroyers reported in area following morning.

CM-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

No: C 51220

29 October 1944

Celebes:

Aircraft reported one medium, three small merchant vessels, 15 spottrucks in Macassar Harbor midday October 26th, 14 barges on southeasterly course in Gulf of Bone October 27th.

Part 2.

Naval:

PT boats sank ten troopladen barges and two coastal vessels Ormoc Bay, western Leyte Island, at night.

Air:

Enemy Action: 26 more planes shot down during raids on Tacloban, October 27/28; Lone raider repulsed by anti aircraft fire Morotai night October 26th.

Operations October 25th: (1) Three Beauforts bombed Wewak.

Operations October 26th: (2) One B 24 bombed Manado town and set septruck afire northeastern Celebes; Another B 24 destroyed lugger South Macassar.

(3) Patrol B 24 destroyed floatplane Palawan Island.

Operations October 27th: (4) Six Beauforts bombed Denmap River targets, Wewak.
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

"TOT"
PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area,
Hollandia, New Guinea

Date: 29 October 1944

No: C 51220

24 RAAF P 40's set bivouacs afire Kaimana.

(5) B 24 attacked medium transport North Palawan
Island.

(6) Darwin B 24's demolished buildings, started
fires Palopo and Malili in Northern Gulf of Bone, Celebes;
Sank small seatriuck offshore.

(7) 11 Dutch B 25's fired supply dumps, sank two
barges and damaged other small craft near Maamere, Flores
Island.

Operations October 28th: (8) Five B24's, six B25's
and six A20's bombed Karavop Plantation, Wewak.

(9) Four P40's cratered Miti runways, four P47's
hit Kak Airfield, Halmahera.

(10) One Catalina attacked light cruiser and medium
transport near Sandakan;

Another bombed waterfront near Brunei Bay, Borneo.

(11) 29 B24's apparently destroyed 23 grounded
planes and damaged 10/15 others, strafed destroyed three
floatplanes offshore, cratered runways and fired buildings
Puerto Princesa Airdrome, Palawan Island;

CH-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

"TOE"

PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

No: 0 51220 29 October 1944

Two B24's bombed San Roque Airdrome, Zamboanga;
20 B25's forced back from Zamboanga due weather.
(12) Darwin B25 attacked camouflaged Bargenkaik Islands;

Three B24's bombed Lautem and Cape Chater Airfields
and headquarters area Lahano Village near Dilli, Timor;

Eight Dutch B25's attacked bridge near Waingapoe,
Soemba Island.

Solomons Forces. Naval:

PT boats strafed and mortared South Eastern Bougainville and Cape Gazelle, New Britain.

Air. Operations October 27th:

(13) 12 New Zealand Corsairs patrolled Bougainville;

Eight B25's, 23 Dauntless, five New Zealand Venturas
and 14 Corsairs demolished buildings and started fires New Ireland;

18 Dauntless, 18 B25's, 34 Marine and 20 New Zealand
Corsairs destroyed Fred Point buildings, cratered gun positions and hit many motor vehicles Rasilu area.

Weather. Overcast with light to moderate showers

CM-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44)

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

No: C 51220 29 October 1944

over Philippines, frontal zone Halmahera to Hoemt'oor, below average.

Weather over Celebes. Land Samar:

October 27th: Cavalry elements reached Wright (6025), Cebuastay (3541) patrolled toward Loquitoon (7029).

Leyte:

October 27th: X Corps: Amphibious patrols of 1st Cavalry Division landed Carigara (2168) reported town clear of enemy;

Patrols from San Miguel halfway to Busey (4269) killed 41 of 50 encountered.

24th Division: One battalion occupied Alangalang (4057);

Enemy night attack near SantaFe repulsed.

XXIV Corps: Elements 7th Division advanced inward to within one mile of Dagami, battalion of 96th Division advanced west along Tanauan/Kagami Road. Patrols entered Santa Ana (5023), San Andres (5127), Pangdan (4325). Six high caliber enemy coast defense guns and 40 vehicles were captured near Akbuyog.

Total enemy casualties to October 26th:

CH-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

"TOP"

PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area,
Hollandia, New Guinea

No: C 51220

29 October 1944

Killed 4,232
Captured 50

Our casualties:

X Corps: Killed 156
Wounded 615
Missing 29

XXIV Corps: Killed 360
Wounded 887
Missing 110

Part 3. (1) Dropped 24 40 lb bombs, met slight
heavy inaccurate anti aircraft fire.

(2) Dropped 4 250 lb bombs Manado, 6 same type at Luggur.

(3) No details.

(4) Beauforts dropped 10 500 lb medium capacity, 6
250 lb general purpose bombs from 2,000 feet, fired 100 rounds
50, 200 rounds 30 caliber;

P40's dropped 18 500 lb, 36 250 lb bombs.

(5) No details.

(6) Dropped 25 500 lb gen purpose bombs from 7,500
feet, fired 1,500 rounds 50 caliber.

(7) Dropped 21 500 lb incendiary clusters, 60 120 lb,
plus unstated number 100 lb bombs, fired 2,500 rounds 50 caliber,
met slight heavy moderate light inaccurate anti aircraft fire

(8) B24's dropped 40 1,000 lb bombs from 9,000 feet,
fiired 11,000 rounds 50 caliber;

CM-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

No: C 51220 29 October 1944

B25's dropped 24 300 lb bombs .025 second delay from 8,000 feet;
A20's dropped 24 300 lb bombs same delay from minimum altitude, fired 5,000 rounds .50 caliber.

(9) Dropped 16 500 lb bombs.
(10) Three 500 lb, four 100 lb bombs dropped at vessel, met accurate anti aircraft fire.
(11) Dropped 72 tons 1,000 lb bombs, fired unstated number rounds, met no anti aircraft or interception Puerto Princess;

Dropped 10 1,000 lb bombs Zamboanga.
(12) B25 dropped four 500 lb bombs 11 seconds delay from 4,000 feet;
B24's dropped five 500 lb, eight 300 lb, eight 250 lb bombs all 1/10 second delay from 13,500 to 4,000 feet;
B25's dropped 96 100 lb bombs from 9,500 feet.

ACTION: OPD
INFO: CG/S, CG AAP, G-2, Adm King, Col Park, Field Marshall Dill, Log

CM-IN-27741 (29 Oct 44) 19112 m/s

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
COM7THFLT PASSING FOR CINCSWPA. ACTION COMINCH INFO CNO CINCPAC COMSOPAC.

GAMBIER DAY, CVE. SANK ABOUT 0900/25TH HAVING BEEN HIT BY 33 INCH SHELLS AT FINAL RANGE OF 2000 YARDS. 26 PLANES THEN AIRBORNE FATE UNKNOWN. ABOUT 650 OFFICERS AND ENLISTED SURVIVORS PRESENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR AMONG THEM CAPTAIN VIEUG. LEYTE AREA CONTINUES UNDER INTERMITTENT AIR ATTACK INTERFERING WITH UNLOADING OPERATIONS. NO REPORT OF DAMAGE.

HOEL, DD. JOHNSTON, DD. S B ROBERTS, DE.

STILL MISSING PT 493 SUNK IN SURIGAO STRAIT BATTLE.

LST 486 DAMAGED. REINFORCEMENT ECHELONS MOVING AS SCHEDULED. PB4Y OBTAINED DIRECT HIT ON TANKER OFF
BAJABAC STRAIT. NORSOL PT'S MORTARED AND STRAFED GAZELLE
AND SOUTH EASTERN BOUGAINVILLE. WOENDI AND MORATAI PT'S
DESTROYED BARGES NIGHT 26/27. MACARTHUR.

COMINCh......ACT
16.....20G......OP-01.....00.....SHOW OP-20
OP-03.....

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 8(D) and 5(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS
Date May 21, 1973

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94
NAVAL MESSAGE

PART 1 281303 NCR 4938
CTG 38.1 SENDS ACTION CTF 38 INFO COM 3RD FLEET
(PASS BY RDO-HONO TO COMINCH FOR INFO - PART 1 291418, PART 2 290846)

PART 2 281250 NCR 6286
CTF 38

PART 1 281303 NCR 4938
PART 2 281250 NCR 6286

YOUR 280456. REPORT FOR 26 OCTOBER AND COMPENS REPORT ON TASK GROUP 38.2 DESTROYER FOR DELIVERY TO YOU. COMPENS 16 OCTOBER M 9 JILLS FORCE. CORRECTIONS FOR 25 OCTOBER REPORT AS FOLLOWS.

F. NO CHANGE.

G. 4 VB 1 HORNET 3 HANCOCK.

H. NO CHANGE.

I. 2 VB CREWEN. SUGGEST YOU RECHECK G AND I WITH HANCOCK.

CORRECTED AND AMPLIFIED REPORT FOR 25 OCTOBER. PHOTOGRAPHED EAST OF SAMAR BETWEEN 13001 AND 15301 WERE 1 YAMATO 1 NAGATO 2 KONGOS 2 MACHI 1 TONE 1 MOGAMI 1 NOSHIRO 8 DESTROYERS.

YAMATO 4 1/2 SHELLS HITTED, MORE 1/4 TON HITS.

[Signature]

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art 76 (4), NAVYBOARD, 30 O. 11860, Sec. (B) and (E) or (E))

O.P.O. 19-43

281250

By DBS

MAY 21 1972

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/19/64.
NAZATO 1/2 TON SAP 1 1/4 TON SAP 3 ROCKET HITS. UNIDENTIFIED BBS
4 1/4 TON SAP 1 1/2 TON SAP HITS. NACHI 2 1/4 TON ON 1, 1/2 TON ON OTHER. 1 TONE 1 1/4 UNIDENTIFIED CAS 1/2 TON 4 1/4 TONNERS.
1 NOSHIRO HIT WITH 3 1/4 TONNERS, 4 DESTROYERS HIT WITH 1 1/4 TONNER EACH. CORRECTED DAILY REPORT 26 OCTOBER FOLLOWS.
B. 174.
C. 91
D. 32
E. 58 TONS 45 TORPEDOES 32 ROCKETS.
F. 4 VF 2 VB 2 VT FLAK.
G. 1 VT.
H. PILOTS 3 VF 2 VT 1 VB CREWMEN 4 VT 1 VB.
I. 1 VT PILOT 2 CREWMEN.

1 NOSHIRO CL 11-35 NORTH 121-45 EAST 09101 BY 3 OR 4 TORPEDOES AND 2 ROCKETS 1 SEAFLANE TENDER 11-05 NORTH 123-05 EAST BLEW UP AFTER BOMBING BY HANCOCK.

K. 1 KUMANO CA 12 NORTH 121 EAST WITH 2 TORPEDOES AND 5 1/2 TON SAP HUG ExpLOSIONS AND BURNING FIERCELY AT 1030. UNIDENTIFIED CA DEAD IN WATER AT 1035 POSIT 11-55 NORTH 121-40 EAST HIT WITH 2 TORPEDOES STARBOARD SIDE SEEN BY CREWMAN TO SINK.
L. YAMATO 1 TORPEDO HIT 3 1/2 TON SAP 2 1/8 TON GPS AT 09101 POSIT 10 MILES OFF NW TIP PANAY. CLOSE PHOTOS SHOW 2 BOMB HITS PREVIOUS TO ABOVE HITS. NAZATO 1 TORPEDO HIT SAME PLACE AND TIME, 1 DESTROYER AT 11-40 NORTH 121-30 EAST AT 10501 WITH 2 TORPEDOES 1 1/4 TON SAP PHOTOS SHOW BOW BLOWN OFF. 1 DESTROYER OF 5 ATTACKED HIT WITH 1 1/2 TON SAP ON BOW AT 12-00 NORTH 120-15 EAST AT 15151. 1 1/4 TON SAP ON 2ND...
DESTROYER 1 1/4 TON SAP 1 1/2 TON GP ON 3RD DESTROYER SAME PLACE AND TIME. INCOMPLETE COVERAGE TAKE AT 0830I SHOWS 1 YAMATO 1 NAGATO 1 KONGO 1 NOSHIRO 7 DESTROYERS OFF MW PANAY. PILOTS REPORTED 4 BB 3 CA 2 CL 9 DD AT 0830I SAME PLACE 1 CA OR BB WENT WEST ALONE WAS HIT AT 1030I 12 NORTH 121 EAST. 1 CA HIT AND LEFT AT 1035I 11-55 NORTH 121-40 EAST LATER BELIEVED SUNK.
M. 4 ZEKES 2 HELENS 1 JAKE SOUTH MINDORO 2 JAKES REAGAY GULF 2 ZEKES FABRICA 1 IRVING FORCE.
P. 1 DRSS 7 TWINS 7 SINGLES LEGASPI.
R. NITE UNIDENTIFIED LEGASPI.
U. BUILDINGS CATAMARAN AIRFIELD SAMAR.

1 COPY TO 20-G
ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY STILL CONTINUES OVER LEYTE GULF AREA.

ESTIMATE OVER 50 ENEMY PLANES OVER AREA UP TO 1700 TODAY.

SUICIDE TACTICS AGAINST OUR BATTLESHIP AND CRUISER FORCE

COMMENCED YESTERDAY AT DUSK. VALS MADE 2 SUICIDE DIVES ON

LOUISVILLE. EVASIVE ACTION MADE BOTH NEAR MISSES BY 500 FEET.

1 KILLED. 11 INJURED. NO MATERIAL DAMAGE. ZEKE SHOT DOWN

WHILE ATTEMPTING CRASH DIVE ON CALIFORNIA'S BRIDGE IN MOONLIGHT.

DESTROYED 1 RADAR GUY POLE. CRASHED 500 YARDS AWAY. AT DAWN

TODAY ZEKE OR VAL DIVEBOMBING DENVER CRASHED ALONGSIDE DAMAGING

COMPARTMENT 1ST PLATFORM DECK WHICH FLOODED. AT DUSK TODAY

ENEMY'S ATTENTION AGAIN DIRECTED TO CVE'S WITH UNREPORTED

RESULTS. DURING THE DAY 17 ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN BY OUR

CAP. 20 ENEMY BARGES STRAIGHT IN CRNOC BAY. MANY SET AFIRE.

No. 1 ADMIRAL. No. 2 FILE. No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM. No. 4 SPECIAL
TO SECRET DISPATCH

FROM
RELEASED BY
DATE
TOR CODEROOM
DECODED BY
PARAPHRASED BY
ROUTED BY

FATCII

PILOTS FROM USS ENTERPRISE SHOT DOWN CRNOC BAY. 1 RESCUED BY
USS SOW PLANE. 1 BY NATIVES. 50% NAVY AND ARMY CASUALTIES
DEPARTED ABOARD USS MERCY 26TH. APPROXIMATELY 40% NAVY CASUALTIES
NOB AWAITING EVACUATION.

COMINCH COPIES 1 THROUGH 6.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11850, Sec. 2(b) and 5(C) or (D)
OIB letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS

MAY 21, 1973

No. 1 ADMIRAL
No. 2 FILE
No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM
No. 4 SPECIAL

COPIES NO.

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in article 78, Navy Regulations.

OPNAV 19-78

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
MLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM: CTF 77
RELEASED BY:
DATE: 29 OCT 44
TOR CODEROOM:

DECODED BY: STEVENS
TYPED BY: SEVALD/STEVENS
ROUTED BY:

METHOD OF TRANSMISSION:

INFORMATION FOR ACTION:

2 GARGLED CALLS
ALL TFC'S 7TH FLT
COM 3RD FLT
ALL TFC'S 3RD FLT
ALL TCG'S 7TH FLT
ALL TCG'S 3RD FLT

OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW:

IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW

281214
NCR 6053

ORIGINATION FILL IN DATE AND TIME:

281214
NCR 6053

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

SECRET

HONQ INTERCEPT

ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY STILL CONTINUES OVER LEYTE GULF AREA. ESTIMATE OVER 50 ENEMY PLANES OVER AREA UP TO 17001 TODAY. SUICIDE TACTICS AGAINST OUR BATTLESHIP AND CRUISER FORCE COMMENCED YESTERDAY AT DUSK. VAL MADE 2 SUICIDE DIVES ON ABXKSVILLE\* EVASIVE ACTION MADE BOTH NEAR MISSES BY 50 FEET. 1 KILLED. 11 INJURED. NO MATERIAL DAMAGE. ZEKE SHOT DOWN WHINED ATTEMPTING CRASH DIVE ON CALIFORNIA'S BRIDGE IN MOONLIGHT. DESTROYED PHE R DRSTSRNHVOCFGP\* CRASBED 50 YARDS AWAY. AT DAWN TODAY ZEKE OR VAL DIVEBOMBING DENVER CRASHED ALONGSIDE DAMAGING COMPARTMENT SOUTH PLATFORM DECK X. C. LOPEZ DIED AT SEA AT MAY ENEMY'S

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/74
ATTENTION AGAIN DIRECTED TO CVE'S WITH UNREPORTED RESULTS.
DURING THE DAY 17 ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN BY OUR CAP.
20 ENEMY BARGES STRAFED IN ORMOC BAY MANY SET AFIRE. 2
PILOTS FROM OUR ENTERPRISE SHOT DOWN ORMOC BAY. 1 RESCUED
XUJDIS* SOC PLANE. 1 BY NATIVES. 500 NAVY AND ARMY
CASUALTIES DEPARTED ABOARD USS NERDT* 26TH. APPROXIMATELY
400 NAVY CASUALTIES NOB AWAITING EVACUATION.

*AS RECEIVED
COPY TO 20 G

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD Letter, May 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973
NAVAL MESSAGE

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UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.

PAGE 1 OF 2 NCR 6627

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME: DATE TIME

ACTION CINCSVPA FROM CTF 77 INFO COMINCH CINCPAC COM 3RD FLT COM 7TH FLT

HAVE AS PRISONERS ON BOARD COMDR SHIBAYAMA ICHIIOO NUMBER 2064 AND LIEUT COMDR ZANAKA TOMOO 2636 COMMANDING OFFICERS OF DD’S ASAGUMO AND MICHISHIO RESPECTIVELY. PRISONER COUNT STEADILY MOUNTING.

