

██████████
47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON AAF
A. F. O. No. 86

HISTORY OF THE COMMAND SECTION

P.R.C.

1 - 31 July 1945

As usual, the Orderly Room was a busy place during July and besides processing records for sixty-six individuals either coming into or leaving the Squadron another move in Orderly Rooms was effected. This time the move was made into a temporary location to allow a Quonset type building for an Orderly Room to be erected where the squad tent Orderly Room had been located. It is expected that the new building will be ready for occupancy early in August and that should be the final movement to be made by the Headquarters section while on this island.

July saw twelve enlisted men leave for forty five day furloughs to the mainland. The men were well deserving of these rests as they had all been overseas for thirty six months without a break of any sort.

Five men were also returned to the mainland on the point system for replacement of men. These men were 2 Sgt. Ver Wayne Beach, 2 Sgt Thurman B. Lackey, 2 Sgt. Thomas W. Walker, 1 Sgt. Stephen Wojcik, and 1 Sgt. Frank W. Weibel. The men had one hundred twelve and one hundred fourteen points at the time they left the Squadron. Four of the five men had been with the Squadron since December 1940 and had advanced to assume very important places in the Squadron. Their vacancies will be hard to fill.

One man was evacuated to the mainland during the month because of medical reasons.

Five enlisted men and two officers were transferred to other organizations and two pilots were transferred to the mainland having completed their

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History of The Command Section,
1 - 31 Jul 45, contd

tours of duty in the Pacific.

In spite of the large number of losses for the month, the Squadron is still ahead on man as twenty-eight men were transferred in. Of this number eight were pilots including 1st Lieutenant William H. Sparks, who had previously been with the Squadron but was sent back to the mainland in October 1944. We are very glad to welcome Lieutenant Sparks back to the Squadron.

1st Lt. Preston O. Howard, Jr., an Engineering Officer, came into the Squadron to replace Captain Cletus J. Oster who transferred to the 386th Air Service Group. Lt. Evans, Assistant Engineering Officer, was transferred out of the Squadron for a short time during the month but was later transferred back.

Major Fred E. Larson joined the Squadron on 13 July as our new Executive Officer and Captain Ernest W. Hostatler joined on 31 July to take over as Acting Squadron Commander due to the death of Captain Walter H. Powell on 30 July who had been acting Squadron Commander while Major Barkham is on rest leave in California. Major Larson just arrived from the United States and has been the first ground officer to be assigned directly from the States to the Squadron in over two years. Captain Hostatler transferred to us from Group Headquarters.

Fourteen new enlisted men, thirteen of them from the mainland, joined us in July. The majority of the men went to the Armament section and the others to the Communications and Engineering sections. We were indeed glad to receive men as their help is greatly needed while many of our older men are on

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History of The Command Section,
1 - 31 July 1945, cont'd

furlough or in some cases have been reassigned to the mainland.


Six enlisted men were up graded in their MOS during July after having adequately proven their ability in their new MOS over a considerable period of time.

1st Lieutenant Fred T. Grover, a pilot, left the Squadron on a Temporary Duty Basis late in the month to attend a gunnery school at Foster Field, Texas.

Pfc. Stephan C. Toohay, a new comer to the Squadron, was taken into the Orderly Room during July to begin work as a clerk.

The Headquarters section was inspected by the 15th Group Administrative Inspector on the 24th and 25th of July and received a rating of "Excellent".

Combat losses for the month of July were Captain Walter H. Powell, 1st Lieutenant Jule C. Mitchell, Jr., and 2d Lt. Ronald E. Johnston. 1st Lieutenant Robert A. Worton was lost while on a training mission.



HISTORY OF THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION

1 - 31 July 1945

Prepared by Capt. Henry G. Sanders, Intelligence O.

During the month of July nine effective VLR missions were run and four non-effective. All missions were either Fighter Strikes over an area or strafing missions. No escort missions were scheduled. Only one enemy plane shot down during the month with six destroyed on the ground, four probables and nine damaged. A DE was blown up by Lt. Sher, and on one mission three flights strafed a factory which also blew up. Lt. Baldwin destroyed the Squadron's first locomotive. The Japanese did not choose to fight in the air and also removed their planes from their fields and effectively camouflaged and dispersed them. Dummies and decoys were encountered on most fields. Flak became more effective with all the practice the Japs are getting and we lost four planes and three pilots not including one plane and pilot of the 78th Squadron flying in our Squadron.

On 10 July Lt. O'Mara bailed out of his plane damaged by flak and was picked up by a sub. On 15 July Lt. Jule Mitchell did not pull out of a strafing run on Kowa SS. Also on 15 July Lt. Ronald Johnston did not pull out of a pass on Okazaki Airfield and crashed in flames. On 20 July Lt. Collie of the 78th Squadron was discovered missing when the Squadron reached the rally point. On 30 July Captain Walter Powell, acting Commanding Officer, was killed when his plane went in after the side blew off about 25 miles South of Sano Airfield. This was a rather strange occurrence as no flak was seen by other members of the flight.



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Intelligence History, 47th Ftr Sq,
AAF, 1 - 31 July 1945, contd.

On 27 July Lt. Robert Morton was killed in a mid air collision with a plane from the 531st Squadron while on a training mission over Iwo.

There were eight missions to Chichi and three planes lost. All planes became overheated due to loss of coolant either due to flak or mechanical failure. All pilots were rescued.

Attached are some pictures taken for the month of July. Other July pictures will be included next month. Also attached are pictures of the Squadron S-2 set up. At present we are still using an air raid shelter in the officers living area which provides ample space and is very convenient. We anticipate a move to the line when our Quonset hut is erected there. As we have Squadron briefings before every mission it will be very inconvenient to return to the field for these briefings since the briefings are at night. Also our present set up is very fine for films for the pilots and being in the living area we can at any time get in touch with any pilot. Interrogations are conducted in the Group area so the location of our S-2 is of no significance in that respect.


HISTORY OF THE INFORMATION & EDUCATION SECTION


1 - 31 July 1945

Prepared by 1st Lt. Austin J. Bisky, I & E Officer.

The history of the I & E Section of the Squadron has been a fluctuating sort of thing. That is, at times there has been an unusual desire for information of a personal nature, such as, furloughs, soldier's allotments, insurance, soldier's deposits, etc. Together with these personal interests, a knowledge of items with a general application, such as, post-war jobs, loans, etc. At the same time, there has been a slight decrease in the number of soldiers making application for correspondence courses and self teaching courses. On the other hand, during the past two or three months there has also been an increase in those interested in items of a general nature or application. This fluctuation has been set forth in the monthly I & E Progress Report.

Concerning the information side of the ledger, in order to offset or rather compensate for this unbalance, the I & E and War Information Board has been constructed in the Enlisted Men's Dayroom. This bulletin board has been divided into three sections - Pacific Action, a situation map keeping the "boys" informed as to the progress of the war; World Wide News, a more or less elaboration, in print, of the progress of the war; The War in Pictures, the self-explanatory section of the bulletin board.