INFORMATION FROM PRISONERS GRADED CA TOTAL AS FOLLOWS SUBSTITUTE SHIGURE FOR NAGATO IN MY 271301. HEAVY CRUISER CHIKUMA SUNK EAST OF SAMAR BY AIRCRAFT FORENOON 25TH BATTLESHIP KUSASHI DAMAGED AND BY HIT RESULT OF AIR ATTACK IN SIBUYAN SEA DURING 24TH BUT CONTINUED ON WITH JAP NORTHERN FORCE AND FOUGHT IN BATTLE WITH OUR CVE'S. HEAVY CRUISER AOB Sh sunk PRESUMABLY BY BLUE SUB ABOUT 23RD. HEAVY CRUISER

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94

OPRT 15 WpACIFIC

280722

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(T) and 5(T) or (F)
NAV OMB Letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

280722
TAKAO SUNK ATAGO BADLY DAMAGED NEAR PALAWAN ISLAND MORNING 23RD. COMMENT PROBABLY ATTACK BY DACE AND DARTER. SHIBAYAMA INSISTS THAT CV TAIHO SUNK IN BATTLE EASTERN PHILIPPINES AND HIS STATEMENT CORROBORATED BY OTHER PRISONERS. PRISONERS INSIST THAT HEAVY CRUISER MOGAMI HAD HIS AFTER TURRETS REMOVED HAD AN APPARENT FLIGHT DECK AFT AND WAS USED AS A SEAPLANE CATAPULT SHIP AND TENDER. SHE WAS PART OF JAP SOUTHERN FORCE AND PRISONER CLAIMING TO BE MEMBER HER CREW STATES MOGAMI WAS SUNK. THIS LATTER REQUIRED FURTHER CHECKING. BATTLESHIP NAGATO-SAILED FROM LINGA WITH JAP FLEET BUT NIL INFORMATION AS TO WHAT BECAME OF HER. JAP NORTHERN FORCE CONSISTED OF 4 BB YAMATO MUSAUHI KONGO HARUNA, 7 CA KUMANO 6 CA TONE CHIKUMA MYOKO HAGURO MAYA PLUS 10 TO 12 DD'S NIL CL MENTIONED BUT PROBABLY PRESENT. JAP SOUTHERN FORCE CONSISTED 2 BB YAMA-SHIRO FUSO 1 CA MOGAMI 4 DD AND THEY THINK OTHERS. PRISONERS STATEMENTS CHECK QUITE CLOSELY WITH REPORTS OF OUR OWN FORCES AS TO ENEMY COMPOSITION.

1 COPY TO 20-G

RECEIVED CONFIDENTIAL. RECLASSIFIED SECRET ACCORDING TO CONTENT.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 5(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972

By DBS Date MAY 21, 1972
RDO HONO PASS TO ALL ADEES. CTF 38 ORIGINATES ACTION TO CINOPAC AND COM 3RD FLEET

RDO HONO PASSED TO COMINCH AS 281301 FOR INFO.

BEST ESTIMATE COMPOSITION JAPANESE FORCE ATTACKED ON 25 OCTOBER EAST LONGITUDE DATE EAST OF NORTHERN LUZON FOLLOWS.

17 SHIPS. 4 CARRIERS, 2 BB/XCV, 1 CA, 4 CL, 6 DD.
TASK FORCE 36 DEFINITELY SANK ALL 4 CARRIERS, 1 CA OR DD, 1 DD. PLANES ALONE ACCOUNTED FOR 3 CARRIERS, 1 DD.
CRUISERS POLISHED OFF OTHER CARRIER AND 1 DD OR DD, 1 CL LAST SEEN IN SINKING CONDITION, POSSIBLY SUNK. OF REMAINING SHIPS 1 NATORI CL DAMAGED BY TORPEDO LAST SEEN GOING NORTH AT 5 OR 6 KNOTS ALONE. BOTH BB/XCV DAMAGED, 1 BY AT LEAST 2 PROBABLY 4 TORPEDOES AND MANY BOMBS.
BB/XCV RETIRED SEPARATELY BY A CRUISER AND 1 DD THE OTHER BY A CRUISER AND PROBABLY 2 DD, CA AND
1 OF REMAINING CL'S EACH HIT BY SEVERAL BOMBS. AT
LEAST 2 OF DD'S HAD BEEN HEAVILY STRAFED. 2 SHIPS,
1 DD AND 1 CL OR DD GOT AWAY FROM OUR CRUISERS AT HIGH
SPEED AFTER DARK. NO PHOTOS OF CARRIER SUNK ON FIRST
STRIKE BUT RELIEVED A CVL. PHOTOS SHOW LARGE CARRIER
WAS ZUIMAKU CLASS, 1 CVL CHITOSE CLASS AND 1 CVL PROBABLY
ZUISO ALTHOUGH SLIGHT DEFFERENCED FROM PREVIOUS INFORMATION.
1 BB/XCV DEFINITELY ISE CLASS, 1 CL AGANO OR OOGO CLASS
AND 1 CL NATORI CLASS, SOME DD'S PROBABLY 3, WERE TERUTSUKI
CLASS. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE FORCE 1 DD WAS DAMAGED
BY SEARCH PLANES NEAR PAMOGETAW ISLAND. 17 ZEKE
WERE SHOT DOWN OVER ENEMY FORCE AND 4 OTHER PLANES AROUND
OUR FORCE AND BY SEARCH PLANES. OUR COMBAT LOSSES
ATTACKING THIS ENEMY FORCE 18 PLANES & PILOTS AND 10
AIRECREWEN ALL TO ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE.

COPY DELIVERED TO 2AG.
3 DAYS BEGINNING 24 OCT WERE BUSY DAYS. PRIOR TO THAT DATE ASSAULT FORCES HAD BEEN LANDED AND SAFELY ESTABLISHED ABORE IN A WELL EXECUTED OPERATION. CASUALTIES WERE LIGHT. ASSAULT FORCES ADVANCED RAPIDLY ASSISTED BY GUNFIRE SUPPORT FROM SURFACE SHIPS AND BY AIR COVER AND SUPPORT FROM CVE'S. ENEMY SURFACE FORCES ADVANCING TOWARD THE PHILIPPINES HAD BEEN DETECTED REPORTED AND ATTACKED BY SUBMARINES STATIONED FOR THAT PURPOSE BY COM SUB 7TH FLEET AND COMSUBSPAC ON 24 OCT ENEMY SURFACE FORCES APPEARED IN THE WESTERN VISAYAN AREA. 1 ENEMY FORCE WHICH WILL BE REFERRED TO AS THE NORTHERN

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Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer of each person. (See Art. 76 (a) NAVY MESSAGE.)
FORCE BELIEVED COMPOSED OF 4 BB 2 CA 2 CL AND 12 DD PROCEEDED THROUGH MINDORO STRAIT ROUNDED MINDORO AND HEADED FOR SAN BERNANDINO STRAITS PASSING NORTH OF TAOAS ISLAND THROUGH SIBUYAN SEA. ANOTHER ENEMY FORCE REFERRED TO AS THE SOUTHERN FORCE BELIEVED COMPOSED OF 2 BB 2 CA 2 CL 13 DD PASSED THROUGH MINDORO STRAIT AND HEADED FOR LEYTE GULF VIA MINDANAO SEA AND SURIGAO STRAIT. DUE TO EXCELLENT REPORTS FROM SUBMARINES AND PLANES PLENTY OF TIME WAS AVAILABLE TO EFFECT DISPOSITIONS OF SURFACE FORCES IN LEYTE GULF.

BATTLE OF SURIGAO STRAIT. DISPOSITION OWN FORCES. 30 PT BOATS IN 15 GROUPS OF 3 EACH WERE STATIONED IN SURIGAO STRAIT SOUTH OF LAT 1°-10 N WITH ORDERS TO REPORT AND ATTACK ENEMY FORCES ENTERING GULF OR PASSING TO EASTWARD AROUND SOUTHERN POINT MINDANAO. TO 77.2 UNDER REAR ADMIRAL J. D. OLENDORF WITH 6 OBB 4 CA 4 CL AND 25 DD TOOK UP INITIAL STATION IN LAT 1°-34 N LONG 125-10 E TO GUARD SOUTHERN AND EASTERN ENTRANCES TO LEYTE. DESTROYER PICKETS WERE STATIONED BOTH ENTRANCES. ALL SHIPS WERE LOW IN FUEL AND AMMUNITION AFTER 5 DAYS OF GUN FIRE SUPPORT OF ASSAULT FORCES. IN THE EARLY FORENOON OF 24 OCTOBER THE ENEMY SOUTHERN FORCE WAS SIGHTED SOUTHWEST OF NEGROS AND ATTACKED BY SEARCH GROUPS FROM TO 36.4. 2 BOMB HITS ON EACH OF 2 BB WERE REPORTED TOGETHER WITH ROCKET HITS ON CA AND 2 DD AND STRAFING OF DD'S. CTG 36.4 THEN REPORTED THAT HE WAS CLOSING TO 36.2 WHICH WOULD TAKE HIM OUT OF RANGE OF THIS CONTACT. SOUTHERN FORCE CONTINUED EAST THROUGH MINDORO SEA UNDER ATTACKS BY PLANES FROM CVE'S. TOWARD MIDNIGHT PT'S SIGHTED THIS FORCE SOUTH OF BOHOL.
TRAINED AND ATTACKED WITH TORPEDOES CLAIMING 2 HITS. ENEMY ENTERED
SURLAO STRAIT ABOUT 12301 IN 2 COLUMNS HEAVY SHIPS LEADING EACH
COLUMN. 2ND COLUMN 4 MILES ASTERN OF 1ST. OUR FORCES CLOSED TO
FORM A SEMI-CIRCLE AROUND NORTHERN END OF STRAIT BATTLE SHIPS IN
CENTER CRUISER AND DESTROYERS ON EACH FLANK. AT ABOUT 13301 ACTION
OPENED BY TORPEDO ATTACK ON 1ST COLUMN BY PICKET DESTROYERS. NIGHT
ATTACK REMEY McCOWAN AND HELMEL FIRED FULL SALVOES FROM EASTWARDS
3 TO 5 HITS CLAIMED. 2ND ATTACK BY HODERMUT AND MORRISON FIRING
FULL SALVOES FROM WESTWARD 2 DEFINITE HITS OBSERVED. AFTER 1ST ATTACK
ENEMY SLOWED FROM 25 TO 12 KNOTS. AT 13371 COMDESRON 56 ORDERED
LAUNCH 3 SECTION ATTACK WHICH WAS MADE AS FOLLOWS. SECTION 1
COMDESRON 56 IN NEUTRAL WITH LEARY AND GRANT. SECTION 2 COMDESDIV
112 IN ROBINSON HALFORD BRYANT. SECTION 3 EDWARDS BANNON LEUTZE.
SEVERAL TORPEDO HITS CERTAIN. OWN SHIPS ON EASTERS COURSES OPENED
FIRE SIMULTANEOUSLY AT 14351 JUST BEFORE LAST TORPEDOS ARRIVED.
MANY SPLASHES FLAMES AND EXPLOSIONS SEEN AT TARGET. ENEMY COLUMNS
WERE PERFECTLY TOPPLED. OPENING GUN RANGE 10 TO 17,000 YARDS. BY
14451 ENEMY COLUMNS HAD TURNED LEFT AND ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE BUT
FELL GUT AWAY. OUR PURSUIT FORCES DISTINCTLY SAW 4 BURNING SHIPS
WHICH LATER SANK. SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION CONFIRMS THAT 2 BB 1 CA
1 CL AND 6 DD WERE DEFINITELY SUNK BY TORPEDOS AND GUN FIRE THE
2 BATTLESHIPS WERE IDENTIFIED AS FUSO AND YAZASHI. AFTER DAYLIGHT
PLANES FROM CVE'S SIGHTED AND ATTACKED A GROUP OF 4 OR 5 ENEMY SHIPS
SOUTHWESTWARD OF PANASON ISLAND SINKING 1 LARGE SHIP EITHER A BB

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/64
OR CA. THIS COULD NOT BE FOLLOWED UP BECAUSE OF THE ATTACK ON CVE’S
BY STRONG ENEMY SURFACE FORCES. OUR LOSSES. PT 463 SUNK BY ENEMY
GUN FIRE. GRANT DD 649 SEVERELY DAMAGED. THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF
THE BATTLE OF SURIGAO STRAITS RESULTED IN PRACTICALLY THE ANNIHILATION
OF A STRONG ENEMY FORCE WHICH THREATENED OUR OPERATIONS IN LEYTE GULF.

BATTLE OF SABAR ISLAND: ON 24 OCT AT 0745 NORTHERN FORCE WAS
SIGHTED BY SEARCH PLANE SOUTH OF MINDORO. REPORTS FROM 3RD FLEET
INDICATE TO 36.2 LAUNCHED STRIKE IMMEDIATELY AND REPEATED DURING DAY.
TO 36.3 AND TO 38.4 STRUCK SAME FORCE AFTER INITIAL STRIKES ON OTHER
TARGETS. ENEMY FORCE REVERSED COURSE TO 270 AT 1430 THEN 30 MILES
EAST OF TABLAS ISLAND AND WHILE BEING ATTACKED. THIS FORCE WAS REPORTED
TO BE SEVERELY DAMAGED BY NUMEROUS TORPEDO AND BOMB HITS. NEVERTHELESS
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT AT LEAST 4 BB 7 CA 2 CL AND 12 OR MORE DD’S OF
THIS FORCE CONTINUED TO EASTWARD IN THE SIBUAN SEA AND PASSED THROUGH
SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT DURING THE NIGHT. AT DAYBREAK 25 OCT WHILE
TO 77.4.3 WAS ON STATION EAST OF SABAR ISLAND ASP SIGHTED ENEMY NORTHERN
FORCE APPROACHING FROM NORTHWEST. SHORTLY THEREAFTER TO 77.4.3 WAS
UNDER FIRE FROM HEAVY SHIPS AT A RANGE OF 15 MILES CLOSING TO 7 MILES.
ALL FIGHTER COVER AND AIR SUPPORT IN THE LEYTE AREA WAS DISCONTINUED
AND ALL AVAILABLE PLANES WERE UTILIZED IN ATTACK ON ENEMY SURFACE FORCES.
URGENT CALLS FOR AIR AND SURFACE SUPPORT WERE SENT TO COM 3RD FLEET.
TG 77.2 THEN ENGAGED IN FINISHING OFF ENEMY CRIPPLED IN THE SURIGAO
STRAIT WAS ORDERED NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO LEYTE GULF PREPARED TO SCRUB.
THESE SURFACE FORCES HAD JUST COMPLETED THE DESTRUCTION OF ENEMY FORCES
IN SURIGAO STRAIT. ANNIHILATION WAS PRACTICALLY EXHAUSTED. TORPEDOS

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 5/1/94
HAD BEEN EXPENDED. FUEL WAS LOW. THE SITUATION WAS DESPERATE.

TO 77.4 OUR CVE GROUPS IMMEDIATELY ATTACKED WITH EVERYTHING AT ITS
DISPOSAL AND CONTINUED TO ATTACK. 1 CVE ALONE MADE 6 BOMBING AND
TORPEDO ATTACKS. IN A GALLANT FIGHT UNIQUE IN THE COMPOSITION OF
OPPOSING FORCES TO 77.4 WITHOUT ANY ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER FORCES
TURNED BACK THE POWERFUL ENEMY NORTHERN FORCE. THAT FORCE IN 2
ATTACKING GROUPS CLOSED TO 14,400 YARDS AND YET DID NOT DESTROY OUR
CVE GROUP BELIEVE IT OR NOT. SIMULTANEOUSLY TO 77.4 WAS UNDER SHORE
BASED AIR ATTACKS WHICH CONTINUED ALL DAY. AT 1430 TO 38.1 WHICH
COM 3RD FLEET HAD ORDERED TO OUR ASSISTANCE STRUCK THE CRIPPLED AND
RETREATING ENEMY FORCE CLOSE IN TO THE COAST ON LEYTE. IT STRUCK
AGAIN IN A FINAL BLOW. HEAVY SURFACE FORCES OF THE 3RD FLEET ARRIVED
OFF THE SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT DURING THE NIGHT UNFORTUNATELY TOO LATE
TO PREVENT ESCAPE OF REMNANTS OF THE ENEMY FORCE BUT SANK A CRIPPLED
CRUISER OFF THE COAST OF SAMAR. PRELIMINARY DETAILS OF THE ACTION ARE
CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF CTG 77.4 QUOTED IN MY previous report. ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN CTG 77.4.3 282355. NIGHT SCOUTING PLANE
REPORTED ABOUT 14 SHIPS OF THE ORIGINAL 25 OR 26 OF WHICH NORTHERN
FORCE WAS COMPOSED PASSED THROUGH SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT ABOUT MIDNIGHT
HEADING WEST. OUR LOSSES. 2 CVE CAUSIER BAY AND SAINT LO. 2 DD
NOEL JOHNSTON 1 DE ROBERTS. OTHER SHIPS DAMAGED AS PREVIOUSLY
REPORTED. MANY SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP AND THE SEARCH CONTINUES.

ENEMY LOSSES: SUNK BY OUR CVE ATTACKS 1 CA AND 1 DD. HITS SCORED
AND DAMAGE INFLICTED ON 3 BB'S OR CA'S AND 1 DD. SEVERELY DAMAGED
AND PROBABLY SUNK BY COMBINED AIR ATTACKS OF CVE GROUPS AND THE

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/74
ATTACKS OF TO 36.1: 3 CA OR BB AND 3 DD.

DELIVERED TO 2SG.
TOP SECRET DISPATCH

DRIFTER CTU 77.4.3
RELEASED BY
DATE 26 OCTOBER 1944
TOR CODE 26156
CODED BY
PARAPHRASED BY MONROE
Routed by MONROE

CTF 77
CINCPAC

ACTION: F-30

REPORT OF CTU 77.4.3 FOR 25 OCTOBER TIME

AT 0653 IN POSITION 554 MILES EAST OF SAMAR MAIN ENEMY BODY SIGHTED
BY ASP ABOUT 15 MILES TO WESTWARD. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY A SALVO FROM
ENEMY SEEN FIRED AND Fell SHORT. ORDERED CARRIERS TO LAUNCH ALL RE-
MAINING PLANES TO ATTACK AS RETIREMENT STARTED EAST INTO WIND AT
MAXIMUM SPEED. LOCAL CAP AND ASP AND 1ST SUPPORT GROUP FOR LEYTE
HAD BEEN LAUNCHED. MY FORCE IS CONCENTRED 25 IN FANSHAY BAY WITH
SAINT LO, KALININ BAY, WHITE PLAINS, CCUCARDIV 26 IN KITKUN BAY
WITH GAMBIER BAY, 3 DD'S AND 4 DE'S AS SCREEN, HOEL, JOHNSTON,
HEERMANN, DENNIS, ROBERTS, RAYMOND, BUTLER. ENEMY FORCE 4 BB'S
8 CA-CL, 8 DD'S.
ALL SHIPS MAKING SMOKE RETIRING AND LAUNCHING PLANE REMNANTS.

ENEMY CRUISERS IN VAN CLOSED UNDER 25, 300 AND 3 GUN SALVOES STRUCK AMONG REAR SHIPS. 8740 ORDERED DD'S AND DE'S ATTACK WITH TORPEDOES AND OWN FORCE INCLUDING CARRIERS COMMANDED FIRING 5 INCH THEN RANGE PERMITTED. PLANES LATER REPORTED 1 DE SUNK BY ENEMY GUNFIRE WHILE MAKING TORPEDO ATTACK. PRESUMABLY ROBERTS, NOT HEARD FROM SINCE. MODERATE INDIVIDUAL SHIP MANEUVERING TOWARD AND AWAY FROM LAST SALVOES APPARENTLY PREVENTED EARLY HEAVY DAMAGE ALTHOUGH MANY CLOSE STADDLES.

BY 0730 WITH MAIN ENEMY BODY ADVANCING ON NORTHERN SIDE OUR RETIREMENT COURSE CHANGED TO SOUTH AND AT 0615 TO SOUTHWEST. ENEMY HEAVY SHIPS DIRECTLY ASTERN AT 22, 200 AND 2 CRUISERS EACH WORKING FORWARD ON PORT AND STARBOARD BEANS CLOSING GRADUALLY TO UNDER 15, 100.

CRUISER FIRE HEAVY FROM BOTH 6 AND 6 INCH FALLING ALL AROUND ALL
SHIPS WITH OCCASIONAL BIG GUN SALVOES. AT 1829 Gambier Bay reported
heavily hit and lost 1 engine. Ship drifted aft under concentrated
fire. Since she must have passed through entire Jap fleet assume
Gambier Bay did not survive but was not afire when last seen. Plane
later reported Gambier Bay being shelled by enemy destroyer at point
blank range. Various other ships hit but remained in disposition.

At 2000 Dennis hit and badly damaged but stayed "with us. At 2019
unidentified escort hit. May have been Johnston. Not heard from since.

Hecel reported flooded forward and stopped to plug hole 6 feet in
diameter below waterline. Much other damage. Not heard from since.

Presumed sunk.

At 2024 Jap main body and cruisers now at 12,000 suddenly turned away
to opposite course. It was unbelievable. Plane observer now reported
many torpedoes approaching formation but stopping short. Apparently...
FULL SALVOES FROM CRUISERS OR DD'S TO PORT.
IN ADDITION TO LOSS OF JAMBIER BAY, HOEL, JOHNSTON AND ROBERTS TO GUNFIRE, SAINT LO, KALININ BAY AND FANSHA BAY ALL BADLY HIT CAUSING STRUCTURAL DAMAGE AND LEAVING KALININ BAY TEMPORARILY ON 1 ENGINE. DENNIS FLOODED FORWARD. HEERMAN FLOODED TO FRAME 42. DAMAGE TO BUTLER AND RAYMOND UNKNOWN.
ENEMY HEAVY CRUISERS USED COLORED SPLASH WITH 8 INCH AS DID BB'S WITH THEIR INFREQUENT SALVOES, BOTH 8 AND 6 INCH SALVOES LADDERED IN STRAIGHT LINE ABOUT 300 YARDS. ACCURATE IN RANGE BUT MISSING IN DEFLECTION POSSIBLY DUE TO MANEUVERING PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED.
IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY HEAVY CRUISERS FAILED TO CLOSE IN PROMPTLY OR ENCIRCLE FORCE AND POLISH OFF THIS ENTIRE OUTFIT. ONLY DETERRENTS WERE 5 INCH FIRE FALLING AROUND CRUISERS AND DUMMY RUNS BY TORPEDO PLANES AND STRAFING BY FIGHTERS. IN ANY CASE MAIN ENEMY
FLEET HAD ENOUGH OF US AND BROKE OFF ACTION.
IN POSITION ABOUT 23 MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAMAR THIS FORCE CAME UNDER
AIR ATTACK BY SUICIDE DIVE BOMBERS BEGINNING ABOUT 1045 AND CONTIN-
UING UNTIL 1130. NO CAP WAS AIRCRIE OVER THIS FORCE ALTHOUGH HELP
HAD BEEN REQUESTED. OWN PLANES LONG SINCE DEPARTED DUE TO ABSENCE
GAS AND AMMUNITION AND OUR INABILITY TO LAND THEM FOR RESERVICING.
AT 1052 SAINT LO WAS HEAVILY HIT BY SUICIDE PLANE DIVING INTO DECK
AND IMMEDIATE LARGE FIRE IN HANGAR. FIRES RAPIDLY CAME UNDER
FOLLOWED BY EXTREMELY HEAVY EXPLOSIONS PROBABLY TORPEDOES ON HANGAR
DECK AND MAGAZINES, CONTINUING FOR SEVERAL MINUTES AND DESTROYING
SHIP. FIRE COVERED BOTH STERN AND BOW AS SHIP DRIFTED AROUND IN
WIDE CIRCLE. WHEN LAST SEEN PERSONNEL ABANDONING STARBOARD SIDE
ABREAST BRIDGE. ALL REMAINING ESCORT VESSELS ORDERED TO STAND BY
SAINT LO TO RESCUE SURVIVORS. ANOTHER SUICIDE PLANE WITH SMALL BOMB

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/44
TOP SECRET DISPATCH

From:

Released by:

Date:

TOR Code:

Decoded by:

Paraphrased:

By:

Routed by:

FOR ACTION

INFORMATION

ASTERISK (*) HAILGRAM ADDRESSEE

PRECEDENCE

1

PRIORITY

2

RISKY

3

ROUTINE

4

DEFERRED

5

BASEGRAM

6

7

10

PRIORITY

11

ROUTINE

12

DEFERRED

13

BASEGRAM

14

IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW

PAGE 6 OF 8 260512 NCR 5113

Originator till in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT.

DOVE THROUGH PORT CATWALK FORWARD ON KITKUN BAY AND 3RD WITH HEAVY BOMB DOVE IN EXACTLY AT BOW THROWING TONS OF WATER AND CONSIDERABLE SHRAPNEL ON BRIDGE AND FORWARD PART OF SHIP. 4TH DOVE AT FANSHAW BAY. SHOT DOWN. MISSED FANTAIL BY A FEW FEET SCATTERING SHRAPNEL AND DEBRIS OVER AFT END OF SHIP. 2 MORE SUICIDES DOVE ON KALININ BAY. 1 SHOT DOWN AND MISSED. OTHER SKIDDED ALONG FLIGHT DECK IN FLAMES AND OVER ROW INTO WATER. IT IS CONCLUSIVE THAT SUICIDE DIVES WERE MADE IN ALL THESE CASES.

AFTER BOMBING ATTACK RETIREMENT MADE TO SOUTHEAST WHILE OWN PLANES CONDUCTED ATTACKS ON ENEMY FLEET. SUSTAINED SURFACE SPEED NOW REDUCED TO 15 KNOTS. AT 1950 REMAINING 4 CARRIERS WITH NO ESCORTS OBSERVED SURFACE RADAR CONTACT CLOSING FROM QUARTER AT ABOUT 18 KNOTS. SUSPICIONED SUBMARINE SINCE NO ANSWER TO CHALLENGE AND REQUESTED TASK UNIT 28 MILES AHEAD TO CLOSE IN. CONTACT CLOSED STEADILY UNTIL

No. 1 ADMIRAL

No. 2 FILE

No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM

No. 4 SPECIAL

Hand only in accordance with "Top Secret" Instructions contained in Article 76.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (F)

By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94

OPNAV 19-78

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 5(D) or (F)

By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94

NLR 101

By DBS, Date 5/21/73

280512
TOP SECRET DISPATCH

FROM ____________________________

RELEASED BY ____________________________

DATE ____________________________

TOR CODED BY ____________________________

DECODED BY ____________________________

PARAPHRASED BY ____________________________

ROUTED BY ____________________________

ADDRESSEES ____________________________

ASTEROISK (*) HAILGRAM ADDRESSEE ____________________________

PRECEDENCE ____________________________

PRIORITY ____________________________

ROUTINE ____________________________

DEFERRED ____________________________

BASGRAM ____________________________

IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW ____________________________

COPY OF OFFICIAL COPY

DD'S MAKING RADAR APPROACH CHALLENGED AND ABOUT TO OPEN FIRE WHEN CONTACT DISAPPEARED. DD'S IMMEDIATELY CLOSED AND MADE SONAR CONTACT AND ATTACK ON OBVIOUS SUBMARINE. 1 DD REMAINED OVERNIGHT HOLDING DOWN SUBMARINE.

FROM ABOUT 2130 UNTIL 2400 THIS FORCE, NOW JOINED WITH TU 77.4.1, WAS UNDER CLOSE RECONNAISSANCE BY ENEMY PLANES BUT NO ATTACK DEVELOPED. 1 PLANE SHOT DOWN BY DD WORKING OVER SUBMARINE.

REPORTS FROM SUCH OF OUR PILOTS AS ARE ABOARD SHOW FOLLOWING DAMAGE INFLICTED ON ENEMY BY PLANES OF THIS FORCE FROM SHIPS AS FOLLOWS.

KITKUN BAY. SANK 1 NOGAU CLASS CA UNASSISTED. SHIP OBSERVED TO BLOW UP AND SINK AFTER BOMBING ATTACK. PROBABLY SANK TONE CLASS CA WITH 2 TORPEDO HITS AND 2 HITS OR NEAR MISSES ON STARBOARD BOW WITH 50'S CRUISER THIS CLASS OBSERVED ON ITS SIDE 4 HOURS LATER SAME POSIT.

DAMAGED 1 NACHI CLASS CA WITH 1 TORPEDO HIT. WHITE PLAINS. PROBABLY

No. 1 ADMIRAL

No. 2 FILE

No. 3F-1 OR CHARTS

No. 4 SPECIAL

652, Sec. 3(B) and 65(D) or (E)

By DBS

TOP SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/84

NLR 5113

280912

PAGE 7 OF 8

TOP SECRET

NORWAY 2-1-1972

260912
**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

**DRATER**

**EXT.**

**ADDRESSEES**

**PRECEDENCE**

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**TOR CODED BY**

**PARAPHRASED BY**

**ROUTED BY**

**INFORMATION FOR ACTION**

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**PAGE 8 OF 8 260312 NCR 5113**

**ORIGINATOR TILL IN DATE AND TIME GROUP**

**OR OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT.**

SANK 1 KONGO CLASS BB 112 MILES SOUTHEAST OF BOHOL ISLAND. SHIP LEFT DEAD IN WATER BURNING FIERCELY WITH CREW ABANDONING. POSSIBILITY THIS SHIP DAMAGED PREVIOUS NIGHT BY TU 77.2. THESE PLANES WERE PART OF OUR 1ST FLIGHT FOR SUPPORT GROUP. DAMAGED MOWAN OR TONE CLASS CRUISER WITH TORPEDO HIT 8 MILES EAST OF SAMAR. LEFT SHIP DEAD IN WATER. FANSHPAY BAY. PROBABLY SANK CA AT 1143 H 120-42 E. DAMAGE INFlicted BY OTHER 3 SHIPS UNKNOWN DUE TO ABSENCE PILOTS.

**COMINCH: COPIES 1 TO 12 INCLUSIVE.**

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**CLASSIFIED**

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(f) and 5(d) or (e)

OMB letter, May 1, 1972

By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/94

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**HANDLE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH "TOP SECRET" INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE 76, NAVY REGULATIONS.**

**COPY NO. 260312**

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**OPNAV 19-79**
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

To: War Department

No. C 51160 28 October 1944

TO Chief of Staff War Department signed MacArthur
C51160.

Operations report SOWESPAC Area period 1500Z/26
to 1500Z/27.

Philippines:

Further reports indicate enemy force northeast
Luzon October 25 comprised 2 battleships 1 carrier, 3
converted carriers, 1 heavy cruiser, 4 light cruisers,
6 destroyers, light air opposition reported and few aircraft
observed on carriers; large convoy reported southbound 100
miles north-northwest Aparri morning October 26; 4 unidentified
vessels sighted at anchor off southern Mindoro morning
October 27; attacking B24's October 26 reported 2 battleships,
5 cruisers, 5 destroyers on southerly course off west
coast Panay; 1 destroyer, 1 freighter, 2 seatrucks sighted
Puerto Princesa noon October 27.

Celebes:

Gulf of Bone: 5 seatrucks photographed off
Malili October 25; photographs October 26 show 4 fighters
3 bombers on 4 Kendari airdromes.

CM-IN-26892 (28 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/8/54
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 51160 28 October 1944

Naval:

Visayas: Further reports Surigao Strait action early morning October 25 state 2 battleships, 1 heavy cruiser, 1 light cruiser, 6 destroyers sunk by gunfire from battleships and cruisers and torpedo attacks from destroyers and PT's, remaining heavy cruiser light cruiser and 3 destroyers heavily damaged 1 destroyer sunk by subsequent air attack; off Leyte Gulf 25 October 2 heavy cruisers confirmed sunk other units damaged.

Halmahera: PT boats on night patrol sank 5 barges strafed shore positions October 22 through 26.

Air:

Enemy Action:

Leyte Island:

Raids continued through October 26, 7th Fleet planes shot down 23, Allied fighter patrols shot down 14 and anti-aircraft fire destroyed 2 more; next day 4 more raiders shot down by 3 Allied fighters over Taoloban.

Operations October 26:

(1) 18 Beauforts from Goodenough Island attacked
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51160

28 October 1944

Tobera airfield Rabaul, started fires.

(2) 3 Beauforts bombed Bolken area, West
Wewak.

(3) 28 RAAF P40's struck installations around
Vogelkop Peninsula; 20 A20's and 2 B25's bombed Utar air

(4) 6 RAAF A20's attacked village on eastern
Arboina.

(5) 8 P40's set warehouses and supply
dumps afire and damaged gun positions in cooperation
with PT boats Halmahera.

(6) 1 B24 bombed warehouses north Celebes;
another B24 sank coastal steamer near Sandakan, northern
Borneo.

(7) 25 B25's failed locate shipping Mindanao
Sea, cratered Iligan airfield, northern Mindanao, and
destroyed nearby bridge.

(8) 25 B24's left light cruiser burning
and listing heavily with 2 direct hits and 3 near misses,
silenced guns of 1 destroyer with direct hit in northern
Sulu Sea.

CM-IN-26892 (28 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(c) and 8(3) or (W)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

COPY NO.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
Operations October 27:

(9) 10 P40's cooperating with PT boats hit buildings and fired supplies northern Kalmahera.

(10) 2 patrol B24's damaged destroyer south Mindoro and extensively damaged tanker with direct hit southwest Palawan Island.

(11) 44 P38's and P47's swept Western Visayas set afire camouflaged destroyer and small freighter off Cebu.

(12) 4 Beaufighters strafed roadways and village near Dilli; 2 Darwin B24's bombed airfields Cape Chater and Dilli, Timor.

Solomons Forces.

Air:

Operations October 26:

(13) 8 B25's, 25 Corsairs, 6 Dauntless and 5 New Zealand Venturas attacked New Ireland Plantations and demolished buildings Kavieng; 4 New Zealand, 12 Marine Corsairs and 1 TDR Drone hit motor trucks and buildings Rabaul area, 1 Corsair lost; 32 Marine, 28 New Zealand Corsairs and 12 Dauntless attacked Bougainville supplies and huts.

CM-IN-26892 (28 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 0 51160 28 October 1944

Weather:
October 27:
Favorable over Luzon, moderate frontal zone with light rain through Central and Southern Philippines and Northern Borneo, heavy showers through Halmaheras to Biak, average conditions Northern New Guinea.

Land:
Maps 1/250,000 Central Philippines military grid.

October 27:
X Corps:
Elements 1st Cavalry Division advanced 10 miles southwest from Babatong to occupy Balud and Barugo on Carigara Bay; on Samar, other Cavalry elements pushed rapidly north along west coast occupied Cotbalogan (4327), advanced 9 miles north of that city;
24th Division captured Santa Fe and Pastrana.

XXIV Corps:
Elements of 7th and 96th Divisions reached line 2 miles south and southeast Dasami (4740); Other 7th Division forces entered Abuyog (6001) and are pushing inland.
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
        Hollandia, New Guinea
No. C 51160  28 October 1944

against light opposition. Evidence reported of enemy intention to withdraw from XXIV Corps Zone.

Part 3.

(1) Dropped 36 500 lb medium capacity, 14 250 lb general purpose bombs plus unstated number incendiaries from 10,500 feet, met slight anti-aircraft fire.

(2) Dropped 6 500 lb medium capacity bombs from 4,000 feet, fired 500 rounds 50 calibre, met slight medium inaccurate anti-aircraft fire.

(3) A20's dropped 80 500 lb bombs.

(4) Dropped 24 500 lb bombs.

(5) Dropped 16 500 lb bombs.

(6) 1 B24 dropped 6 250 lb bombs Northern Celebes

(7) No details.

(8) Dropped 50 1000 lb, 25 500 lb bombs.

(9) Dropped 16 500 lb bombs, fired unstated number rounds.

(10) No details.

CM-IN-26892  (28 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 0-51160  28 October 1944

(11) No details.

(12) Beaufighters fired 300 rounds 20mm, met slight heavy and intense medium accurate anti-aircraft fire; B24's dropped 16 250 lb bombs from 12,000 feet.

End.