In addition to this bulletin board there is a miniature library in which are kept pocket size books dealing with subjects peculiar to the war itself, such as, "POW", "The Close Relationship Between the War Front and the Home Front", China, Japan, "Justice for War Criminals", "Plans to



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I & E History, 47th Ftr Sq,
AAF, 1 - 31 July 1945, contd.

"Win Peace", etc., are kept up to date by Pfc. Elmer Stranberg of the Intelligence Section. His interest and efforts have made the board one of the outstanding features of the I & E work.

Due to the fact that to find a suitable place in which to hold weekly meetings has been a sore spot in our program. We have managed some how to hold two or three small meetings in different tents instead of a large one in the mess hall where nine times out of ten the meeting would be accompanied by the clash of dishes or the splash of water.

It does take a little longer to reach all the men with this method but a smaller group, let us say about fifteen or twenty is much more conducive to individual thinking and prepares the way for thought provoking questions and sometimes equally thought provoking answers. However, taking everything into consideration our meetings have achieved their end - helping to elucidate the problems confronting the soldier overseas. With the prospect of a new and enlarged dayroom in the making our hopes for a more extensive I & E program have been greatly increased.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Squadron Mission # 7-16

20 July 1945

Fighter Sweep on Meiji A/F.

1st row L to R - Lt. June, Lt. Ryniker, Lt. Scamara,
Capt. Bjorseth, Lt. Baccus, Lt. Andersen,
Major Wells.

2nd row L to R - Lt. Twigg, Lt. Grover, Lt. Kiggins,
Lt. Forman, Lt. Doughty, Lt. Saunders,
F/O Powell, F/O Jones, Lt. Sorgnit and
Lt. Reed.

In background on plane is S/Sgt. Becker,
crew chief.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Squadron Mission # 7-4

4 July 1945

Fighter Sweep on Kasumigaura A/F.

1st row L to R - Lt. Klessig, Lt. Barlow, Capt. Bright,
Lts., Cameron, Sher, Hutchison,
Burnett, Olivier, Forman.

2nd row L to R - Lt. Jones, S., F/O Googe, Lts.,
McCormick, ?Elliott, Mitchell, F/O Powell,
Lts., Kinsey, Scamara, Worton, Baccus,
Kiggins.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Squadron Mission # 7-1

1 July 1945

Fighter Sweep on Itami A/F.

1st row L to R - Lts., Kinsey, Fitzgerald, Sher,
Baldwin, Tyler, Balak, Capt. Martin
and Lt. Locke.

2nd row L to R - F/O Googe Lt. Ryniker, Lt. Col. Mitchell,
Lts., White, O'Mara, Kiggins, Elliott,
Petrouleas, Jones, S., Tillman and
Doughty.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Squadron Mission # 7-8 10 July 1945

Fighter Sweep on Hanshin A/F.

1st row L to R - Lts., Balak, Mitchell, Baccus,
Capt. Bright, Lts., Barlow, Hutchison,
Klessig, Scamara, Sher.
2nd row L to R - Lt. Jones, S., F/O Jones, Lts., Tyler,
Elliott, Kiggins, F/O Powell, Lts.,
Doughty, Forman, Moore, F/O Googe.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Squadron Mission # 7-7

8 July 1945

Fighter Sweep on Hyakurigahara A/F.

1st row L to R - Lts., Fitzgerald, Petrouleas, Mitchell,
Baldwin, Cameron, McCormick, Tillman,
F/O Jones and Capt. Martin.

2nd row L to R - Lts., Moore, White, Ryniker, Capt. Powell,
Lts., Sparks, Doughty, F/O Googe, Lts.,
Kinsey, Klessig, Locke.

47th Fighter Squadron AAF

Recognition Display of Aircraft and Naval Vessels



Terrain Features



47th Fighter Squadron AAF

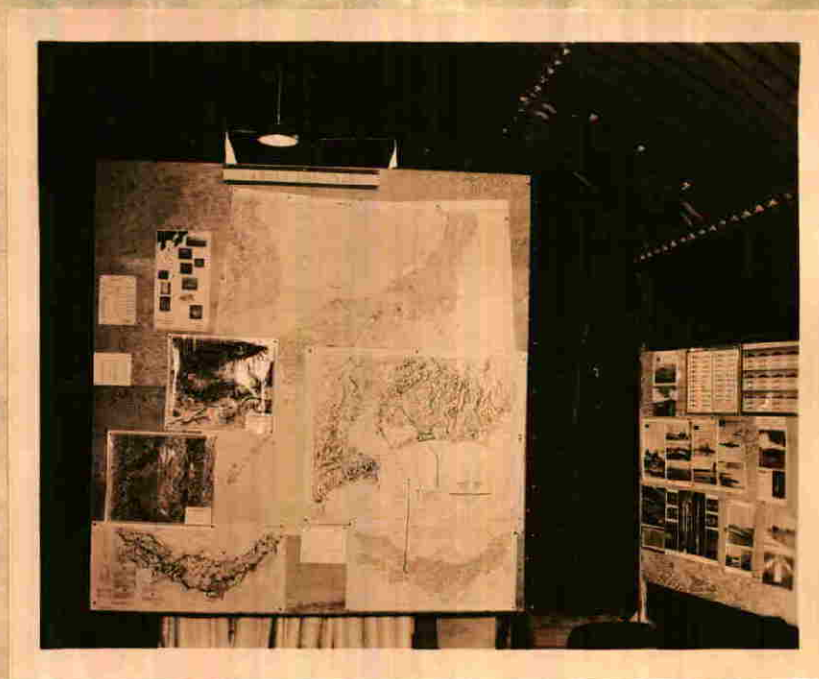


Pointing out terrain features with Lt. Bisky at left and L to R Pfc. Elmer Stranberg, Sgt. John Whitcomb and Sgt. Richard Mackenzie.



Sgt. Whitcomb relaying a Flash Report

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Ready for final briefing .

[REDACTED]
47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Sgt. MacKenzie plotting the course for a
Fighter Sweep.



[REDACTED]
Pfc. Stranberg typing the mission report

47th Fighter Squadron AAF



Checking up on World Events with L to R Cpl. Bishop, Pfc. Hughes, Cpl. Grigsby and Pfc. Stranberg.