ACTION: OPD

INFORMATION: CC/S
CG AAF
ASP
G-2

ADM King
Col Park
Field Marshal Dill
Log

CM-IN-26892 (28 Oct 44) 2004Z

CLASSIFIED

E. O. 11493, Sec. 3(D) and 8(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 4, 1973

DECLASSIFIED
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
PRESENT SITUATION LEYTE GULF AREA.
DANGER FROM FURTHER ENEMY SURFACE ATTACK CONSIDERED
REMOTE UNLESS ENEMY GAINS CONTROL OF THE AIR. OUR
CONTROL OF AIR NOT SATISFACTORY. ENEMY AIR HAS BEEN
ATTACKING IN FORCE FOR PAST THREE DAYS DISRUPTING OUR
UNLOADING, REFUELING AND REARMING OPERATIONS. ACTIVATION
FLYING FIELDS DELAYED AS RESULT ENEMY AIR RAIDS. HEAVY
COMBAT AIR PATROL REQUIRED AND STRIKES AT ENEMY AIR
FIELDS UNTIL ENEMY AIR STRENGTH IS MATERIALLY REDUCED.
SUPPORT OF AT LEAST ONE AND POSSIBLY TWO FAST CARRIER
GROUPS REQUIRED UNTIL WE HAVE CONTROL OF THE AIR.
ON 28 OCT REMAINING CVES MUST REFUEL AND CAN WPCNMCMW* PLANES. ARMY AIR SQUADRONS MOVING INTO FIELDS TODAY BUT
100-TOOOPBGLNTOG* AIR OPERATIONS CAN BECOME SUFFICIENTLY
DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

OCT 1973

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94
EFFECTIVE DUE DIFFICULT FIELD CONDITIONS, MORE LATER ON THIS SUBJECT.

* AS RECEIVED

COPY TO 20 G
PHOTOS OF FORCE IN SIEVUYAN SEA AT 2412151 SHW 2 YAMATO
 2 KONGO 1 NAGATO 2 IJASAMI 2 ATAGO 1 NACHI 1 UNIDENT CA.
 1 AGANO 1 UNIDENT CRUISER. 13 DD'S. ESTIMATE 2 OR 3
CL AND SEVERAL DESTROYERS NOT IN THE MAIN BODY WERE
OPERATING IN THE SIEVUYAN SEA FROM THE 23RD.
FIRST SIGHTING MORNING OF 26TH ENEMY MAIN BODY OFF EAST
MINDORO CONSISTED 4 BB 3 CA 3 CL 16 DD'S. 1 DAMAGED CA
AND 1 DD NEAR JASBATE. 2 DD'S OFF NORTH CESU. 1 DAMAGED
CRUISER 13-° NORTH 122-° EAST. TASK GROUP 36.1 AND
TASK GROUP 38.2 STRIKES THEREAFTER SUNK 1 AGANO.
PROBABLY SUNK 1 IJASAMI OFF SOUTH MINDORO. DAMAGED 1 YAMATO 1 NAGATO
1 KONGO 1 NACHI 2 CL AND 5 DD'S. ALSO SUNK 1 LARGE CVS
EAST OF PANAY, BELIEVED TO BE SHIP REPORTED AS ISE CLASS X

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/96
BB. 15 AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN AND 15 DESTROYED ON GROUND. ALSO MAVIS
SHOT DOWN BY NIGHT VF. OWN LOSSES 15 PLANES COMBAT 7 OPERATIONAL.
TASK GROUP 38.3 AND TASK GROUP 38.4 PRELIMINARY REPORT FOR 27TH
1 CA OFF SOUTH MINDORO ATTACKED BY SEARCH PLANES WHILE MAKING 24
KNOTS LEFT DEAD IN WATER AND COULD NOT BE FOUND SHORTLY LATER BY
VFJ. 2 DD'S DAMAGED 1 BEACHED. TASK FORCE 38 LEYTE CAP SHOT DOWN
1 OF 7 ZEKES. 2 RELAY PLANES OVER MARINDUQUE WADED INTO AND SPLASHED
5, 46 TO 50 OSCARS AND ZEKES.
LARGE TRANSPORT AND MANY AK'S SEEN IN MANILA. 3 CL AND 2 DD'S
HEADING TOWARDS MANILA BAY AT 0830.

FOLLOWING RELATD BY POW SEAMAN 1ST CLASS FROM YAMATO ATTACK FORCE
UNDER CINC 2ND FLEET COMPOSED YAMATO MUSASHI NAGATO HARUNA AND KONGO.
15 CA CRUDIVS 4, 5 AND 7, NOSHIRO AND 13 DD'S SORTED LINCHA 22ND
HIGH SPEED. NIGHT OF 23RD ATAGO AND MAYA SUNK TAKAO DAMAGED DROPPED
OUT OF FORMATION POSSIBLY SUNK. CINC 2ND SHIFTEDFLAG ATAGO TO
YAMATO. 5 BB 7 CA 1 CL AND 13 DD'S ENTERED SULU SEA. MUSASHI AND
1 OR 2 CA HEAVILY DAMAGED 24TH AND NOT AGAIN SEEN OR HEARD OF BY POW.
4 BB INCLUDED IN FORCE WHICH SORTED SAIL BERNADINO (PHOTOS OF TASK
GROUP 38.1 CONFIRM THIS). SUZUYA SANK AT 1330 25TH. YAMASHIRO
FUSO AND MAYA TRANSPORTING TROOPS SAILED FROM LINCHA 23RD OR 21ST
FOR UNKNOWN DESTINATION. MIZUNI HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO ACK SAME AS
ISE AND MAY HAVE BEEN IN STRIKING FORCE SORTIE. CA IBUKI JOINED
FLEET LAST JULY BUT HAS NOT BEEN SOUTH. END OF POW STATEMENTS.

COPY TO 28-0

DEPRECATED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (F)
OLD letter, May 1, 1972

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/94
CONGEN AIRFMFPAC PASSED TO MARCORPS INFO AS 122200.  
(RELEASED FROM CINCPOA TO COMAIRPAC FOR ACTION. INFO TO CONGENAIRFMFPAC COM 7TH FLT COMAIR 7TH FLT CINCSWPA. RDO TOROKINA GIVE INFO TO COMMARAIRWING 1, RDO ESPIRITU SANTO INFORMS COMMARAIRWING 2.)

DESTINATION MARINE MEDIUM BOMRON 611 CHANGED BY

CINCPAC 161119 AND CINCSWPA 201330 NOT TO ALL FROM

VOCALIST TO ACCUMULATION FOR DUTY IN MARINE AIR WING 1

VICE MARINE AIR WING 2. GROUND ECHelon SHOULD REMAIN

AS PRESENTLY LOADED IN 2ND ECHelon SHIPPING. FLIGHT ECH-

E Lon SHOULD BE FLOWN TO NORSOLS FOR FURTHER STAGING WHEN

REQUESTED BY COMMARAIRWING 1.

ORIGINAL NCR DISTRIBUTION.

MARCORPS(#1)...COG

121(#2).....OP03(#3).....COMHCH(#4-11).....

302 Pacific

271425
CINCSWPA SENDS VIA COM 7TH FLT. ACTION COMINCH INFO CNO CINCPAC COMSOPAC.

BATTERED REMNANTS OF JAP STRIKING FORCES RETIRING WESTWARD AFTER THE BATTLE OF LEYTE GULF. CONFLICTING REPORTS STILL OBSCURE TOTAL DAMAGE INFLICTED AND RECEIVED. IN ADDITION TO CASUALTIES PREVIOUSLY REPORTED GAMBLER BAY, CVE, FELL BACK ON 1 ENGINE AFTER 1ST ATTACK BY STRONG JAP FORCE AND TOGETHER WITH JOHNSON, DD, ROBERTS, DD, AND 1 DE MUST HAVE BEEN SUNK BY ENEMY GUN FIRE. ALL 4 ARE MISSING. 5 REMAINING CVE OF ANE UNIT SUBJECTED TO CRASH BOMBING ATTACK BY 6 SUICIDE PLANES. 3 PLANES HIT BY AA WERE NEAR MISSES. KITKUN BAYS PORT CATWALK HIT BY 1 PLANE.

ANOHER SKIDDED LENGTH OF KALININ BAY FLIGHT DECK OVER BOW.

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**OP SECRET DISPATCH**

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<tr>
<td>TOH CODE NO:</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECODED BY</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARAPHRASED BY</td>
<td>MCDONOUGH</td>
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**INFORMATION FOR ACTION**

- CNO CINCPAC COMSOPAC

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UNLESS OTHERWISE INDIATED 27-8 DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.

Originator till in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

**TOP SECRET**

ACTION F-30

---

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/44
REMAINING PLANE PIERCED SAINT LO FLIGHT DECK AND SHE BLEW UP. PILOTS REPORT FOLLOWING MINIMUM DAMAGE INFLECTED ON JAPS BY THIS UNIT. 1 CA SUNK. ANOTHER CA BLASTED AND LYING ON SIDE. 3 MORE CA'S TORPEDOED. 1 BB DAMAGED. TORPEDO HIT SANTEE. SUICIDE PILOT CRASHED ON SANBON. PRACTICALLY ALL CVE'S WERE DAMAGED. THE JAP FORCE WAS DRIVEN BACK. FANSHAW BAY, WHITE PLAINS, KALININ BAY, KITRUN BAY PROCEEDING MANUS FOR REPAIRS. PERSONNEL CASUALTY REPORTS FRAGMENTARY. 2 PC, 6 LCI SEARCHING BATTLE AREA OFF LEYTE FOR SURVIVORS. ADVANCING AND RETURNING ECHELONS CONTINUE TO MOVE ON SCHEDULE. MACARTHUR.

*PROBABLY ROBERTS (DE).  ** HAS NOT BEEN DELIVERED TO CXY.
CLIMBO WNP VI-CTF 77 SENDS ACTION COMINCH INFO CINCSWPA CINCPAC COM 3RD FLEET COM 7TH FLT ALL TFC AND TGC 3RD AND 7TH Fleets

ON THE 26TH CVE COVERING GROUP (TG 77.4) DESPITE BATTLE LOSSES SUFFERED ON THE PRECEDING DAY CONTINUED TO COVER OUR FORCES IN THE LEYTE GULF AREA AND LAUNCHED STRIKES IN THE CAMOTES SEA. ONE ENEMY CL WAS HIT WITH 4-500 POUND BOMBS AND 1 TORPEDO AND 1 DD CONFIRMED SUNK AFTER STRAFFING ATTACK BELIEVE IT OR NOT. OTHER ATTACKS AS YET UNREPORTED. ABOUT 1100 OUR CVEs WERE ATTACKED BY ENEMY PLANES. AFTER COMBAT PATROL HAD SHOT DOWN 4 OF GROUP 8 OR 10 PLANES NIPS BEGAN A SERIES OF SUICIDE DIVES. 3 SHOT DOWN BY SHIPS GUNFIRE.
ZEKES LANDED ON FLIGHT DECK SUWANEE AMONG PARKED PLANES. SEVERE DAMAGE TO SHIP AND PLANES. MANY PERSONNEL CASUALTIES NUMBER UNDETERMINED. DE ROWELL OF CVE GROUP ABOUT 0900 SIGHTED PERISCOPE AND ATTACKED. MUCH OIL AND DEBRIS KEPT RISING DURING THE DAY. CRUISER AND DESTROYER GROUP HAVING REPLENISHED FUEL AND AMMUNITION AFTER THE SURIGAO STRAIT ACTION IS NOW WITH CVE COVERING GROUP. FAST CARRIERS OF THIRD FLEET ARE NOW PROVIDING CLOSE SUPPORT OF LEYTE AREA. ENEMY AIR RAIDS CONTINUED TODAY BUT WITH REDUCED INTENSITY ATTRIBUTED TO THE EFFECTIVENESS THIRD FLEET FAST CARRIER STRIKES AGAINST THE ENEMY AIR FIELDS. MORE ACCURATE INFORMATION IS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE RESULTS OF THE NIGHT BATTLE OF SURIGAO STRAIT STARTING EARLY MORNING OF 25 OCT. OF THE ENEMY FORCE WHICH ATTEMPTED TO FORCE ENTER INTO LEYTE GULF AND THE SURIGAO STRAIT 2 BB 2 CA 2 CL AND 10 DD, ONLY 1 CA 1 CL AND 4 DD GOT OUT THE WAY THEY CAME IN. 2 BB IDENTIFIED AS YAMASHIRO AND SOYO 1 CA 1 CL AND 6 DD WERE DEFINITELY SUNK BY THE COMBINED TORPEDO ATTACK OF OUR PTS AND DESTROYERS AND THE GUNFIRE OF OUR BATTLESHIPS AND CRUISERS. THE REMAINING CA CL AND DDS WERE PLACED UNDER HEAVY AIR ATTACK THE FOLLOWING MORNING AND REPORTED AS BEING BADLY DAMAGED AND PROBABLY SUNK. CLEARED WITH MACARTHUR.

COPY TO 200 * AS RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/4/94
HONO INTERCEPT

NIL SUMMARY ISSUED 25-26 IN VIEW WIDE DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION REFLECTING MOVEMENTS ENEMY TASK FORCES AND DAMAGE INFlicted.

FOR SAME REASON THIS SUMMARY OMITS SUCH INFORMATION.

SIGHTINGS NON NAVAL SHIPS 261030 1 TIME 5 AP 5 DD ESCORTS 119-082 E 16-12 N COURSE SOUTH SPEED 10. 2145 CONVOY 7 UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS 19-19 N 110-54 E COURSE NE. SAME TIME AND COURSE 6 MORE 18-30 N 112-34 E. 2 LARGE AO 2 DD MID FOREMOON 08-50 N 119-10 E NORTHBOUND 12 KNOTS. 11058 SHIP COMING THROUGH NORTH BALABAC STRAIT COURSE 120 SPEED 2 0546/27 4 UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS 12-12 N 121-00 E.

RECENT ORANGE SUB CONTACTS. 1452 25TH 07-40 N 130-50 E. 2253 SAME DAY POSIT 13-00 N 128-00 E. 26TH 1400 B24 CREWS REPORT 3 SS 30 MILES SOUTHWEST MOROTAI COURSE 180. PHOTOS 25 WOSASSA PADOA LicanaN 2 DELMONTE STRIPS MINDANAO SERVICEABLE. TOTAL 2 PLANES PRESENT.
BLUE SUB SANK 2 AK DAMAGED 2 MORE MORNING 26 OF LARGE SOUTHBOUND
CONVOY NEAR CALAYAN ISLAND 20-00 N 121-00 E.
IN FLIGHT REPORTS 27. BEFORE DAWN CONTACT 1 LARGE 1 MEDIUM SHIP
08-40 N 125-00 E. 0905 PUERTO PRINCESS PALAWAN 1 AK 1 DO 2 SMALL
STACKA AF* AK. AT 1000 2 DD COURSE 350 SPEED 25 POSIT 12-30 N
120-25 E. 1014 HEADED WEST 2 MUTSUKI DD POSIT 11-15 N 117-50 E
SPEED 20.

*AS RECEIVED
DELIVERED TO 20G.
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

To: War Department

No. 0 51108 27 October 1944

Chief of Staff War Department, signed MacArthur

Operations report SOWESPAC Area period 1500Z/25
to 1500Z/26:

South China Sea:

China based aircraft sighted 1 carrier, 1 cruiser, 3 destroyers, 9 merchant vessels, 80 miles east Hainan course 100 degrees morning October 26th.

Philippines:

5 transports, 5 destroyers reported heading south from Lingayen Gulf morning October 26th; force estimated as 4 battleships, 3 heavy cruisers, 3 light cruisers, 10 destroyers reported by attacking 3rd Fleet planes heading south at 15 knots in Tablas Strait morning October 26;

Afternoon October 25 aircraft reported 2 heavy cruisers, 4 destroyers sighted on northerly course Bohol Strait; 7 vessels reported as 1 heavy cruiser, 6 destroyers sighted on northerly course in Camotes Sea morning October 26th.

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11685, Sec. 3(b) and 5(d) or (f)
OSD Letter, May 1, 1972

By DBS

Data

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/84
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51108 27 October 1944

Leyte:

Local estimates place main enemy defensive positions in vicinity Tabontaban, Dagami and Burauen, strength at Dagami possibly 3,000;

Further air attacks on carrier groups off Leyte Gulf reported during October 26th.

Borneo:

Reconnaissance aircraft reported shipping in Brunei Bay October 26 as 1 heavy cruiser, 2 destroyers, 2 medium freighter transports several medium, 2 small freighters.

Part 2.

Air:

Enemy action:

Raids against Leyte Beachheads and shipping continued October 26th; single planes attacked Morotai night October 24 and October 25th.

Operations October 25:

(1) 11 Beauforts bombed Kairiru Island off Wewak and attacked Boiken Danmac River area.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/44
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. C 51108 27 October 1944

(2) 16 RAAF P40's bombed Moeemi and Ransiki. Airdromes, South Manokwari; 32 RAAF P40's attacked guns and fired buildings Kaimana.

(3) 12 RAAF P40's swept Southern Ceram, damaged barge and fired sawmill; 16 P47's bombed Boela runway barrackes and fuel installations, destroyed pier and lugger Selemen Bay; 2 P47's and 23 B25's started large fires Pearce Town, gun positions and supply dumps.

(4) 12 P47's bombed Halong Seaplane Base, Ambon; 1 B25 and 24 A20's attacked airdrome Haroekeoe; 2 Beaufighters strafed guns Northern Amboins; 4 B25's attacked radio station Ambon, hit waterfront installations and strafed 3 schooners through Western Ceram.

(5) 2 Beaufighters swept Halmehera.

(6) Single B24 bombed barracks Manado, Northern Celebes.

(7) 2 B24's swept Eastern Borneo Coastline, damaged seaplane and small freighter, sank lugger and attacked other vessels; another B24 sank 1 small seaplane and damaged another near Rurat.

(8) Single B24 attacked small freighter off Zamboanga; 2 B24's sank 1 small freighter and damaged another north Palavan Island, strafed 3 small seaplanes destroyed 1 floatplane and damaged 6 other floatplanes.

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
       Hollandia, New Guinea
No. C 51108 27 October 1944
Puerto Princesa.

(9) 1 Darwin B24 damaged seatruck and demolished buildings Koel Village, Lомнax Island; 3 B25’s destroyed barge Sior Island and bombed Village on Timor.

Operations October 26:

(10) 6 B24’s bombed Wewak Point, 6 B25’s attacked Boiken Plantation.

(11) 47 B24’s attacked enemy warships West Central Philippines; 14 planes scored 2 direct hits plus near misses Yamato class battleship, 13 planes scored 2 direct hits many near misses Kongo class battleship, ships accompanied by 5 cruisers and 5 destroyers southbound West Panay Island, 1 B24 shot down, another missing;19 planes crippled and set afire Kuma class light cruiser with 4 direct hits causing explosions on bridge, amidships and on stern off South Western Negros Island; 1 B24 attacked heavy cruiser near Coron Bay.