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HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

1 July 1945

VLR FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
2. a. Strafe Itand A/F.
b. 1 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 137
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission #7-1
3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission #7-1
b. 20 - RED FLIGHT: Lt. Col. Mitchell, Lts., Doughty, Grover, Fitzgerald.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Ryniker, Locke, Jones, S., Capt. Martin.
BLUE FLIGHT: Capt. Brunette, Lts., Higgins, Elliott, Tillman.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., O'Mara, Sher, Tyler, Kinsey.
RED RESERVE: Lts., White, Balak.
c. 2
d. Negative.
e. Negative.
f. Negative.
g. 1123
h. 1145
i. 1510
j. Negative.
k. Negative.
l. Negative.
m. 1019
4. a. Negative.
b. Negative.
5. a. Negative.
b. Negative.
c. Negative.
6. Two hundred forty miles out cumulous clouds up to 13,000' were encountered. This was not a front but rather a building up of clouds apparently moving East. The rest of the trip was at 10,000' over 8/10ths cloud cover at 10,000'. Forty minutes from mainland the undercast was 10/10ths. Lt. Col. Mitchell ordered weather ship to go down and it reported weather zero-zero with rain. Formation had to detour East to go around cumulous clouds up to 25,000' and went down through a hole to 5,000'

PRIVILEGED DOCUMENT

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47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. #7-1
1 July 1945, contd.

arriving over Dain-Zaki where the visibility was 1/2 to 3 miles with rain squalls. Weather was heavy and dark under the overcast. Visibility was too limited for group maneuverability. Squadron orbited while the 78th went down and hit targets of opportunity with rockets. Smoke was seen from fires they started. Formation started back at 1535. Weather was 8/10ths on return trip which was made at 10,000' climbing to 13,000' to get over clouds 240 miles out.

7. All Negative.

8. All Negative.

9. a. Negative.

b. "B" Channel overcrowded. Some pilots checking item they should use "A" for - fuel, tanks, etc.

c. Negative

d. Negative.

e. Negative.

10. 10/10ths cumulous clouds over mainland. Zero-zero from deck to 10,000' with rain. Visibility 1/2 to 3 miles.

11. a. Ammo: None

b. Gas:

1. 119 gals. aver left remaining in planes.

2. 74 gals. min. reserve left.

3. 161 gals. max. reserve left.

12. None.

[REDACTED]

15TH FIGHTER GROUP AMF
A.P.O. # 86

3 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT # 7-2
15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION REPORT # 7-2

1. A. Four (4) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
B. None.
2. A. None.
B. None.
3. Long Range Reconnaissance and Strafing Chichi Jima.

4. RED FLIGHT: Major Wells, Lts. Locke, Grover, Fitzgerald.
Take off: 0445 Fueled: 1245
Take off was at 0445. At 0555, Lt. Fitzgerald called Lt. Grover and told him that he had an oil leakage. At 0600, Lt. Grover started back toward base accompanied by Lt. Fitzgerald. Fifty miles out Lt. Grover had no oil pressure at all and his engine continued to run for 15 minutes until he was 5 miles from base where it stopped at 0645. Lt. Grover bailed out at 9,000 feet and was in the water approximately 20 minutes before being picked up by a mine sweeper. He had experienced no difficulty in getting in his life raft. He was uninjured.

At 0950 the flight was proceeding up the West shore of Chichi at the cloud base when they observed a wooden landing boat about 70 feet long entering the harbor. A pass was made on the boat from NE to SW leaving it afire in TA 263 N.

The flight started toward Haha and when half way there heard radio conversation about Lt. Schroppel bailing out at Chichi so they returned to Chichi. Bussing the harbor entrance Major Wells saw Schroppel between Eboshi Rock and One Point swimming out of his dye marker. He swam out to the middle of the harbor entrance where he got in his raft and started paddling. He drifted North and finally hit shore at about TA 245 K. Major Wells observed a person he thought to be Schroppel standing about 10 feet from the boat and another behind a rock about 50 feet away. During this period of about 1 1/2 hours the flight maintained cover at about 500 feet over the entire area occasionally strafing the shore lines. No return fire was received. During the maneuver people were observed on Nishi Jima supposed to be unoccupied. A small wooden boat was set afire in TA 292 Q on Nishi and another observed hidden in a cave at the same place. Two wooden fishing or coastal boats about 75 feet long observed in TA 246 W.

Flight had to return because of gas shortage and landed at 1245.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq. Mission Rpt. #7-2,
3 July 1949, contd.

Major Wells had 15 gallons of gas and Lt. Locke had 8 gallons.

5. A. Comm: Major Wells receiver out.
B. Weather: 3/10ths over Chichi base 1,500 to 2,000 feet. Vis. 10 mi.
6. Two small wooden boats 75 to 100 feet long set afire.
7. Gas: 955 gals. consumed. All gas except a max. of 15 gals left in Major Wells' plane and 8 gals. left in Lt. Locke's plane.
Ammo: 3,350 rds. .50 cal. expended.
8. Susaki Airfield appeared in better condition. Several dummy bomb craters were observed in about TA 212 N. Apparently the field has been worked on. Major Wells advises this mission counts for two Chichi missions on pilots record.

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 15TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
 A.F.O. # B6

3 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-3
 15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-5

1. A. Five (5) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
 B. None
2. A. None
 B. None
3. Search mission, Chichi Jima.
4. VIRGIN RED: Lt. Baccus, F/O Googe, Lt., Scamara, Forman.
 VIRGIN YELLOW: Lt. Ryniker.

Take off: 1300

Pancaked: 1615

Lt. Baccus did not take off because of defective brakes. Getting another plane he took off at 1340 with Lt. Ryniker as wingman.

In the meanwhile Lt. Scamara acted as flight leader and Red Flight proceeded to Chichi Jima arriving there at 1345. One B-17 and one PBY seen. Saw boat right away in TA 244Q with Lt. Schroppel in it. Also saw his small raft on shore. Pilot was sprawled in boat with only underwear on. He appeared very bloody. Kept making passes on the boat and strafing the shore. One pass he was on his side and on another he was on his back. At 1420 Lt. Baccus and Lt. Ryniker arrived and joined the flight. Dumbo advised they would make a landing when they got more cover. Lt. Baccus told him they were on way. Dumbo made 4 passes before he successfully landed. Virgin flights and 78th flights made a luftberry covering the operation. Dumbo advised pilot in boat appeared dead with left leg almost blown off. Dumbo said Japs got him with machine gun fire after he got in boat. Four mortars were seen to hit near the PBY. There was quite a bit of machine gun fire from top of cliff before PBY landed but it was apparently silenced by strafing. All operations were at 1,000' or less under clouds which were at 1500'. Flight came back by Haha with no observations.

5. A. Weather: Easy 2,000' to 7,000' 10/10ths clouds 1500' to 500' in places, tops 6,000'.
 B. Comm: O.K.

6. Unknown
- ██████████

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-3,
3 July 1945, contd.

7. Ammo: 8959 rds. .50 cal. expended,
Gas: 953 gals. of gas consumed.

8. None.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

4 July 1945

VLR FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
2. a. Strafe Kasumigaura A/P.
b. 4 July 1945
c. P.O. No. 138
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-7
3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-4
b. 20 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Bright, F/O Googe, Lts., Elliott, Klessig.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Mitchell, Hutchison, Jones, S., F/O Powell.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts., Cameron, Higgins, McCormick, Barlow.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., Baccus, Forman, Scamara, Kinsey.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Norton, Burnett, Sher, Olivier.
c. None
d. 20
e. None
f. 20
g. 0933
h. 0958
i. 1305
j. 1305
k. 1312-1350
l. 1350-1405
m. 1655
4. a. Negative.
b. Negative.
5. a. Ground: 48
b.

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Probable</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Lt. Norton	One Betty		
Lt. Olivier & Lt. Sher		One Dinah	
Lt. Cameron	One Tojo		
Lt. McCormick		One Tojo	
Lt. Scamara		One George	
Lt. Baccus			One Betty
Capt. Bright			Two S/S Fighters
Lt. Sher			One Frank

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 47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-4,
 4 July 1945, contd.

c. 47th Fighter Sq.

Destroyed

1 boat 60'
 1 Radio Station
 1 Power House
 1 Dredge
 1-200' river boat
 with paddle wheel

Damaged

2 boats 200'
 (LST Type)
 2-60' boats
 1-250' Fox Uncle
 3-30' wooden boats
 6 Warehouses
 2 Lighthouses

6. The Squadron took off in a down pour of rain in a space of 1 minute. Left rendezvous point at 0958 on course. Scattered clouds at 6,000 feet varied from 2/10ths to 7/10ths on the trip up. Arrived at DP at about 1305. Squadron flew above and behind the 78th Fighter Squadron providing cover for them. Over the target area were clouds from 2500' to 6,000'. The 78th Ftr. Sq. went down through a hole followed by Blue and Green Flights and Red and Yellow went down through another hole. All planes of both squadrons hit the field in a space of 2 minutes making passes NW to SE and SW to E. AA fire whitish bursts trailing was received from the time our flights emerged from the clouds until they got within 1500 feet, when AW and MG fire was received from all sides of the field being heaviest from the NE and SE edges. There was one balloon seen about 2000 feet high on the NE side of the field. Several pilots thought they saw the balloon coming down but no one claims to have shoot at it. Three Betty's were observed in the H center of the field and about 6 Tojos near buildings in center. There was a line up of about 30 aircraft on the SE edge of the field and three 2 engine bombers in the SW corner. The Binah probably destroyed was in the NE corner of the field. One Betty and one Tojo were destroyed and one Binah, one Tojo and one George probably destroyed. The probables may be confirmed by film but were last seen smoking heavily. A Betty was hit as were two unidentified fighters and a Frank but no fire or smoke was seen.

Lt. Hutchison received two hits on the leading edge of his wing and one hit on top of canopy while strafing. His was the only plane hit.

Retiring on the deck the squadron strafed targets of opportunity between the primary target and the coast S of Chosi Point. The radio station of Kasinaguara sea plane base was observed left in flames by Red Flight and Red Reserve. All of the boats set on fire and damaged were on Kasinaguara Lake or Tone River. Red Flight set afire one river boat 60 foot long and strafed two others about the same size. Also strafed two 200 foot boats described as LST type, and one freighter about 250 feet long. Red Flight observed one A/F (probably Konoike) entirely burned out and also saw two fires on Katori A/F. South of Chosi Point, thousands of fishing boats were observed drawn up on the beach.

Yellow Flight strafed a building with high tension wires leading to it. Lt. Sher's shooting exploded the building. Icdsu A/F was strafed by

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47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rep. # 7-4,
4 July 1945, contd.

Yellow Flight but no aircraft found. Two hangars were hit.

Blue Flight went over the replacements shops E of field and observed some to be burned out. Lt. Casaron set a large dredge afire, and this flight and Red Flight set afire a 200 foot river boat with paddle wheel. Blue Flight saw a flight from the 45th set a Power Station on fire and strafed freight cars without an engine on a siding.

Green Flight strafed 3 small lake boats about 30' long also buildings NE of field.

Red Reserve observed 20 dummy aircraft on what they thought was Koozike A/F also 4 serviceable aircraft, 3 single engine and one twin engine. Flight was unable to hit planes. Two lighthouses were damaged by this flight.

After arriving at coast all flights DU'd to rally point arriving there from 1350 to 1405 and landing at base from 1635 to 1655.

7. a. All around field.
b. Inaccurate.
c. Light and medium.
d. Flak encountered at many isolated spots over the country side.
 8. a. None.
b. Sec Para. # 6.
c. 20 dummy on what was believed to be Katori A/F.
d. None.
 9. All Negative.
 10. Clouds from 2,500 to 6,000 feet.
 11. a. Ammo: 22,994 rds. .50 cal ammo, expended.
b.
 1. Average left per plane 35.2 gals.
 2. Max. left 121.0 gals.
 3. Min. left 51.0 gals.
 12. None.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

5 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
2. a. Strafe Shimodate A/P.
b. 5 July 1945.
c. F.O. No. 199
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-8.
3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-5.
b. 20 - RED FLIGHT: Major Wells, Lts. Locke, Grover, McClure.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lt. Baldwin, Capt. Martin, Lt. McCormick,
F/O Jones.
BLUE FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, Lts. Forman, O'Hara, Fitzgerald.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts. Ryniker, Petrouleas, White, Tillman.
c. 4
d. 16
e. None.
f. 16
g. 0812
h. 0810
i. 1211
j. 1211
k. 1218
l. 1300
m. 1607
4. a. Negative.
b. Negative.
5. a. Negative
b. Major Wells - 47th Fighter Squadron
c. 47th Fighter Squadron

Damaged
1-1/2 planes
1-250' Fox Shale
1-75' Coastal Ship
1-30' Wooden Boat
1-Dummy aircraft
6. Squadron took 20 planes off in 4 minutes. Left rendezvous point at 0840. Arrived at DP at 1211. Mainland was 10/10ths undercast at 7,000'. Flying by dead reckoning, Major Wells led formation toward Shimodate. At 1218 one hole was discovered directly ahead and directly underneath was Shimodate. The 78th and 45th Fighter Squadrons went down

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. #7-5,
5 July 1945, contd.

to strafe and the 47th orbited in and above the hole. There were no enemy attacks so after the other squadrons left the 47th went down and strafed the field at 1228. There were 6 dummy planes in the SW central corner of the field which were thoroughly strafed. Orbiting the area Major Wells observed what he thought was an operational plane parked near the hangars and shops. He damaged it. No return fire was received but F/O Jones' plane was hit by a shell casing from another plane. The Squadron proceeded due South climbing through the clouds. The second and third targets were soaked in to the deck. All flights passed over the E edge of Tokyo at altitude of 7,000' and 8,000'. About 30 bursts of AA were received trailing. Proceeding directly South about 25 bursts were when opposite Yokosuka also trailing. Just South of Yokosuka mines and harbor nets were observed in the bay. About 5 miles North of Oshima 2 boats were attacked and damaged. F/O Jones plane began overheating and he prepared to bail out. However, he managed to get things under control and completed the rest of the mission out. All planes got to the rally point around 1300 and the last plane left at 1308. Just North of Hachijo about 8 miles a freighter was observed and Red Flight strafed it with no apparent results. It was approximately 250' long was firing back from at least 3 positions and was going East at what appeared to be a fast rate. All flights landed from 1546 to 1607.