(12) 1 RAAF B25 attacked 2 barges Kai Islands; single Darwin B24 bombed village Babur Island.

(13) 2 Darwin B24’s bombed Leutem airdrome, started fires on coastline and attacked 6 barges Dipli, and bombed coastal vessel Vesuvius Bay in Soela Islands.

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 8(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS
Date 6/11/73

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/44
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 051108  27 October 1944

Solomons Forces.

Air:

Operations October 25:

(14) 30 Corsairs bombed bivouacs Northern Bougainville, 15 New Zealand Corsairs hit targets of opportunity; 8 New Zealand Corsairs fired motor trucks and demolished buildings Gazelle Peninsula; weather cancelled remaining strikes.

Land:

Leyte:

October 25: X Corps:

Night attack by 100 Japanese against elements 80th Cavalry Regiment at La Paz (5680) repulsed.

XXIV Corps:

96th Division overcame stiff resistance Buri airdrome, captured Buri (4533); Tabontabon occupied without opposition.

7th Division encountered resistance 1 mile east of La Paz (12 miles southwest of Dulag); only light opposition remainder Corps Sector.
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

No. 051108 27 October 1944

October 26: X Corps:

1st Cavalry Division junction of force at Uban and force advancing up highway number 1 not yet affected because latter force slowed by resistance west of highway. Patrols reached San Miguel (10 miles west of Tacloban).

28th Division attacked toward Santa Fe (1 mile west Castille) and Pastrana (3 miles west Castille) and occupied 3 towns. 1 force moving south along coastal highway toward Tolosa (6239) and contacted XXIV Corps patrols in that area.

XXIV Corps:

96th Division continued advance northwest of Tabontaban; 1 battalion advancing north along coast reached Tolosa.

7th Division captured Malakka, continued attack north along Burauen/Dagami Road. Patrols advanced south to Esperanza (2 miles southeast Burauen) and San Francisco (1 mile southwest Burauen). Airstrips at Burauen, San Pablo, Gayug, Dalabka and Tangman (5229) now in our hands.

No change in situation 21st Infantry and 6th Ranger Battalion.

Reports hereafter will be referred to Special Map

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
       Hollandia, New Guinea
       Central Philippines, in 5 sheets, scale 1 to 250,000 military grid.

No. C 51108  27 October 1944

Part 3:

(1) Dropped 16 500 lb, 20 250 lb bombs, fired 500 rounds 50, 2300 rounds 30 calibre, met slight heavy accurate anti-aircraft fire.

(2) Dropped 22 500 lb, 70 250 lb bombs.

(3) P40's dropped 18 100 lb bombs, fired unstated number rounds; 16 P47's dropped 16 500 lb bombs, met slight medium inaccurate anti-aircraft fire; 2 P47's dropped 2 500 lb bombs; P47's and B25's dropped 32 500 lb, 230 100 lb bombs, met intense medium and heavy accurate anti-aircraft fire.

(4) Dropped 12 500 lb bombs plus 4 incendiaries from 6000 feet Halong; dropped 100 100 lb bombs, 650 23 lb parafrag, fired unstated number rounds Haroekeoe; B25's dropped 8 500 lb bombs, fired unstated number rounds.

(5) No details.

(6) Dropped 5 500 lb bombs from 11,000 feet.

(7) 1 B24 dropped 7 100 lb bombs, no details other B24, met intense light accurate anti-aircraft fire from vessels East Borneo; 1 B24 dropped 6 500 lb bombs from 5000 feet Kudat.

CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

27 October 1944

(8) 1 B24 dropped 6 250 lb bombs from 1000 feet, fired unstated number rounds, met slight to moderate medium and heavy some accurate anti-aircraft from vessels North Palawan; no details other B24's.

(9) B24 dropped 8 250 lb bombs 1/10th's second delay from 7000 feet, fired 1500 rounds 50 calibre; B25's dropped 12 500 lb bombs, fired 1500 rounds 50 calibre.

(10) B24's dropped 48 1000 lb bombs from 8000 feet; B25's dropped 24 300 lb bombs from 9000 feet.

(11) Each B24 dropped either 3 1000 lb bombs or 2 1000 lb plus 1 500 lb bomb from 10000 feet, met intense medium and heavy very accurate anti-aircraft fire from Task Force.

(12) B25 dropped 2 500 lb medium capacity bombs 11 seconds delay from 2000 feet; B24 dropped 8 250 lb bombs from 8000 feet.

(13) Dropped 8 300 lb, 8 250 lb bombs all 1/10th's second delay from 9000 feet.

Refer preceding report Paragraph 12:

4 more P38's, 19 more P47's escort.

End.

ACTION: OPD
INFORMATION: CC/S ASF Adm King
CM-IN-25946 (27 Oct 44) 19532 bjm

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94.
**OP SECRET DISPATCH**

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**UNIDENTIFIED CALLS (LK5E AND LH5R)**

**COMINCH, CIOPAC**

**RADIO HONOLULU, CIOPAC HONOLULU**

**CIOPAC FICOSPERAD**

**COM 7TH FLEET**

**COM 3RD FLEET**

**COMAIRPAC**

**OP OP OP**

**PRIORITY**

**ROUTINE**

**DEFERRED**

**BASEGRAM**

**CHECK BELOW**

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**PAGE 1 OF 2**

**ADDRESS 202355**

**NCR 4223**

**ORIGINATOR CALL IN DATE AND TIME GROUP**

(Use G. C. T.)

---

**MAIN ENEMY BOMBS SIGHTED BY ASP AS PER MY CONTACT REPORT AT 0351 OCT 25. FOR OVER 2 AND 1/2 HOURS THIS FORCE WAS SUBJECTED TO ENEMY BB CA AND DD GUN AND TORPEDO ATTACK. WE WERE HIT NUMEROUS TIMES. DAMIAN BAY HAD ONE ENGINE PUT OUT OF COMMISSION DROPPED BACK AND JUST HAVE BEEN SUNK BY ENEMY GUNFIRE PLUS HOEL JOHNSON OF ROBERTS. THE REMAINING 5 CVE EMERGED FROM THIS ORDEAL DAMAGED BUT ABLE TO MAINTAIN 18 KNOTS. ABOUT 1 HOUR 20 MINUTES LATER 6 ENEMY SUICIDE DIVE BOMBERS ATTACKED. ATTACK HAD TO BE SEEN TO BE BELIEVED. THREE PLANES HIT BY AA NARROWLY MISSED SHIPS. ONE HIT PORT CATHOLIC OF KIITIM BAY. ONE SKIRLED LENGTH OF KIITIN BAY FLIGHT DECK OVERFLOWS. ONE WENT THRU DECK OF SAINT LO WHICH SHORTLY BLEW UP.**

[Handwritten note: Action: F-30]

---

**DECLASSIFIED**

E. O. 11582, Sec. 3(B) and 8(D) or (B)

ORD Letter, May 1, 1973

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVAL RESOURCES

---

**OP PACIFIC**

202355

---

**SECRET**

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 1/12/94
TOP SECRET DISPATCH

PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM SUCH OF OUR PILOTS AS ARE IN COMPANY SHOW FOLLOWING DEFINITE RESULTS BY OUR PLANES. ONE CA SEEN TO BLOW UP AND SINK. ONE HIT BY TWO TORPEDOES AND TWO NEAR MISHES LATER OBSERVED ON ITS SIDE. THREE MORE CA TORPEDOED. ONE BS DAMAGED. THE REST GOT AWAY FROM US. THIS UNIT TOGETHER WITH PLANES OF TASK UNITS 77.4.1 AND 77.4.2 TURNED BACK ENEMY FLEET BEFORE ANY OTHER OF OUR FORCES COULD ATTACK. THREE REMAINING SHIPS OF MY DIVISION REQUIRE EXTENSIVE NAVY YARD REPAIRS BEFORE COMBAT DUTY. PRELIMINARY REPORT OF CASUALTIES OF SHIPS NOW WITH ME. 15 KILLED 59 WOUNDED. I UNDERSTAND BSG SAINT LO SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP. DETAILED REPORT LATER.

COMMON COPIES 1 TO 5 INCLUSIVE.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. N(D) and 8(T) or (D)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

262355

Handy only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 76, Navy Regulations.
**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

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**ACTION ANLE IS COMSROFLT. COMINCH AND COMSMPAC SET FOR INFO FROM CINCPAC.**

**TOP SECRET.**

YOUR 201235 REFERENCE TO PREVISIONS NOT UNDERSTOOD. REPORT APPROXIMATE AVERAGE NUMBER DAYS SUPPLY OF DRY PROVISIONS IN EACH TYPE OF COMBATANT SHIP IN COMPANY WITH YOU AND LIST CONTROLLING ITEMS WHICH ARE SUFFICIENTLY SHORT TO AFFECT COMBAT OPERATIONS.

**COMINCH COPY 1 TO 6 INCLUSIVE.**
CINCPAC SENDS ACTION COM 3RD FLEET. INF CINCSEAP COMINCH COM 7TH FLEET. THIS IS TOP SECRET.

MY OP PLAN C-44 REMAINS IN EFFECT. COVER AND SUPPORT FORCES OF THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC UNTIL OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY ME.

COMINCH COPIES 1 THROUGH 8.
OP SECRET DISPATCH

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Further details are now available concerning the battle fought yesterday between our CVE covering group of 16 CVEs with accompanying escort of DDs and DES to the eastward of Leyte Gulf and a strong enemy surface force now estimated as 4 BB, 8 CA and CL 7 or more DDs which sortied through San Bernardino Strait. In this action our CVE group turned back and defeated a heavy enemy surface force which was supported by strong shore based air. The attacking enemy force was able to close our slower CVE force but was turned back by air attacks from CVEs only to return again and was driven off the 2nd time retreating through San Bernardino Straits. On the basis of incomplete reports the following damage was inflicted on the enemy. 4 torpedo hits in a BB and 1 CA stopped and burning.

---

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/1944
**OP SECRET DISPATCH**

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**UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED IN I'S DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.**

**PAGE 2 OF 4 261443 NCR 4372**

**Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP** *(Use G. C. T.)*

**WHILE THE ENEMY WAS IN THE MINDANAO SEA. OFF SAMAR AT LEAST 2 BBS WERE HIT BY TORPEDOES AND 1 CA STOPPED DEAD. NO REPORT ON ENEMY PLANES DESTROYED. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE DAMAGE INFLICTED ON THE ENEMY BY MANY PLANES WHICH WERE FORCED TO LAND ON LEYTE FIELDS. OUR LOSSES CVE SAINT LOO (FORMER MIDWAY) SUNK. CVE GAMBIER BAY DD HALL AND DD JOHNSTON PLUS DE ROBERTS SUNK SINCE BOMBARDMENT BY ENEMY SURFACE FORCES AND PRESUMED SUNK. DAMAGED. CVES SANGAMON SAVANEE AND SANTEE ALL HIT BY SUICIDE CRASH PLANES. SANTEE ALSO HIT BY TORPEDO. FANSHAI AND KITKUN BAY HIT AND FIRES STARTED. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ON SUNK AND MISSING SHIPS UNDETERMINED. KNOWN DEAD ON DAMAGED SHIPS 67. MANY INJURED. OUR AIRCRAFT LOSSES ABOUT 130 PLANES FROM ALL CAUSES INCLUDING CRASH LANDINGS ON LEYTE FIELDS. TODAY OUR CVE GROUP HAS AGAIN BEEN UNDER AIR ATTACK BY SHORE BASED...**

**no. 1 ADMIRAL**

**no. 2 FILE**

**No. 3f-1 or chartroom staff. No. 4 SPECIAL**

**N. 9. 11653. Sec. 9(D) and 8(D) on (F) Letter May 1972 52**

**DECLASSIFIED**

**E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4**

**NLR 101**

**By RT, NARA, Date 4/3 84**

**261443**
AIR AND HAVE RECEIVED SOME FURTHER DAMAGE. FRAGMENTARY REPORTS INDICATE THAT 22 ENEMY PLANES HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN TODAY CAP OVER LEYTE GULF. DURING MORNING SLEEP A KUMA CLASS CRUISER WAS HIT WITH BOMBS AMIDSHIPS AND ON THE Stern AND LEFT CIRCLING IN POSIT 11-25 N 124-05 E.

SOME FURTHER INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE OF THE SURFACE ACTION BETWEEN OUR SURFACE FORCES AND THOSE OF THE ENEMY IN SURIGAO STRAIT NIGHT OF 24-25 OCTOBER. FORCE OF 3 PT'S OPERATING IN LOWER SURIGAO STRAIT REPORT THAT VISUAL AND RADAR CONTACTS INDICATE THE ENEMY FORCE CONSISTED OF ABOUT 18 SHIPS INCLUDING 1 BB AND 2 CRUISERS. OF 9 TORPEDOES FIRED BY THESE PT'S 2 HIT WERE MADE. 1 ON DD AND 1 ON DD DEAD IN WATER ALONGSIDE BURNING HULK. PT 493 HAS SUNK 2 OTHERS HEAVILY DAMAGED PLUS MINOR DAMAGE ON MANY OTHERS. PT PERSONNEL CASUALTIES 4
KILLED 24 WOUNDED. ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE BELIEVE THAT FORMER REPORT OF AT LEAST 8 SHIPS OF ALL TYPES SUNK WAS CONSERVATIVE.

UNLOADING OF FOLLOW UP ECHELON LSTs AND LIBERTY SHIPS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY. SHIPS IN LEYTE GULF HAVE BEEN UNDER INTERMITTENT AIR ATTACK THROUGHOUT THE DAY WITH NO DAMAGE REPORTED. ESTIMATE 20% ENEMY PLANES OVER LEYTE AREA TODAY. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE PLANE ATTACKING OVER CVEs.
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM: CTF 77
RELEASED BY: COM 3RD FLT
DATE: 26 OCT 44
TO CODEROOM: CTF 38
DECODED BY: CTF 38.2
PARAPHRASING BY: CTF 38.4
INFORMATION: CTF 77
FORWARDED TO: CINCPAC

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME:
DATE
TIME

261327
NCR 3561

CTF 77 SAYS FOR ACTION TO COM THIRD FLT. CTF 38, CTF 38.2 AND CTF 38.4 INFO TO CTF 77.4 CINCPAC COMINCH.

Kamikaze To Halsey

FOR TOMORROW REQUEST 12 VE AIRCRAFT FOR COMBAT AIR PATROL BE MAINTAINED OVER OBJECTIVE AREA FROM 04151 TO DUSK TO AUGMENT TARGET COMBAT AIR PATROL PROVIDED BY CVES. PLANES REPORT TO PEPSICOLA BASE ON VHF 142.02 PRIMARY AND 142.74 SECONDARY. ESTIMATE MINIMUM OF 200 ENEMY AIRCRAFT OVER OBJECTIVE AREA TODAY NOT INCLUDING LARGE NUMBERS OVER CVES. DUE TO LOSSES AND DAMAGE, CVES UNABLE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE AIR COVER OR FIGHTER SWEEPS. IN ADDITION REQUEST FIGHTER SWEEPS ON AIRFIELDS IN WESTERN VISAYAS WITH PRIMARY OBJECTIVE DESTRUCTION ENEMY AIRCRAFT AND AIRCRAFT FACILITIES.

SECRET

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 8(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 1

By DBS

MAY 21 44

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/44

261327
**CINCSWPA SENS VIA COM 7TH FLT ACTION COMINCH INFO CNO CINCPAC COMSPAC.**

JAP NAVAL UNITS NOW RETIRING UNDER AIR ATTACK.

OF ENEMY FORCE ESTIMATED TO COMPRIZE AT LEAST

10 BB 3 CRUISERS 7 DD WHICH WAS ENGAGED IN SUGIO

STRAIT NIGHT 24/25/26 UNITS REPORTED SUNK. REMAINING UNITS

RETIRING WESTWARD REPORTED ON 25TH AND 26TH. PT'S

AND ALBERT W GRANT (DD 649) DAMAGED BUT PROCEEDING.

JAP FORCE OF APPROXIMATELY 3 OR 4 BB 9 CRUISERS

12 DD WHICH ADVANCED THROUGH SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT TO

ATTACK CVE'S OFF LEYTE RETIRED ON REVERSE ROUTE

HAVING LOST 1 CRUISER AND PROBABLE 1 DD. MOST

20 PzUs at news - eve 26 Oct 21
REMAINING SHIPS THIS FORCE DAMAGED AND UNDER REPEATED AIR
ATTACK ON 26TH IN SIBUYAN SEA AND TABLAS STRAIT. NORTHER
JAP CARRIER GROUP DISENGAGED. NO COMPLETE REPORT OF DAMAGE
INFLECTED. LEYTE BEACH AND CVE'S SUBJECT TO HEAVY LAND
BASED AIR ATTACKS. 4 SHIPS IN HARBOR DAMAGED. DAMAGED BLUE
CVE'S PROCEEDING MANUS. 6 BB 3 CA 2 CL 15 DD DEPLOYED IN
LEYTE GULF. CLOSE COVER GROUP OF 1 CA 1 CL 6 DD IN AREA.
REMAINING CVE'S WITH ESCORTS ALSO IN LEYTE GULF. TACLOBAN
AND DULAG STRIPS BEDOM USED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS. NO
FURTHER INFORMATION OF DAMAGE TO OUR FORCES. MACARthur.
HONO INTERCEPT

FROM GHQ SWPA S&D MACARTHUR TO COMAAF, CON 3RD FLT COMANF FOR ACTION FOR INFORMATION COMAF 5, 310 BOMB WING COM TF AND TG 77, 78, 79, 38.

CITE CX 51053.

REFERENCE COMAAF'S NUMBER AX 9640579, 26TH, GHQ RADIO CX 19624, TIME GROUP 170827, AUTHORIZES ALLIED AIR FORCES TO ATTACK HOSTILE AIR AND SHIPPING IN THE VISAYAS, WEST OF A SPECIFIED LINE. THIS AREA IS EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ALL THE SIBUYAN SEA WEST OF 124-05E LONG.

COMMANDER ALLIED NAVAL FORCES AND CON 3RD FLT ARE CAUTIONED TO NOTIFY COMMANDER ALLIED AIR FORCES WHEN FRIENDLY NAVAL SURFACE UNITS PROCEED WEST OF THIS LINE.

RELEASED

E. O., 11622, Sec. 3(2) and 8(2) of (8)
OIB letter, May 1, 1972
CNO

OARR 3283

SECRET

DRFT

NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM GHQ SWPA (MACARTHUR)

RELEASED BY

DATE 26 OCTOBER 1944

TO CODEZOO 1500

DECODED BY PERRY

PARAPHRASED BY MCDONAGH

ROUTED BY

URGENT

PRECEDENCE

FOR ACTION COMAF COMANF COM 3RD FLT

TF COMS 77, 78, 79, 38

TG COMS 77, 78, 79, 38

310 BOMB WING COMAF 5

260750Z

NCR 3283

SECRET

REACT

320Pacific

260750Z

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/1944
CTF 77 SENDS ACTION COMINCH INFO CINCWSWA CINCPOA 
COM 3RD FLEET COMAIRPAC CONDESPOG COM 7TH FLEET.

WITH THE DEEPEST REGRET I REPORT THE LOSS OF 2 CVE'S 2 DD'S 
AND 1 DE PLUS DAMAGE TO OTHER SHIPS IN A BATTLE FOUGHT TO THE 
EASTWARD OF SAMAR ON 25 OCTOBER BETWEEN ENEMY AIR AND SURFACE 
FORCES AND A GROUP OF 16 ENEMY PLUS DD AND DE ESCORTS. THIS GROUP WITH 
SUPERB DETERMINATION AND SKILL Fought AND DEFEATED A STRONG ENEMY 
SURFACE FORCE SUPPORTED BY REPEATED ATTACKS BY SHORE BASED ENEMY 
AIRCRAFT. THEY STRUCK REPEATEDLY WITH ALL MEANS AT THEIR DISPOSAL 
UNTIL THE ENEMY RETIRED DEFENDED AND CONTINUED TO STRIKE HIS RE-
TREATING FORCES UNTIL DARKNESS. THE REPORT OF THE VALLIANT COMMANDER 
OF THIS GALLANT GROUP REAR ADMIRAL T L SPRAGUE IS TRANSMITTED HEREWIITH.

CTG 77-4 DISPATCH 252000. AS A RESULT OF TODAY'S SURFACE AND AIR
ACTION CTF 77-4.3 REPORTS SAINT LO (FORMER MIDWAY) HIT BY DIVE BOMBER
OP SECRET DISPATCH

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ENLISTED PERSONNEL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF CRYPTOGRAPHY.

UNITED STATES NAVY

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES 260631 NCR 3988

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP

FOLLOWED BY HEAVY EXPLOSIONS WHICH DESTROYED SHIP. GAMBIER BAY Johnson and Roberts missing since bombardment by strong enemy force believed to contain 6 BB 8 CA and CL 7 or more do all very fast. All Carrier groups were under attack throughout the day. Santee received torpedo hit and suicide crash on deck which started large fire. Stonewall received suicide crash which started large fire and penetrated both flight and hangar deck. Sangamon had a suicide crash alongside with bomb which punctured side in many places. Fires and damage were brought under control. All vessels continued to launch strikes against the enemy force till sunset. Vessels of Task Unit 77.4.2 were unhurt up to late afternoon and this group launched a total of 6 heavy strikes armed with torpedoes and heavy bombs. Northern group to 77.4.3 was under more or less continuous fire of enemy battleships cruisers and aircraft throughout the day.

NO. 1 ADMIRAL
NO. 2 FILE
NO. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM
NO. 4 SPECIAL

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4 NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/1974

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/1974

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/1974
ALL SURVIVING CARRIERS WERE DAMAGED. WHITE PLAINS FANSHAW BAY AND KITKUN BAY GOT FIRES AND OTHER DAMAGE UNDER CONTROL AND CONTINUED TO LAUNCH ATTACKS UNTIL THE END OF THE DAY. LAST STRIKES FROM ALL SHIPS WERE OVERTAKEN BY DARKNESS AND MANY LANDED ON LEYTE. DAMAGE TO ENEMY CANNOT BE ASSESSED AT PRESENT BUT KNOWN DAMAGE INCLUDES 4 TORPEDOES IN BB AND MITORI CLASS CRUISER STOPPED AND SET AFIRE IN MINDANAO SEA. OFF SAMAR AT LEAST 2 BB WERE HIT BY TORPEDOES AND 1 CA STOPPED DEAD. DO AND DE OF SCREEN TU 77 4 3 MADE A GALLANT HEADON ATTACK WITH GUNS AND TORPEDOES WHEN THE CARRIERS WERE BROUGH UNDER FIRE BY THE ENEMY BB. CASUALTIES OF SUNK AND MISSING SHIPS CANNOT BE ESTIMATED. THERE WERE 40 DEAD AND 40 CRITICALLY WOUNDED ON SANTIA. 1 DEAD ON SISAGAMON. 1 DEAD ON ROWELL. REPORTS FROM OTHER TASK UNITS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE. RICHARD S BULL AND EVERSOLE WERE ORDERED TO SCENE ON SINKINGS TO RECOVER SURVIVORS REPORTED IN THE WATER.
REPORT OF SINKINGS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO USE DAYLIGHT TODAY BUT
SEARCH WILL BE CONTINUED ASSISTED BY AIRCRAFT TOMORROW. DURING
RETIREMENT COOLBAUGH GOT WHAT IS BELIEVED TO BE A SURE KILL OF
SUB WHILE PROCEEDING SOUTH ACROSS SHEARMATER. SHE WAS ORDERED TO
SIT ON HER CONTACT THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT. THE SPROSTON ALSO HAD
GOOD CONTACT AND HAS SIMILAR ORDERS. SPROSTON SHOT DOWN 1 NIGHT
RAIDER WHICH WAS ATTEMPTING TO ATTACK TU 77,4,3. NO ESTIMATE OF
TOTAL AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN CAN BE MADE AT THIS TIME BUT THE NUMBER
IS CONSIDERABLE. LAST STRIKES OF DAY WERE WITH ENEMY ON WESTERLY
COURSES IN SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT."

THIS ACTION AND THAT OF THE PRECEDING NIGHT IN WHICH A STRONG
ENEMY SURFACE FORCE WAS OVERWHELMINGLY DEFEATED IN SURIGAO STRAITS
BY THE SURFACE UNITS OF THE 7TH FLEET UNDER REAR ADMIRAL

J. B. OLDENDORF ARE HIGHLIGHTS ON THE ROAD TO TOKYO. TOGETHER THEY
CONSTITUTE THE BATTLE OF LEYTE GULF.

COMINCH: COPIES 1 TO 8.
URGENT

SECRET

PASSED BY ROO HONIO TO COMINCH FOR INFO.
PASSED BY CTF 77 TO COM 3RD FLT AS 260834 FOR INFO

RECOMMEND ESCORT CARRIERS BE RETIRED TO MANUS
IMMEDIATELY DUE SHORTAGE FUEL BOMBS TORPEDOES
AND LOSS YESTERDAY OF ABOUT TOTAL OF 130 PLANES.
DETAILS IN MESSAGE FOLLOWING.

DECLASSED
E. O. 11852, Sec. 8(D) and 6(D) or (R)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)
OPNAV 195-30 Pacific

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/94

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)
OPNAV 195-30 Pacific
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM: CTF 77
RELEASED BY: 
DATE: 26 OCTOBER 1944
TOR CODE ROOM: 1711
DECODED BY: DIEBEL
PARAPHRASED BY: DIEBEL/JOHNSON
ROUTE BY: 

TO: COM 3RD FLEET

ACTION

PRIOURITY

CF 77 SENDS ACTION COM 3RD FLT INFO TO CTF 38, CTF 38.1
38.2, 77.1, 77.2 (WHO PASSES INFO TO CTO 77.4.1, 77.4.2) CINC SWPA
AND CG 6TH ARMY.

(PASS TO COMINCH FOR INFO BY RDO HONOLULU AS 260833)

YOUR SITUATION CONTAINED 251950 FULLY APPRECIATED. MY
SITUATION FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS NOW AS FOLLOWS. PRAC-
TICALLY ALL MY CVE'S HAVE BEEN DAMAGED SOME SERIOUSLY AND ARE
STILL UNDERGOING HEAVY ENEMY AIR ATTACKS. CVE'S HAVE BEEN
DOING SPLENDIDLY IN KEEPING PLANES IN AIR BUT MAY SHORTLY
BECOME INOPERATIVE. LEYTE GULF AREA WITHOUT CAP EXCEPT FEW
CARRIER PLANES OPERATING WITH DIFFICULTY FROM TACLOBAN AND
DULAG FIELDS. THESE FIELDS NOT YET ACTIVATED AND SUBJECT TO
FREQUENT AIR ATTACKS. UNTIL FIELDS ARE ACTIVATED 1 FAST
CARRIER GROUP INTACT URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR SUPPORT AND PRO-
TECTION LEYTE GULF AREA AND POSSIBLY CVE'S.

DELIVERED TO 20-G.

SECRET

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(6) and 6(6) or 6
OSD Letter May 1, 1972
By DBS Date May 21, 1973

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/14/94

US Navy

Naval History and Heritage Command

260306

Naval Home Plate

3rd Fleet

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OP SECRET DISPATCH

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265257  NCR 3184

[Redacted]

Originator to fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP

(Use G. C. T.)

OR OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT.

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DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 2(b), 3(b) (1/1/73)
(NS)(R) 1/21/73

TOP SECRET

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 76, Navy Regulations.

Copy No.

MAY 19-76

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/84
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**NAVAL MESSAGE**

**NAVY DEPARTMENT**

**Urgent**

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**SECRET**

**HONO INTERCEPT**

(TO VBC, VFC, 91 PRW, 32 BW, 312 BG, 10 0G, AOR NWA, FEAF, 13 AF FROM COMA E 5)

(TROOP BORT COMMANDER REENCYCLED FOR ACTION ALL COMMANDS CONCERNED PRESENT SOWESPAC OPERATIONS AS 260200/1)

(CINC PAC ALL CTF'S 3RD FLT AND ALL CTG'S 3RD FLT RECEIVED FOR ACTION AS 251040)

THIS IS A PARAPHRASED VERSION CITE 0 1771 E.

AIR INTENT 26 OCTOBER 5TH AIR FORCE SENDS 24 B-24'S AGAINST NIP TASK FORCE MINDANAO SEA CALLS BISON 1, DONOR 1, PALER 1. 13 AIR FORCE SENDS SQADRON M'S AGAINST NIP TASK FORCE SULU SEA. 13 AIR FORCE SECONDARY TARGET NIP NAVAL FORCE MINDANAO SEA. ESTIMATED TIMES OVER TARGET 0900 TO 1000 1 26 OCTOBER FOR ALL HEAVY 100 METER MOVING OVNS FIGHTER COVER

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/19/74
FOR HEAVIES UTILIZING U'S AND V'S. 1 GROUP R'S AND AVAILABLE FIGHTERS ARMED AND READY TO STRIKE NIP NAVAL FORCE. V'S STRIKING AIRDROMES MINDANAO AREA. 5 SNOOPERS SEARCH AND SHADOW ENEMY NAVAL FORCES MINDANAO SEA. OTHER SEARCHES AND RECBOSLSTG S* OP. 1 FERRET MIKE OVER CENTRAL PHILIPPINES.

* AS RECEIVED
BELIEVE HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT DAMAGED JAP SHIPS ARE
HEADING FOR CORON BAY AREA FOR REPAIRS. TAKE ALL
PRACTICABLE ACTION TO DESTROY THESE ENEMY UNITS.
KEEP WE AND ALL CONCERNED OF STEPS BEING TAKEN.

COPY TO 24G

To President 26 Oct as news

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11685, Sec. 3(B) and 8(D) or 8
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS  Data MAY 21 1972

300 Pacific
MACARTHUR VIA COM7THFLT

ALL TIME 1.

MAJOR AIR AND SURFACE ENGAGEMENT IN PROGRESS LEYTE GULF AREA. NIGHT 24. 25 JAP FORCE OF 2 BB. 1 OR 2 CA'S 8 OR MORE OTHER SHIPS ENTERED SOUTHER LEYTE GULF THROUGH SURIGAO STRAIT. OUR COVERING FORCE OF OBB. CA'S. CL'S ENGAGED THIS FORCE. ENEMY FORCE RETIRING AT 0500 PURSUED BY OUR LIGHT FORCES. ANOTHER JAP FORCE OF AT LEAST 3 BB'S.

2 CA. 9 DD APPEARENTLY PASSED THROUGH SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT NIGHT OF 24. 25 AFTER ATTACKS ON 24TH BY TF 38 AND AT 0700. 25 COMMENCED ATTACK ON CVE'S OFF LEYTE. TF 38.1 LAUNCHED FIRST STRIKE ON THIS FORCE AT
1030 FROM NORTHEAST. ENEMY HEADING FOR ENTRANCE LEYTE GULF AT 1140. OBB'S IN LEYTE GULF LOW ON AMMUNITION.

3 OBB.

3 CA'S AND DD SENT TO ASSIST CVE'S. FAST BB DUE 0800.

26. PRELIMINARY DAMAGE REPORTS SONOMA HIT BY BOMB. 1 LIBERTY SHIP DAMAGED AND LCI 1065 DESTROYED LEYTE GULF.

3 CVE'S AND 3 DE HIT. PRELIMINARY REPORTS OF 24TH SCORE 46 ENEMY PLANES SHOT DOWN 7 PROBABLES OVER BEACHES. COMFORT HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM. MOROTAI HAD AIR RAID NIGHT. 24, 25 DOCK DAMAGED. LAND FORCES ADVANCING ON LEYTE.
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea
To: War Department
 Nr: C 31061 26 October 1944

From GHQ SWPA to Chief of Staff War Department 051061. Operations report SOWSPAC Area 1500Z/24 to 1500Z/25 signed MacArthur.

Philippines:
Luzon: Two battleships, one heavy cruiser, two light cruisers, two destroyers reported on course 330 degrees 245 miles east by north northern Luzon afternoon October 25th; 14 transports with five escort vessels reported approaching from north morning October 25th; four large freighters, five escort vessels sighted heading Lingayen from north evening October 25th; 19 large ships eight small ships reported entering Manila Bay noon October 24th.

Samar Island: Enemy force comprising 14 vessels including three or four battleships, some units injured, reported entering San Bernadino Strait from south 1240Z/25.

Leyte Gulf: 80 enemy fighters in two waves attacked during morning October 24th.

Celebes: Catalinas night October 23rd reported three merchant vessels two escorts Macassar, two merchant vessels Pomeloa.

Borneo: 12 unidentified vessels reported off Sandakan same night; medium tanker with seven sealocks reported heading southeast north Macassar Strait October 23rd.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE
OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

Page 2

From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Mr: C 31061 26 October 1944

Part Two. Naval:

Leyte Gulf: Naval units bombarded shore targets October 24th; preliminary reports Seventh Fleet engagement with enemy force Surigao Strait early morning October 25th state at least eight vessels sunk including one battleship several cruisers and destroyers, our losses extremely light; escort carrier groups off Leyte Gulf, engaged by enemy force from north morning October 25th, drove off attacking force; combat reports indicate that with assistance of 3rd Fleet carrier planes several cruisers and destroyers were sunk, 3 battleships, 3 cruisers and some destroyers damaged; 1 allied escort carrier sunk, several escort carriers and destroyers damaged.

Air. Operations October 23rd:

1. 30 P-47's attacked Kairatoe airdrome, Ceram.

2. Refer paragraph 6 preceding report; Delete Boela airdrome, substitute Boeoldovug airdrome south Macassar.

3. Catalina strafed 6 small vessels off northeastern Borneo.

Operations October 24th:

4. 2 P-47's caused fires Manokwari; 12 A-20's struck Moeni.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Mr: C 31061 26 October 1944

5. Eight P-47's bombed Otawiri and Segan; one B-25, 12 A-20's and 55 P-47's attacked Babo area.

6. 32 RAAF P-40's attacked targets Vogelkop Peninsula, Ceram and Ambon; six RAAF A-20's started fires Tamilace on southern Ceram.


8. 11 P-38's damaged warehouses and control tower old Namlea airdrome.


10. Seventh Fleet planes carried out 190 sorties supporting Allied ground forces Leyte Island, also swept Yассayan area, sank one seaplane damaged another, sank seven Luggers, shot down one bomber, destroyed 25 grounded planes and damaged 30 others, two Allied fighters lost, three more enemy planes were shot down over Leyte by anti-aircraft fire.

Operations October 25th:

11. 43 A-20's furnished ground support, exploded fuel and supply dumps Sarmi area, Maffin Bay.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr. C 31061 26 October 1944

12. 56 B-24's scored many near misses on enemy Naval units in Mindanao Sea damaged cruiser; 30 B-25's unable to attack targets due weather; 35 P-38's and P-47's escort set Naval auxiliary vessel afire.

13. 23 Darwin B-24's cratered revetments and taxiways, destroyed 1 grounded plane and damaged another Ambesia airfield near Kendari, sank 1 schooner and damaged other coastal vessels southeastern Celebes.

14. 6 B-24's attacked Malili and Palopo in northern Gulf of Bone, demolished warehouses, hit motor park, damaged seatrike offshore.

15. Patrol B-24 bombed destroyer east Boeotong Island.

16. 6 Beaufighters strafed villages near Atamboea, Timor; 1 B-24 bombed Cape Chater airdrome.

Solomons Forces:

Air. Operations October 24th:

17. Predawn B-25 harassed Rabaul, 8 Corsairs strafed 2 grounded fighters Tobera airdrome, 12 New Zealand Corsairs destroyed huts and motor transport Gazelle Peninsula.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

Date

From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Hollandia, New Guinea

Mr: 0 31061 26 October 1944

18. 36 Dauntless, 10 B-25's, eight Corsairs, and three New Zealand Venturas demolished buildings around New Ireland; 40 Marine, two New Zealand Corsairs and 13 Dauntless attacked ship concentration Empress Augusta Bay.

Land. Leyte, Northern Sector: October 24th.

First Cavalry Division: Elements reached point halfway between Ditit (5464) and Ubam (5576); enemy positions west of road Ditit/Ubam slowed progress; elements landed Besol Island (5631), others landed opposite island on Samar, others at Ubam; reconnaissance patrols landed Kinatao point (5864), reconnoitered east Basy (6666), northwest to point (5867 M).

24th division: Banzai counterattack by estimated 100 enemy penetrated to centre of Palo, caused some casualties, 70 Japanese killed; troops advanced 500 yards south of San Joaquin against strong resistance. October 25th, 24th Division captured Tanauan (6045), contact with 96th division patrol established north bank Binasan River near Tanauan later broken by patrols withdrawal; other elements occupied hill three quarter mile west of Palo, entered castille (4948).