7. a. Negative
b. Inaccurate
c. Moderate
d. Medium
e. None

8. a. Negative
b. Hachijo observed by one pilot to have large red center field and one square grassy field on N side and one possibly under construction on SW side.
c. 6 dummies on Shimodate.
d. Negative

9. All Negative

10. Undercast over Japan 10/10ths 5,000' to 7,000'. One hole over Pt. Tokyo Bay also clear.

11. A. Ammo: 17490 rds., 50 cal. expended.
b. Gas: 1. 75.5 Avar. gals left per plane.
2. 104 max. gallons left.
3. 39 min. gallons left.

12. Negative
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.F.O. # 86

7 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron
 2. a. Fighter Sweep to Marikana A/P.
b. 7 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 121
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-10
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-6
b. 20 - RED FLIGHT: Lt. Col. Booth, Lt., Balak, O'Hara, Tyler.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lt. Scamara, F/O Googe, Lt., Dacus, Olivier.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lt., Elliott, Hutchison, Higgins.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lt., Jones, S., Barlow, F/O Powell.
MAPLE RED: Lt., Shar, Kinsey.
c. 5
d. None
e. None
f. None
g. 0827
h. 0846
i. Negative
j. Negative
k. Negative
l. Negative
m. 1310
 4. a. None
b. None
 5. All None
 6. Squadron reached a point 90 miles this side of Hachijo. Weather ship reported a front up to 18,000' and that there was a solid overcast over target. After Squadron circled Tori and observing no activity on shipping returned with the 21st Group and pancaked at 1310.
 7. All None
 8. All None
 9. All None
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-6,
7 July 1945, contd.

10. Rain and solid overcast over target.

11. Ammo: None

Gas: 1. 194.9 gals. left per plane.
2. 143 gals. min. reserve.
3. 241 gals. max. reserve.

12. None.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

8 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Strafe Hyakurigahara A/T.
b. 8 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 142
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-11
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-7
b. 19 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, Lts., Moore, Sparks, Tillman.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lt. Mitchell, P/O Jones, Lts., Locke, Petrouless.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts., Cameron, Kinsey, McCormick, Klossig.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lt. Baldwin, Capt. Martin, Lts., White, Doughty.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Ryniker, Fitzgerald.
c. 1
d. 16 - (2 sub cover)
e. Negative
f. 18
g. 1028
h. 1045
i. Negative
j. 1350
k. 1355
l. 1440-1500
m. 1759
 4. a. Negative
b. 4 - Lt. Cameron (pilot uninjured) hit by MG fire over PT.
3 holes in right wing, line to right aileron out.
Lt. McCormick (pilot uninjured) hit by AW fire over PT.
6" hole all the way through fuselage.
Lt. Petrouless (pilot uninjured) hit by MG fire over PT.
Left wing tip damaged.
Lt. Tillman (pilot uninjured) hit by MG fire from ship. Hole
in canopy and transmitter ruined.
 5. a. Negative, total approximately 50.
b. a pilot, Lt. Mitchell destroyed 1 biplane trainer.
Lt. Sparks damaged 1 S/E fighter.
Lt. Petrouless damaged 1 S/E fighter.
Lt. Tillman damaged 1 biplane trainer.
c. 47th Fighter Squadron 1 250' armed boat thought to be a DE damaged.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission rpt. # 7-7,
8 July 1945, contd.

6. Squadron airborne in 4 minutes and left rendezvous point at 1045. At 350 miles out formation had to go around a squall. Otherwise weather to target was good with scattered clouds under 5,000'. Over mainland there was 3/10ths cover from 3,000'-4,500'. High overcast about 15,000'. Visibility was unrestricted under clouds. Formation did not go to DP as briefed, but proceeded up the coastline past Choui Pt. and made landfall directly E of PT. The Squadron gave high cover to the 78th Fighter Squadron as they made their initial run on the target and attacked gun positions on the field. There was no enemy interception or enemy planes in the air seen by any pilots of this Squadron. The initial pass was described by our pilots as too steep as they descended from 11,000' in an almost vertical dive. The two gun positions on the field which the Squadron was briefed to hit were not observed on initial run; but all flights strafed their approximate position. The initial pass was from E-W and all flights made two passes with Red Flight making 3. On the field the pilots reported biplane trainers and dummies along the SE runway with a large T/E dummy at the E end of this runway. Dummies were reported along southern edge of field and also four Franks were reported on southern edge. The revetments S of field were observed to have planes in them and also 12 S/E planes were reported SE of the field on a taxiway covered with straw. NW of field a meadow taxiway was observed with revetments camouflaged with netting and trees. Several planes were reported in these revetments. A number of planes was reported NW of field hidden under trees near farm buildings and very well camouflaged. Our pilots were unable to see these planes until they were right on top of them. Intense MG and AA fire was received from NW of field and appeared to be coming from all over this area. Fire was received from every group of buildings. One small building was reported to be a ball of flames. Heavy MG fire was received from a ridge S of building area. Heavy intense MG fire was received from S of field and also from E of field. Two planes seen burning in revetments on S edge of field.

Three of our planes were damaged over target. This Squadron pulled up off the target as the 45th Squadron came in to make passes and Red and Yellow flights stayed 5,000' covering the 45th Squadron. They left with the 45th and followed them out to sea and down the coastline. Opposite Ronolke the 45th Red Flight made a 180 and started back up the coast. Virgin Red Flight proceeded down the coast and at 35 degrees S' N and 140 degrees 10' E a 250' ship was observed in a small bay. Two passes were made on it and intense return fire was received. It was left smoking as there was one big puff of smoke. Our pilots thought it to be a DE. Lt. Tillman was hit by return fire and received a hole in his canopy which wrecked his transmitter. Blue Flight and Yellow Flight had already proceeded to EP. Green flight strafed buildings on Ronolke A/F and failed to observe any planes there. They proceeded to Iachimata A/F and went over it at 30' altitude, failing to observe any planes. Heavy AA was received; very inaccurate. At Iachimata there was a MG position firing from mid-field. They

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-7,
8 July 1945, contd.

then proceeded to Shimoshizu and went over it at a 500' altitude and failed to see any enemy planes. They received heavy AA fire trailing. They then went to Kobara passing over it at 2,000' altitude and observed 5 silver decoys. They received no flak from this field. They proceeded down Mito Peninsula following a railroad but did not observe any trains. All flights DU'd to RF which was reported to be 10 miles E of planned position.

Maple Flight consisting of 2 planes from this Squadron and 1 from each of the others went to landfall with the formation and returned to the RF with B-29's. They made a pass on 2 bogies which turned out to be B-24 and a B-17 over a large empty life raft. Three bogies were seen high and when intercepted proved to be planes of the 500th Group. A plane was seen to go into the ocean and a chute was also seen to hit the water although no call was ever received. Maple Flight believed that this pilot was picked up. At 1500' number 4 received a call from an unidentified pilot who reported in the clear that he was bailing out at 1 1/2 miles E and 1 mile S of Chosi Pt. At 1500 o'clock there was another plane which was never seen which was reported discussing bailing out between sub and sub and shore. Maple Flight left the RF at 1515 and on return heard Javelin Yellow 2 calling for assistance. They tried to home on him but could not locate him. He was found by Red Flight of the 45th Squadron who directed Maple Flight and Doctor 4 to him. Javelin Yellow 2 bailed out over Bird Dog 2 and was reported to be rescued.

7. a. Flak received from all over area NW of PT. Described by pilots as coming from hundreds of installations there.
 - b. Accurate
 - c. Intense
 - d. Light and medium
 - e. One small building, probably a block house NW of PT described as a ball of flame.
8. a. Negative
 - b. No planes on Konoike, Tachinata, Shimoshizu or in Kobara.
 - c. E/A dispersed NW and S of PT extensively camouflaged with netting, straw and trees, framework. Dummy A/O reported on PT. Decoys reported on Kobara.
 - d. Negative
9. a. A band reported jammed by Japs. Jap conversation heard.
 - b. Same as a.
 - c. Negative
 - d. Negative
 - e. Negative
10. Weather satisfactory - 1/10ths over target.

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sq, Mission Rpt. 7-7,
8 July 1945, contd.

11. a. Ammo: 10,486 rds. .50 cal. expended.

b. Gas:

1. 68.2 gals. aver. left per plane.
2. 90 gals. left max. per plane.
3. 43 gals. left min. per plane.

12. Pilots thought RF was too far away from the target for a seriously damaged plane to make it. The RF was reported to have been 10 miles E of planned position. Initial pass in which this Squadron covered the 75th was described as too steep being a 70 degree dive from 11,000' with most pilots indicating up to 450 mph. There was not time to pick out the gun positions. Each flight had to pull up from 2nd pass to avoid over flights coming in from another direction.

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HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

10 July 1945

VIA FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Strafe Hanshin Airfield.
b. 10 July 1945
c. P.O. No. 144
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-13.
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-8
b. 20 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Bright, Lts. Hutchison, Balak, Doughty.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts. O'Mara, Forman, Elliott, Barlow.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts. Haccus, Higgins, Scamara, Klessig.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lt. Mitchell, F/O Jones, Lt. Jones S.,
F/O Powell.
RED RESERVE: Lt. Tyler, Lt. Sher (45th), F/O Googe.
c. 1
d. 18 (1 - sub cover).
e. 1
f. 18
g. 1029
h. 1056
i. 1345
j. 1345
k. 1400 - 1405
l. 1440
m. 1735
 4. a. One (1) P-51 piloted by Lt. O'Mara hit by AA over Target. Pilot bailed out over sub and picked up.
b. P-51 piloted by Lt. S. Jones hit in canopy by MG over Osaka Wan while strafing boat. Pilot unhurt.
 5. a. Air: None Ground: 10
b. Lt. Mitchell destroyed one (1) Zeke.
F/O F. Jones destroyed one (1) Zeke.
Lts. Balak and Doughty destroyed one (1) T/E-B/I aircraft.
F/O Forman damaged one (1) Zeke.
c.

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
47th Fighter Squadron	1-Fox Uncle	2-Buildings NE of FT
	1-75 ¹ Barge	3-Pugs
		2-Hangers
		1-Factory
- ██████████

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-8,
10 July 1945, contd.

About 400 miles out there was a front up to 14,000' and the formation climbed to go over it. Beyond the front there was haze up to 10,000' extending over the mainland. Formation let down to 3,000' at the DP and proceeded on course beneath 3/10ths clouds at 6,000'. Visibility was one mile. The formation leader called to Red 1 to hit the E end of the field. The 45th Squadron hit first and then this Squadron made one pass from S to N by sections. MG fire was received up to 1,000' from the building area NE of field and from the W end of the field. The only plane seen by the first section was a T/E unidentified covered with netting and it was destroyed. One flight of the second section saw 9 Zeks parked in the NE corner of the field and destroyed two and damaged one. The last two flights to go over the target received a barrage of about 40 bursts of heavy AA about 100' off the ground. Three dummies were seen on taxi strip at SW end of field. AA fire was received from buildings NE of field and from along railroad track. Planes narrowly missed high tension wires 60' high NE of the field. The formation leader called not to make a second pass and not to hit secondary target. Red, Yellow and Blue 1 and 2 turned right after making pass and started climbing back to rally point. Blue 3 and 4 were separated from the first element while making pass in the haze and pulled off to the left with Green Flight. They strafed 3-75' tugs in Osaka Bay pulling barges and left the tugs smoking and one of the barges burning.

Lt. O'Hara, Yellow Leader, was hit while over target and on the way back to rally point asked for assistance as he couldn't see for oil on his canopy and his engine temperature was going up. He was led over the sub where he jettisoned his canopy and bailed out. The sub reported that he was picked up unhurt in about 20 minutes.

Lt. Tyler, Red Reserve leader, who remained with the E-29's reported that they were not over the sub but went 10 to 15 miles E up the coast. Also the sub was about 5 miles E of planned position.

Lt. Shar of Red Reserve who flew with the 45th Fighter Squadron reported that he blew up a freighter about 250' long by strafing and saw about 9 others in a cove at approximately 135 degrees 12' E 30 degrees 2' N. Lt. Mitchell of Yellow Flight reported seeing this boat burning.

There were no airborne enemy planes sighted.

All planes returned to the rally point from 1440 to 1450 and landed from 1721 to 1735.

7. a. None
b. Accurate
c. Moderate
d. Light, medium and heavy.
e. 30 or 40 heavy bursts received 100' off ground.

8. a. None

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sq. Mission 7-3,
10 July 1945, contd.

- b. Yellow Flight reported no planes on same A/P.
 - c. 3 dummy planes reported on taxiway 38 of Hanchin A/P.
 - d. None.
9. a. Individual failures only.
- b. None
 - c. None
 - d. None
 - e. None
10. Haze over target up to 10,000'. Visibility 2 mile except at target where visibility was 5 miles.
11. a. Ammo: 14,964 lbs. .50 cal. expended.
- b. Gas:
 - 1. 72.5 gals. over, left per plane.
 - 2. 35 gals. min. reserve.
 - 3. 100 gals max. reserve.
12. A plane in distress will see the B-29's before he sees the sub at the rally point. Therefore the B-29's should remain over the sub.