Southern Sector: October 24th:
96th Division: Heavy fighting for Burauen air strip; four light tanks lost; troops advanced 1500 yards north along Burauen/Dagami road.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)

FILED

E. O. 11655, Sec. 3(B) and 8(D) or (E)
ORD letter, May 4, 1973

DECLASSIFIED

By DSS Data: MAY 21 1973

COPY No.

71
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: C31061 26 October 1944

October 25th: 7th Division: Elements engaged vicinity Malabka (5031) and Bayug (one mile southwest of Malabka).

Enemy casualties to October 24th:
X Corps Area: 2200 killed, 67 captured;
XXIV Corps area: 1413 killed, 6 captured;

Our casualties to October 25th:
X Corps: 150 killed, 451 wounded, 26 missing;
XXIV Corps: 360 killed, 110 missing (wounded unreported).

Commanding General Sixth Army assumed command ashore at 0700Z/24th.

Part 3.

1. Dropped 30 500 lb bombs from 6,000 feet.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 no details.

4. A-20's dropped 15 100 lb bombs and 428 23 lb parafrag from minimum altitude.

5. P-47's dropped 58 500 lb bombs, A-20's and B-25's dropped 132 100 lb bombs from 10,000 feet, met moderate medium inaccurate anti-aircraft fire.
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: C 31061 26 October 1944

6. A-20's dropped 15 500 lb bombs.

7. B-24 dropped 9 250 lb bombs from 11,000 feet, met moderate heavy accurate anti-aircraft fire; A-20's dropped 48 500 lb bombs from 4,000 feet, met slight light inaccurate fire; P-38's dropped 14 500 lb bombs.

8. Dropped 11 500 lb bombs.

9. First B-24 dropped 5 500 lb bombs from 2,000 feet, fired 3,000 rounds 50 calibre; second B-24 dropped 4 500 lb bombs.

10. No details.

11. Dropped 314 100 lb bombs.

12. B-24's dropped 162 1,000 lb, 45 500 bombs.

13. Dropped 425 100 lb bombs one tenth second delay, fired 9,000 rounds 50 calibre.

14. Dropped 15 500 lb, 40 100 lb bombs plus incendiaries from 7,000 feet.

15. Dropped 5 300 lb bombs from 12,000 feet, met slight medium and heavy inaccurate anti-aircraft fire.

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr: 031061 26 October 1944

16. Beaufighters fired 710 rounds 20 MM; B-24 dropped 8 250 lb bombs one tenth second delay from 12,400 feet.

Refer preceding report:

14. P-40's dropped 32 500 lb bombs.

16. B-24's dropped 162 500 lb bombs from 9,300 feet, met moderate medium and heavy some accurate anti-aircraft fire.

End

ACTION: OPD

INFORMATION: CC/S
  CG AAP
  ASP
  G-2

CM-IN-24776 (26 Oct 44) 1618Z

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Secs. 3(B) and 6(D) or (E)
OSD Letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS Date: May 21, 1973

COPY No. 71

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM CTB 38
RELEASED BY
DATE 26 OCT 1944
TOR CODE NUMBER 0756

DESTINATION AND ORIGIN: CTB 38 ORIGI NATES AND SENDS ACTION TO COM 3RD FLT CINC PAC AND CINCSCOWESPAC INFO COMINCH CTB 77 COM 7TH FLT AND ALL TGC'S OF 3RD FLT, RDO HONO PASS TO ALL ADDRESSES.

DATE 26 OCT 1944
TOR CODE NUMBER

ATTACHMENT: (PAGE 1 OF 2)

SECRET

FLASH REPORT.

BELIEVE ENEMY FORCE EAST OF NORTHERN LUZON ORIGINALLY CONSISTED FOLLOWING 16 OR 17 SHIPS, 1 CV, 2 CVL, 1 CVL OR CVE, 2 BB, 1 PROBABLE MOGAMI CA AND 1 PROBABLE AGANO CL, 3 3 STACK CL AND 5 OR 6 DD'S.

PLANES SANK 1 CV, 2 CVL AND 1 DD. OUR CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS FINISHED OFF CVL OR CVE LEFT DEAD IN WATER BY PLANES. PLANES AT SUNSET DIRECTED SURFACE BOYS TO DAMAGED 3 STACK CL AND 2 DD'S AT LEAST ONE OF THEM DAMAGED. CRUISERS GOT RADAR CONTACT ON 3 SHIPS. 2 FLED NORTH AND 1 CL OR LARGE DD WAS SUNK.

PLANES REPORTED FOLLOWING ESCAPING SHIPS 1 NATORI CL DAMAGED BY TORPEDO, HEAD IN NORTH ALONE AT 5 PM.

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREG) By DBS.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(b) and 8(b) or (c)

OPNAV 1997
3600 Paciﬁc 252357

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/94
KNOTS. 1 BB HEAVILY DAMAGED BY MINIMUM 2 PROBABLY 4 
TORPEDOES AND MANY BOMBS AND CA OR NEW CL DAMAGED BY MANY 
BOMBS WITH 2 HEAVILY STRAFED DD HEADING NORTH SPEED ABOUT 8 
KNOTS. ANOTHER BB WITH 1 BOMB DAMAGED CA OR NEW CL, ONE 
3 STACK CL AND POSSIBLY 1 DD HEADED NORTH SPEED 20 KNOTS. 
PHOTOS SHOW CV WAS SHOKABU CLASS AND 1 CVL EITHER CHIYODA 
OR NUIKO CLASS AND 1 BB FUSO CLASS. PILOTS REPORT OTHER BB 
WAS ISE CLASS WITH FLIGHT DECK AFT. VERY FEW PLANES ON 
ENEMY CARRIERS. FIRST STRIKE SHOT DOWN SMALL NUMBER PLANES. 
OUR PLANES LOSSES BELIEVED REMARKABLY LIGHT. FORCE TORPEDO 
AND BOMB AND FOOD EXPENDITURES HAVE REACHED POINT OF ALMOST 
COMPLETE EXHAUSTION. 
SEARCH ON MORNING 26TH IN SECTOR 290 TO 020 DISTANCED 250 
MILES RESULTS NEGATIVE.

COPY TO 20G

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 5(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/83
NAVAL MESSAGE

AF TER

EXTENSION NUMBER

CINCPAC

ADDRESSEES

FOR ACTION

3RD FLEET

OP PRIORITY

CTF 17

ROUTINE

CTF 57

DEFERRED

CTF 59

DATE

26 OCTOBER 9144

0032

TOR CODE ROOM

HUGHES

DECODED BY

INFORMATION

PARAPHRASED BY

HUGHES/ Sander

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HONO INTERCEPT

COM 7TH FLT SENDS.

Cushing says that at 0940Z 25TH 3 HEAVY CRUISERS WERE SEEN HEADING NORTH AT FAST SPEED OFF THE SOUTHERN TIP OF MAKATAN ISLAND AND ENTERING SANTA ROSA CHANNEL ESCORTED BY 3 PLANES. AT LEAST 1000 JAPS REPORTED LANDED NORTHERN CEBU.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(C) and 5(D) or (F)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM CTF 38

RELEASED BY

DATE 25 OCT 1944

TOR CODEngaoma

DECODED BY DORSEY

PARAPHRASED BY DORSEY

ROSTERED BY

NAVAL MESSAGE

COMSUBPAC

CTG 38.8

COMCRUDIV 13

CINCPAC

COM 3RD FLT

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME:

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

(CTF 38 ORIGINATES FOR ACTION TO COMSUBPAC CTG 38.8 AND COMCRUDIV 13 INFO CINCPAC AND COM 3RD FLT. RDOS PASS TO ALL)

(PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED AS HONOLULU INTERCEPT, RDOS NON-PASS TO COMINCH FOR INFO AS 251953)

CARRIERS AND FEW DESTROYERS OF TASK GROUPS 38.3 AND 38.4 IN LATITUDE 16-37N LONGITUDE 126-56E AT 23001 25 OCTOBER ON COURSE 13@ SPEED 20K WITH THE 4 CRUISERS AND A DOZEN DESTROYERS OF OUR GROUPS ABOUT 192 MILE TO THE NORTH REJOINING AT HIGHER SPEED AFTER SINKING 1 OVL AND 1 LARGE DD OR CL OF ENEMY CRIPPLES. AT 21001 ENEMY GROUPS BELIEVED TO CONSIST OF 1 OR 2 BB, 2 CRUISERS AND 3 OR 4 DD AT 21-15N 126-23E ON COURSE NORTH SPEED 20K. EXPECT TO JOIN TO 30.8 AT 09001 26 OCTOBER IN CENTER DIESEL AREA.

COPY DELIVERED TO 24G.

E. O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 8(D) or 8(F)
OSD letter, May 1 1972

By DBS Date MAY 2 1973
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM
GHQ SWPA (MACARTHUR)

RELEASED BY

DATE
25 OCTOBER 1944

TOR CODEROOM
1800

DECODED BY
MCDougALL

PARAPHRASED BY
MCDougALL / SEVALD

ROUTED BY

COMMANDER ALLIED AIRFORCES
PRIORITY

INFORMATION

SUBJECT
COMBINED 5TH AIR FORCE
ADV ECH GHQ

TO ACTION
CTF 77

PRECEDECE
URGENT

ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME:

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

OCT

ACTION

HONO INTERCEPT

FROM GHQ SWPA SQD MAC ARTHUR TO CTF 77 FOR ACTION TO FOLLOWING FOR INFORMATION COMMANDER ALLIED AIR FORCES, CG 6TH ARMY, COM 3RD FLT, COMBINED 5TH AIR FORCE, ADV ECH GHQ (FOR SUTHERLAND AND KENNYE)

REFERENCE YOUR 250739. 2 GROUPS P38'S ARE READY TO MOVE LYEY AS SOON AS AIRFIELDS ARE OPERABLE. URGENT INQUIRY IS BEING MADE TO 6TH ARMY TO DETERMINE WHAT FACILITIES ARE READY TO CALL FORWARD ALL OR ANY PART OF THESE GROUPS. PENDING ARRIVAL OF PURSUIT AVIATION, ADVISE PRACTICABLE PROTECTION TO LYEY MUST BE GIVEN BY CTF 77 AND COM 3RD FLT.

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (B)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972

By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

SGRT

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)
**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

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**THIS IS SECRET FROM COM 3RD FLEET. ACTION CINCPAC CINCSOWESPACE COM 7TH FLEET COMINCH**

That there be no misunderstanding concerning recent operations of the 3rd Fleet, I inform you as follows:

To obtain information of Jap plans and movements became vital on 23 October so 3 Carrier Groups were moved into Philippine coast off Polillo, San Bernardino and Surigao to search as far west as possible. On 24 October the 3rd Fleet searches revealed Jap forces moving east through the Sibuyan and Sulu seas and both of those forces were brought under attack by 3rd Fleet air strikes. The existence of a Jap plan for coordinated attack was then apparent but the objective was not sure and the expected carrier force was missing from the picture. 3rd Fleet Carrier searches revealed the presence of the enemy carrier force on the afternoon of 24 October.

**Tops Secret**

Top Secret Action F-30

251317

DEClassified
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/3/94
COMPLETING THE PICTURE, TO STATICALLY GUARD SAN BERNARDINO STRAITS UNTIL ENEMY SURFACE AND CARRIER AIR ATTACKS COULD BE COORDINATED WOULD HAVE BEEN CHILDISH SO 3 CARRIER GROUPS WERE CONCENTRATED DURING THE NIGHT AND STARTED NORTH FOR A SURPRISE DOWN ATTACK ON THE ENEMY CARRIER FLEET. I CONSIDERED THAT THE ENEMY FORCES IN SIBUYAN SEA HAD BEEN SO BADLY DAMAGED THAT THEY CONSTITUTED NO SERIOUS THREAT TO KINKAI AND THAT ESTIMATE HAS BEEN BORNE OUT BY THE EVENTS OF THE 25TH OFF SURIGAO. THE ENEMY CARRIER FORCES WAS CAUGHT OFF GUARD THERE BEING NO AIR OPPOSITION OVER THE TARGET AND NO AIR ATTACK AGAINST OUR FORCES. THEIR AIR GROUPS WERE APPARENTLY SHORE BASED AND ARRIVED TOO LATE TO LAND ON THEIR CARRIERS OR GET INTO THE FIGHT. I HAD PROJECTED SURFACE STRIKING UNITS AHEAD OF OUR CARRIERS IN ORDER TO COORDINATE SURFACE AND AIR ATTACKS AGAINST ENEMY. OCM 7TH FLEETS URGENT APPEALS FOR HELP CAME AT A TIME WHEN
**OP SECRET DISPATCH**

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**PAGE 3 OF 4** 251317 NCR 3138

**Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)**

**UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED 251317 DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DESIGNATED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.**

THE ENEMY FORCE WAS HEAVILY DAMAGED AND MY OVERWHELMING SURFACE STRIKING FORCE WAS WITHIN 45 MILES OF THE ENEMY CRIPPLES. I HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO BREAK OFF FROM MY GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY AND HEAD SOUTH TO SUPPORT KINAIID ALTHOUGH I WAS CONVINCED THAT HIS FORCE WAS ADEQUATE TO DEAL WITH AN ENEMY FORCE THAT WAS BADLY WEAKENED BY OUR ATTACKS OF THE 24TH - A CONVICTION JUSTIFIED BY LATER EVENTS OFF LEYTE.

I WISH TO POINT OUT THAT MACARTHUR AND CINCPAC WERE SUPPORTED BY:

(a) DESTRUCTION OF 1200 ENEMY PLANES BETWEEN 10 AND 20 OCTOBER PLUS MUCH SHIPPING.

(b) AIR ATTACKS AGAINST JAP FORCES IN THE SULU SEA.

(c) CRIPPLING OF ENEMY FORCE IN SIBUYAN SEA.

(d) DESTRUCTION OF OVER 15% PLANES ON 24 OCTOBER.

(e) DESTRUCTION OF ENEMY CARRIER STRENGTH ON 25 OCTOBER.
(F) CARRIER ATTACKS ON THREATENING ENEMY FORCE OFF LEYTE 25 OCTOBER.

(G) SURFACE MOVEMENTS EVENING 25 OCTOBER TO CUT OFF ENEMY RETREAT TOWARD SAN BERNARDINO.

THE BACK OF THE JAP NAVY HAS BEEN BROKEN IN THE COURSE OF SUPPORTING OUR LANDINGS AT LEYTE. HALSEY.
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<th>NAVY DEPARTMENT</th>
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**HONOR INTERCEPT**

FROM COM 3RD FLEET. ACTION CONTASKFOR 77 INFO CINCPAC.

YOUR 256441 SEE MY 256657.

2 GROUPS WILL PUT DOWN FIGHTER SLEEP OVER VISAYAS. STRIKES ON RETREATING ENEMY PRECLUDE OTHER COMMITMENTS. FOR FUTURE PLANNING IT MUST BE UNDERSTOOD THAT FAST CARRIERS REQUIRE REARMING AND AIR GROUPS ARE EXHAUSTED AFTER 16 DAYS UNPRECEDENTED FIGHTING.

**RELEASED**

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OUR letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date: MAY 21 1973

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date: 4/12/84
FROM COM 3RD FLT TO CINC PAC
DATE 25 OCT 44
TDM ADDR. 1455
DECODED BY B. H. BOUJAN
TYPED BY ADAMS I. P.
ROUTED BY THOMPSON

IT CAN BE ANNOUNCED WITH ASSURANCE THAT THE JAPANESE NAVY HAS BEEN BEATEN, ROUTED, AND BROKEN BY THE 3RD AND 7TH FLEETS.
STRONG ENEMY REACTION TO LEYTE LANDING BEGAN YESTERDAY AFTERNOON WITH NUMEROUS BUT GENERALLY INEFFECTIVE AIR RAIDS ON OUR FORCES. SIGHTING BY PT OF 2 LARGE UNIDENTIFIED ENEMY SHIPS AND 3 DESTROYERS AT 2310.

24TH 10 MILES OFF SOUTHEAST TIP OF BOHOL ISLAND HEADING TOWARDS SURIGAO STRAIT WAS OPENING EVENT OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL NIGHT ENGAGEMENT ALL DETAILS OF WHICH ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE. ENEMY ADVANCED IN 2 GROUPS. 1ST GROUP REPORTED AS 2 BATTLESHIPS, 1 OR 2 HEAVY CRUISERS, 1 DESTROYER. SECOND GROUP 2 LARGE AND ABOUT 5 SMALLER SHIPS, NUMBER SUNK UNDETERMINED BUT BELIEVED TO BE AT LEAST 8 OF ALL SIZES. AT DAWN 8 UNITS SEEN BURNING. ALL SUNK AIDED BY GUNFIRE AND TORPEDOES. SUCH UNITS AS ESCAPED RETREATED WESTWARD AND HAVE BEEN UNDER AIR ATTACK. OUR DAMAGE. ALBERT W. GRANT (DD 649) DAMAGED BUT ABLE TO PROCEED. NUMEROUS
PT's damaged. 1 sunk. Many air raids throughout the day in Leyte area. 4 ships in harbor damaged. Personnel casualties undetermined. Throughout the day covering CVEs have been under heavy shore based air attack. Mid morning enemy force which apparently sortied through San Bernandinob Strait estimated as 4 BB 7 CA 2 CL 12 DD joined in attack on CVE's but was turned back by repeated strikes from CVEs supported in afternoon by strikes from TG 38.1 which arrived in time to prevent what might have been a serious situation. By late afternoon the enemy was in full retreat. Damage inflicted on enemy presently estimated as: 1 CA sunk. 1 DD probably sunk. 3 BB 3 CA 1 DD damaged. Own damage reports fragmentary but considerable damage has been suffered by 2 CVE group. Our carrier planes have been landing servicing and taking off from Dulag and Tacloban strips throughout the day when their parent CVEs were under attack. CVE planes also accounted for 46 enemy aircraft over Leyte beaches plus 7 probables.

ICA 3 B 13 (Dam.)