[REDACTED]

15TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
A.P.O. NO. 86

11 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-9
15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-1A

1. A. Twelve (12) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
B. None.
2. A. None.
B. None.
3. Bombing and Strafing Chichi Jima.
4. RED FLIGHT: Lts. Baldwin, Gilbride, Sparks, Dow.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts. White, Johnston, Sargent.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lt. Norton, F/O Loveless, Lt. Faigg.
GREEN FLIGHT: (Josephine Escort) Lts. McCormick, Andersen.
Take Off: 1203 Over Target: 1255-1305 Chichi Pancaked: 1406
1307-1317 Haha

Squadron was airborne at 1206, on course at 1215. Weather on course to Chichi Jima was 3/10ths with visibility unlimited. Lt. Baldwin, Squadron leader, orbited over Susaki A/F at 11,000 feet to observe any activity, then skirted North end of Island. The 45th Squadron hadn't made their run yet so Squadron orbited a few times over Naval Installation and then made bombing and strafing run on the installation, starting run from 11,000 feet and releasing at 5,000 feet. Two hits were observed in TA but damage was undetermined. Squadron then proceeded South and strafed gun position on TA 213 P and Q and TA 199 D and E. Yellow Flight made run on Torpedo Assembly Plant in 263 Y at Naval Installation. Hits were not observed. Squadron left Chichi Jima at 1305 and reached Haha Jima at 1307 where Red Flight strafed gun position SW of Osimura Town and in TA 331 R and W at Haha Jima. No return fire was received. Yellow Flight strafed a boat twice in Kita Harbor and drew fire from shore. Also hit Radio Weather Station in 330 J. Two passes were made by Blue Flight on a possible Fox Tare Dog in TA 414. There was no evident damage. Two passes were also made by Blue Flight on a Fox Tare Dog South of Osimura Town in TA 320 F. No results were observed here either.

Lt. McCormick and Lt. Andersen, Josephine and Escort, orbited E of Island at 11,000 feet. They observed all runs and saw two hits on Naval Installation. Went to Haha Jima and observed the strafing runs.

Flights then rejoined south of Haha Jima and returned to base pancaking at 1406.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sqdn. Mission Rpt. # 7-9
11 July 1945, contd.

5. A. Weather: 2/10ths over target. Visibility unlimited.
B. Comm: Good.
6. Undetermined.
7. Ammo: 7819 rds. .50-cal. expended. 20 x 500/ bombs AN-M-64
Nose fuse AN-M-103 .1 sec. delay. Tail fuse AN-M101A2
.025 sec. delay.
Gas: 1744 gals. consumed.
8. None.

[REDACTED]
 15TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF
 A.P.O. # 86

13 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-10
 15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-16

1. A. Ten (10) p-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
 B. None.
2. A. None.
 B. None.
3. Dive bomb and Strafe Chichi Jima.
4. RED FLIGHT: Lts. Sparks, Johnston, Saunders, Sorgnit.
 YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts. Tyler, Andersen, Allen, Twigg.
 BLUE FLIGHT: Lts. Norton and Gilbride. (Josephine and Escort)
 Take Off: 1020 Time over Target: 1115-1125 Landed: 1225
 Squadron was airborne at 1020, on course 1030, climbing to 11,000 feet, reached Chichi Jima at 1115. After proceeding up east side of Chichi, flights started bomb and strafing in string from E-W at 11,000 feet, release at 4,000 feet. No hits were observed on Primary Target (dredge in TA 263 N). Lt. Sparks, Red leader, made second run as his bombs hung up on first run. His bombs hit 200 feet short of target. Flights also strafed buildings in 263 O and Radio Station in 245 A with no results observed. Rendezvous was made SW of island and Squadron returned to Iwo Jima, pancaking at 1225. No flak was received during the mission.
5. A. Weather: Good 2/10ths base at 2,000 feet. Visibility - unlimited.
 B. Comm: Good.
6. Unknown.
7. Ammo: 2730 rds. .50 cal. expended. 16 x 500/ bombs M-4-64. Nose fuse M-4-103 instantaneous. Tail fuse M-4-1042 non-delay.
 Gas: 1233 gals. consumed.
8. Lts. Norton and Gilbride, Josephine Escort, orbited 5 miles west of target and observed no hits on P.T. Lt. Norton saw Red 2 of the 45th Fighter Squadron in a vertical dive due over 246 H. Did not see bombs release or plane pull out. A large splash was observed by Lts. Tyler, Johnston, Saunders and Allen of 47th Fighter Sqdn. at the same spot.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

14 July 1945

VLR FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Fighter Strike on Meiji A/F.
b. 14 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 145
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-19
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-11
b. 21 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, F/O Powell, Lts., Sparks, Fitzgerald.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Rydiker, Petrouless, Locke, Hutchison.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts., Cameron, Moore, White, Capt. Martin.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., Baldwin, Kriss, Grover, Heints.
RED RESERVE: Lts., McCormick, Tillman, Kinsey.
MAPLE RED: Lts., Horton, Burnett.
c. Negative
d. Negative
e. Negative
f. Negative
g. 1025
h. 1045
i. Negative
j. Negative
k. Negative
l. Negative
m. 1444
 4. a. None
b. None
 5. All None
 6. Squadron was airborne at 1025, reached Kita Rock at 1250 and was on course at 1255. After climbing up to 16,000' at 400 miles out, 506th Group attempted to climb over front with base at 2500' and tops at 30,000'. After a vain attempt to get through the front the 506th Group returned with the 15th Group following. The 47th Fighter Squadron pancaked at 1444.
 7. All Negative
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-11,
14 July 1945, contd.

8. All Negative.

9. All Negative.

10. Scattered clouds, base at 2500' - 3,000' tops to 4500' enroute to front. Scattered cirrus along route, visibility unrestricted. Front at 31 degrees N multi layer clouds extend up to 23,000', cumulo nimbus built up to 30,000'. Heavy rains encountered at the surface.

11. a. Ammo: None

b. Gas:

1. 206.3 gals. aver. left per plane.
2. 172 gals. min reserve.
3. 239 gals. max. reserve.

12. None.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.F.O. # 86

15 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
2. a. Fighter Strike on Meiji A/F.
b. 15 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 145
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-20
3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-12
b. 21 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Ejorseth, Lts., Johnston, Klessig, Poman.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Mitchell, Sorynit, Jones, S., F/O Jones.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts., Baucus, Andersen, Scamara, Doughty.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., Tyler, Twigg, Sher, F/O Cooge.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Elliott, Gilbride, Weaver, Olivier.
MAPLE RED: Lts., Reed, Barlow.
c. 2
d. 19
e. 2
f. 17
g. 1038
h. 1100
i. 1315
j. 1345
k. 1400-1435
l. 1440
m. 1753
4. a. 2 - 1st Lt. Jule Mitchell, 47th Fighter Squadron, unknown, at Kowa SS, killed in action.
2nd Lt. Ronald Johnston, 47th Fighter Squadron, hit by flak over Okazaki A/F. Killed in action.
b. None
5. a. None
b. None
c. Damaged
Strafed hangars in NE corner of Okazaki A/F.
Strafed buildings in SE corner of Okazaki A/F.
Strafed powerhouse on left side of field.