1 DD Prot. 3 CA
HONO INTERCEPT

(CTF 77 SENDS)

PLANES CAN LAND AT BOTH TACLOBAN AND DULAG FIELDS. 
FORMER IS THE BEST BUT ONLY LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE 
AND LIMITED SERVICING AVAILABLE. SHOULD BE USED IN 
EMERGENCY ONLY. MANY OF YOUR PLANES NOW LANDING THERE.
HONORABLE INTERCEPT

(FROM CINCPOA ACTION CTF 57. INFO CTF 59)

AT DAYLIGHT HAVE MAXIMUM HEAVY BOMBER STRENGTH READY TO STRIKE AT LONG RANGE IN CASE ENEMY SHIPS RETIRE WITHIN RANGE OF YOUR BASES.
**NAVIGATION FILL IN DATE AND TIME:**

ORIENTED FOR NAVIGATION PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

HONOR INTERCEPT

(CTF 57 GIVES ACTION CINCPOA COM 3RD FLEET INFO VIA RADIO SAIPAN TO CINC 21ST BOCOM/CTF 59)

FIRST INFO ADEE REPORTS 15 VLR READY 1400 MILE RADIUS YOUR ORDERS AGAINST ENEMY VESSELS.

---

**DECLASSIFIED**

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/1974
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM: COM 3RD FLT

RELEASED BY

DATE 25 OCT 1944

TOR CODEROOM

0852

DECODED BY SEIFERT

PARAPHRASED BY D SMITH

INFORMATION FOR ACTION:

CTF 77

COMINCH CINCPAC
ALL TFC'S TGC'S 3RD FLT
ALL CONCERNED SWESPAC OPERATIONS

RECEIVED

250639

NCR 2258

EXPIRED E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 2(D) or (E)
OSD Letter, May 1, 1972

By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA Date 4/13/94

SECRET

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)
**NAVAL MESSAGE**

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ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAN SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

**HONO INTERCEPT**

CTF 77 SHOUTING,

ENEMY APPARENTLY ATTEMPTING TO FORCE ENTRANCE LEYTE GULF.

AM CONCENTRATING MY FORCES AT ENTRANCE. CVE'S ENROUTE LEYTE AND ARE ATTACKING.

COPY TO 20G

**SECRET**

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

320 Pacific
250403

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 12/1/94
NAVAL MESSAGE

TO: CTF 77

FROM:

RELEASED BY:

DATE:

TOR CODEROOM:

DECODED BY:

PARAPHRASED BY:

ROUTED BY:

DATE: 25 OCT 1944

URGENT

FRUT

ZIMMERMAN

CTF 34

CTF 36.1

U.S. Navy

CENTRAL PACIFIC

UNITED STATES

SECRET

HONI INTERCEPT

SINCE MY 254/46 SITUATION LEYTE GULF HAS AGAIN BECOME

VERY SERIOUS. ENEMY FAST BATTLESHIPS AND HEAVY

CRUISERS RETURNED FOR ATTACK ON CVE GROUPS OFF

ENTRANCE AND THREATENING CONVOYS. EXPENDITURE OF

FUEL AND AMMUNITION HAVE REDUCED EFFECTIVENESS OF MY

SUPPORTING FORCES. ATTACKS ON CVE'S HAS DISRUPTED

MY AIR SUPPORT. HAVE SENT TASK FORCE YEB'S WE DROP BB 3 CA AND DD'S TO ASSIST CVE'S BUT YOUR ASSISTANCE

BADLY NEEDED. CVE S WERE FORCED TO RETIRE TO LEYTE GULF

AS RECEIVED.

COPY TO 2G

---

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 1/1/94

CLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(6) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 5, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973
(COM 3RD FLEET SENDS ACTION CINCPAC)

YOUR 250644 TF 34 WITH ME ENGAGING ENEMY CARRIER FORCE.

AN NOW PROCEEDING WITH TO 38.2 AND ALL FAST BS TO REINFORCE KINCAID. 1 ENEMY CV SUNK, 2 OV'S DEAD IN WATER. NO DAMAGE ONS FORGE. ENEMY AIR GROUP FLYING OUT FROM LUZON ARRIVED TOO LATE. SEE MY 241122 AND 241124. TO 38.1 ALREADY ORDERED ASSIST KINCAID. IMMEDIATELY.

COPY TO 2RD

38.1 TO KINCAID

38.2 4 FAST BS TO KINCAID

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/84
A CONFORT WHILE OBSERVING FULL HOSPITAL PROCEDURE 
SUFFERED ENEMY AIR ATTACK AT 231715Z IN POSITION 08-50 N 
128-50 E. NO REPORT SINCE FIRST URGENT MESSAGE. COMMAND 
OF THE 10TH AND 24TH CORPS HAS BEEN ASSUMED ASHORE. 
ENEMY DUSK AND DAWN HARASSING AIR ATTACKS CONTINUE ON 
SHIFT. 2-HOUR AIR ATTACK MORNING 24TH CAUSED MINOR DAMAGE 
PRESERVER DAMAGED BY NEAR MISS. 22 NLF PLANES DOWNY 
BY CVE SWEEPS OVER VISAYAS ON 22ND. ANOTHER 6 ON 23RD. 
NAVAL GUNFIRE IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS CONTINUES. UNLOADING 
AND ECHELON MOVEMENTS CONTINUE ON SCHEDULE. ON 22ND COM-
AIRNORSOLS BOMBED BIVOUAC AREAS NEW IRELAND AND VARIOUS
TARGETS KAVIENG AREA. PT'S MORTARED SOUTHERN NEW IRELAND AND NORTHERN BOUGAINVILLE. BLACKCATS NIGHT 22ND-23RD BOMBED AND STRAFED SHIPPING WITH UNDETERMINED RESULTS

MACARTHUR
After the initial report of a surface engagement in Surigao Strait, south of Leyte, Admiral Barbey who commands the Leyte naval assault forces reported that at about 0500 local Philippine time 25 enemy surface vessels were retiring through the Strait pursued by our light forces.

However, in a very late plain language message with time-date-group of 242227Z (0927 local Philippine time) Admiral Barbey reported the following to Admiral Halsey:

"Enemy force attacking our CVE's composed of 4 Battleships 8 Cruisers and X other ships. Request Lee proceed top speed cover Leyte. Request immediate strike by fast carriers?"

Admiral Lee is in command of Task Force 34, the Heavy Striking Force of fast new battleships and Cruisers.
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Areas, Hollandia, New Guinea
To: War Department
Mr. C 51008 25 October 1944

The Chief of Staff War Department from GHQ SWPA sgd MacArthur C 51008. Operations report SOWESFAC area period 1500Z/23 to 1500Z/24 signed MacArthur.

Philippines: 1 enemy force indicated from reconnaissance reports to consist of 3 battleships with 11 cruisers and destroyers approached Surigao Strait from west during October 24th, engaged by Leyte Gulf surface force during night, retired before dawn; another force estimated 2 battleships 3 cruisers plus destroyers rounded southern Mindoro approached San Bernardino Strait under air attack evening October 24th, some units apparently passing through strait to attack 7th Fleet surface vessels northeast Leyte Gulf early morning October 25th; 3rd forces sighted 0740Z/24 200 miles east northern Luzon comprising 3 carriers 6 light cruisers and destroyers heading west and another group including 2 converted carriers "Ise and Hyuga" on course 210 degrees; off west coast Palawan 3 medium transports 3 medium freighter transports 4 escorts reported heading southwest afternoon October 24th; 2 destroyers 1 damaged heavy cruiser reported same area night October 23rd.

Part 2. Naval: 7th Fleet surface vessels engaged enemy units Surigao Strait/Leyte Gulf night October 24th, no details available.

(1) Air. Enemy action: 39 enemy bombers and 7 fighters shot down, 7 others probably destroyed, by 7th Fleet planes during attacks against Allied beaches and shipping in Leyte Gulf October 24th.
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

Nr. 051008 25 October 1944

Operations October 20:
(1) Refer Paragraph 13 report operations
October 21: Patrol B 24's destroyed four additional floatplanes
on water Mindore Island, Central Philippines.

Operations October 22:
(2) 4 P 38's believed destroyed seatruck near
Cotabato, southwestern Mindanao.

Operations October 23:
(3) 7 B 24's hit ammunition dumps Wewak.
(4) 45 RAAF P 40's and Beaufighters attacked
bivouacs, destroyed buildings and several small craft
western New Guinea and Cerar.

(5) 13 P 47's struck Sagan airdrome, southern
Mae Guler Gulf.

(6) Six P 38's shot down 7 enemy fighters taking
off Boela Airdrome.

(7) 2 B 25's, 24 A 20's, 12 P 38's and 1 patrol
B 24 attacked Boela waterfront and fuel installations, started
large fires, destroyed grounded Betty of undetermined ser-
viceability.

CM-IN-23672 (25 Oct 44)

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD Letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date: MAY 2 1 1973

COPY NO. 71

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From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

Br. 0 51008 25 October 1944

(8) 12 A 20’s bombed runways and dispersals Kairatose; 16 P 47’s attacked Haroekee.

(9) 11 P 38’s damaged buildings Cape Noesanive, Ambon Bay entrance; 23 B 25’s caused fires and explosions Ambon town.

(10) 1 B 24 bombed old Namlea Airfield.

(11) 1 B 24 met 4 intercepting fighters over Macassar, another B 24 exploded and sank 1 small freighter, left seatruck listing and strafed 2 other freighters same area, single B 24 patrolling Macassar Strait sank 2 seatrucks, damaged small freighter and attacked 5 other seatrucks.

(12) Patrol B 24 left seatruck listing off southwestern Celebes; 7 P 38’s destroyed 1 grounded bomber, probably destroyed another and killed many personnel limboeng airdrome Macassar.

Operations October 24th.

(13) 4 P 40’s fired fuel dumps and damaged buildings cooperating with PT boats Halmahera.

(14) 16 P 40’s bombed pillboxes and warehouses, strafed Amaerang and Lembeh Strait, northeastern Celebes.

(15) 4 B 24’s and 18 B 24’s attacked airfields, bivouacs and harbour installations Sandakan, 13 P 38’s and 10 P 47’s escort strafed and set afire 11 seatrucks and 4 luggers.

(16) 12 B 25’s strafed 3 schooners Sarangani Bay, strafed personnel and motor trucks along inland roads; 18 B 24’s

CM-IN-23672 (25 Oct 44)

E.O. 11632, Sec. 2(B) and 5(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 1, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

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COPY NO. 71
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area  
Hollandia, New Guinea

To: 051008  
25 October 1944

bombarded Buayan Airfield bivouacs, southern Mindanao.

(17) 1 Darwin B 24 attacked luggers in Banda Sea; another left coastal vessel burning south Salajur Island and bombed Lahane village, Timor; 3 B 24's bombed gun positions Lautem.

Solomon Forces.  Naval: PT boats strafed and mortared targets northern Choiseul, New Ireland and Garele Peninsula.

(18) 3 TBF drones hit shipping hulks, Kahili; 26 New Zealand Corsairs attacked bivouacs northern Bougainville; 12 Corsairs, 4 B 25's and 5 New Zealand Venturas bombed Kavieng and New Ireland plantations; single B 25 harassed Rabaul; weather reduced activity.

Land. Leyte:

October 22: Small enemy counterattacks western edge Palo (5751) and infiltration Paving area (5854) repulsed; minor counter-attack at night south of Baguio River mouth (6223) also repulsed.

October 23: Strong enemy defensive positions Catmon Hills area being by-passed and enveloped; our advanced armoured elements within one mile San Pablo airfield.

Enemy casualties to 1800123 October: Northern sector: 1017 killed, 5 captured; southern sector 860 killed, 8 captured.

October 24th: Northern sector: DESOLATED

CM-IN-23672 (25 Oct 44)
From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea
Nr. 0 51008 25 October 1944

Squadron 1st Cavalry landed unopposed Babatung, north coast Leyte, patrols north from Tacloban reached points 5272 and 5067; 24th Division control hills 550515 and 571490, also reached San Joaquin.

Southern sector:
96th Division holds line running southwest northeast 1,000 yards south Tabontabon; 7th Division occupied Burauen and hold San Pablo airstrips numbers 1 and 2.

Morotai: Enemy attack on Pilow outposts repulsed October 23rd, 37 enemy killed.

Part 3.
(3) 56 1,000 lb bombs dropped.

(4) * * *

(5) 13 500 lb bombs dropped.

(6) No details.

(7) 80 100 lb & 64 500 lb bombs dropped by A 20's, 6 1,000 lb bombs by B 24, 24 75 gallon gasoline bombs by P 38's.

(8) 16 500 lb bombs dropped by P 47's, moderate medium accurate anti aircraft fire.

(9) 11 500 lb 36 250 lb bombs by B 25's.
WAR DEPARTMENT
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OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

From: General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area
Hollandia, New Guinea

Mr. 0 51008 25 October 1944

(10) 5 500 lb bombs dropped.
(11) No details.
(12) No details.
(13) 8 500 lb bombs dropped.
(14) 32 500 lb bombs dropped.
(15) 24 500 lb bombs dropped by B 24's, 72 by B 25's.

(16) B 25's dropped 12 500 lb, B 24's dropped 34 tons 500 lb bombs.
(17) B 24's carried 8 300 lb one tenth second delay bombs.

*Being serviced

ACTION: OPD

INFORMATION: CC/8 Adm King
CG AAP Col Park
ASF Field Marshal Dill
G-2 Log

CM-IN-23672 (25 Oct 44) 1553Z bjm

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3(3) or Sec. 3(4)
NLR 101

BY RT, NARA, DATE 4/13/94

COPY NO. 71

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**NAVAL MESSAGE**

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*UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.*

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**ON OUTGOING dispatches PLease leave about one inch clear space before beginning text.**

**HONO INTERCEPT**

(TO COMAF 5 ACTION, CINCSPAC, COM 7TH FLT, CTG 73.4 INFO, COMAF 13 FROM COMAAF CITE AX 7997)

**NO** HERE GOES ANSWERING YOUR O 1635 E. REFERENCE AX 7987

**THOSE DATED 23 OCTOBER, IF PBY LEYTE SEARCHES ARE ESTABLISHED REDUCE SECTOR 5 TO 600 MILES AND CANCEL SECTORS 6 AND 7 PW**

**IF PBY LEYTE SEARCHES HAVE NOT BEEN MADE. XJ1JXW**

**AS RECEIVED.**

**SECRET**

*If original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (A) NAVREGS.)*

**DECLASSIFIED**

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(D) and 8(D) or 9

By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/64
HONO INTERCEPT

(CONSUBPAC SENDS. FOR ACTION ROACHES RAIDERS CLAREYS CRUSHERS AND CONVOY COLLEGE. INFO ALL SUBS.)

LARGE SCALE AIR AND SURFACE SHIP BATTLE EXPECTED TO START WITHIN NEXT HOUR GENERAL VICINITY 16-80 NORTH 186-80 EAST. ANOTHER SURFACE ENGAGEMENT TAKING PLACE IN SORIGAO STRAIT AND LEYTE GULF AT PRESENT TIME. ROACHES RAIDERS AND CLAREYS CRUSHERS PROCEED WESTWARD AT BEST SPEED UNTIL REACHING FOLLOWING STATIONS. ROACH HAVE YOUR PACK PATROL CONVOY COLLEGE SAFETY LANE BETWEEN 124 AND 125 EAST. CLAREY PACK PATROL SAFETY LANE BETWEEN 128 AND 129 EAST. CONVOY COLLEGE SUBS MOVE INTO POSITIONS BETWEEN 119 AND 121 EAST IN POSITIONS TO INTERCEPT ESCAPES FROM EITHER SOUTHWARD OR EASTWARD. ALL STANDBY FOR ADDITIONAL ORDERS AND CONTACT REPORTS TO ENABLE YOU TO KNOCK OFF CRIPPLES.

GEORGE

35s Pacific 242139

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/74
FROM: GARbled CALL
TO: COM 7TH FLt, COM 3RD FLt, GARbled CALL, CINCPAC

242337*
NOR 1521

HONO INTERCEPT

STILL UNDER ATTACK AT 08381 IN LAT 11-35 LONG 136-29

*RECEIVED PLAIN LANGUAGE.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(B) and 6(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 4, 1972
By DDS Date MAY 21 1973

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94
HUMINT

CTF 77 SENDS ACTION COM 3RD FLT.

CVE Group

ABOUT 270° CTU 77.4.3 REPORTED UNDER FIRE FROM
FROM ENEMY BATTLESHIPS AND CRUISERS IN POSITION
60 MI OFF SAMAR (EAST)

114048-25 EVIDENTLY CAME THROUGH SAN BERNADINO
DURING THE NIGHT. REQUEST IMMEDIATE AIR STRIKE.
ALSO REQUEST SUPPORT FROM HEAVY SHIPS. MY OBS*
LOW IN AMMUNITION.

240700

* AS RECEIVED
COPY TO 2MC

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
CTF 77 TELLS.

OUR SURFACE FORCES NOW ENGAGE ENEMY SURFACE FORCES SURLAGO STRAIT ENTRANCE TO LEYTE GULF. ENEMY FORCE SIGHTED IN STRAIT BY PT. THEY ARRIVED ENTRANCE GULF ABOUT 2100 CONSISTS OF 2 BATTLESHIPS, 3 CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS. QUESTION: IS TF 34 GUARDING SAN BERNARDINO STRAIT.
TOP SECRET DISPATCH

FROM CINCPAC
RELEASED BY
DATE 24 OCTOBER 1944
TOK CODE NO: 1125

DECODED BY DIEBEL
PARA PHASED BY DIEBEL
DOTTED BY ROWLAND

FROM TF 38 COM 3RD FLT
TO COM 7TH FLT
FOR ACTION URGENT
INFORMATION URGENT

HONOLULU INTERCEPT

TF 38 AND COM 3RD FLT GET THIS FOR ACTION. INFO TO COM 7TH FLT. CINCPAC ORIGINA TES.

ULTRA

2 JAPANESE AIRMEN MADE CONTACTS IN POSITION 16-32N 123-30E AT 1750 AND 1807. 1 TIME 24 OCTOBER. AN EARLIER CONTACT TIIED 1725 WAS NEAR VICINITY 15-20N 123-40E.

6 COPIES TO F-341
1 COPY TO 20-G.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Sec. 2(D) and 8(D) or (E)
OSD letter, May 6, 1972
By DBS Date MAY 21 1973

NO. 1 ADMIRAL NO. 2 FILE. NO. 3-F-1 OR CHARTROOM NO. 4 SPECIAL

TOP SECRET

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 78, Navy Regulations.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4 NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/94