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr. Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-12,
15 July 1945, contd.

6. Squadron was airborne at 1038, rendezvoused at 1100 and on course at 1105. Weather enroute to target was good with undercast scattered at 7/10ths about 4,000'. Five miles visibility over target area cloud cover 6 to 8/10ths at 14,000'. Clear around target area.

Two hundred and seventy-five miles out, Capt. Bjorseth, Squadron leader had radio trouble so returned to base with Lt. Gilbride. Lt. Bassus then took over the Squadron. Landfall was made at 1315. The Squadron followed one section of Manual Leader over PT., Maiji A/F, at 3,000' but didn't observe any planes or activity of any kind so climbed back up to 6,000' and proceeded to ST; made a circle to the left and made run behind Manual Leader. Approach to Okasaki A/F was made from NE - SW. Run was started from 6,000' and staying on deck after run was completed. Damage was observed to be buildings, hangars and powerhouse. Fires were observed in all sections hit. Lt. Johnston of Red Flight was hit by flak while making run, rolled over and crashed in flames in runway area. There were two biplanes observed in SW corner of Okasaki A/F. After pass was completed Squadron proceeded to TLR passing to the right of Maiji A/F, strafing targets of opportunity. Turned S and strafed all along peninsula. As Squadron approached Kowa A/F, Yellow Flight made a pass from the West. Lt. Mitchell, Yellow Leader was seen to crash in flames on the concrete ramp. It is unknown whether or not he was hit by flak or ran into an obstacle. He was not seen to bail out.

Squadron then proceeded to rally point reaching there at 1435, on course at 1440. Last plane of Squadron pancaked at 1753.

7. a. None
b. Accurate and intense flak over Toyohashi, angle 6.
c. Meager over Okasaki and Kowa A/F's. Intense over Toyohashi A/F.
d. Medium
e. None.

8. a. None
b. None
c. 2 dummy a/c seen on NE corner of Okasaki A/F.
d. None

9. All None

10. Weather enroute was good as predicted. Over target 7/10ths about 4,000' with 5 miles visibility.

11. a. Ammo: 16,499 rds. .50 cal. expended.
nb. Gas:

1. 75.2 gals. aver. remaining per plane.
2. 39 gals min. reserve.
3. 112 gals max. reserve.

12. None.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
A.P.O. / 86

18 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-13
15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-21

1. A. Four (4) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
B. None
2. A. One (1) P-51, pilot picked up.
B. None
3. Dive Bomb and Strafe Radio Station # 7, Chichi Jima.
4. VIRGIN RED: Capt. Bjorseth, Lts., Allen, Locke, Saunders.

Take Off: 1055 Over Target: 1145-1150 Pancaked: 1305

Manual Red of the 78th Fighter Squadron led by Lt. Col. Thomas and Virgin Red of the 47th Fighter Squadron led by Capt. Bjorseth were airborne at 1050, on course at 1055 reaching Chichi Jima at 1145. Flights went up the west side of the island in search of shipping. After skirting the North end of the island, Capt. Bjorseth waited for Lt. Col. Thomas to make his run on the PT, Radio Station # 7 in TA 248X and 231D and then made his skip bombing run and strafing run from the SW starting at 7,000' at about 30 degrees pulled up through a cloud and came out over the target. Because Virgin Red was carrying 6 hour delayed fuse bombs, hits or damage could not be observed. However, Capt. Bjorseth did observe 1 bomb hit in TA 2490 and 2493 from Manual 4. Lt. Saunders observed strafing damage to radio tower in TA 248X. Virgin Red after completing run pulled out to the right, gained altitude and headed for NP. At 1150 Lt. Allen called to Capt. Bjorseth telling him that he was going to bail out as his coolant system was damaged. He immediately flew S on a 90 degree course and 30 miles NE of Haha Jima Lt. Allen bailed out, at 1155. He was seen in his life raft which was further supplemented by a life boat from Playmate 2. After Capt. Bjorseth was assured that Lt. Allen would be picked up flights returned to Iwo, Pancaking at 1305.

5. Weather: Good enroute to target. 3/10ths coverage over TA. Vis. 10 miles.
Comm: Good.
 6. Tower at Radio Station damaged.
 7. 682 gals of gas consumed.
3085 rds. .50 cal. expended. 9 - AN-M-12AAL 500# bombs with 6 hour (anti-withdrawal fuse).
 8. It is undetermined whether or not Lt. Allen was hit through enemy action.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
 15TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
 A.P.O. # 86

18 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-1A
 15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-22

1. A. Four (4) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
 B. None
2. A. None
 B. None
3. Search Mission SE of Chichi Jima.
4. VIRGIN YELLOW: Capt. Powell, Lt., Anderson, Grover, Gilbride.

Take Off: 1250 Orbit Time: 1330-1605 Pancaked: 1640

Virgin Yellow was airborne at 1250 on a search mission for Lt. Allen who had bailed out 30 miles NE of Naha, 10 miles SE of Chichi Jima while on a Chichi mission earlier in the day. Flight was on course at 1255 on a vector of 22 degrees, angle 5. After reaching Lt. Allen, flight orbited and observed him waving his arms indicating that he was apparently in good condition. There were 2 B-17's also orbiting. Continued to orbit for 2 hours and 25 minutes until rescue was effected at 1600 by Bird Dog 3. While orbiting off the southern coast of Chichi at 5,000' Lt. Grover observed fires in TA 172R and 2.G1. On return trip no shipping was observed at Naha. Virgin Yellow pancaked at 1640.

5. Weather: Cavy.
 Comm: Good.
6. None.
7. Ammo: None
 Gas: 764 gals. of gas consumed.
8. None.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

19 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Fighter Sweep on Kagamiyama A/F.
b. F.O. No. 147
c. 19 July 1945
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-23
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-15
b. 19 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, Lts., Kinsey, Fitzgerald, Olivier.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Norton, Kriss, Balak, Hutchison.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts., Cameron, Moore, McCormick, Heints.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., Baldwin, Gilbride, Locke, Petrouleas.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Sparke, Burnett, Capt. Martin.
c. 2
d. 17
e. None
f. 17
g. 0628
h. 0635
i. 0940
j. 0940
k. 1010-1020
l. 1035
m. 1342
 4. a. None
b. None
 5. a. Air: 1 Ground: 4 Total: 5
b. 1 - airborne Val Lt. Norton - destroyed.
1 - ground Jill, Lts., Norton and Balak probably destroyed.
1 - single engine A/C damaged - Lt. Petrouleas.
c. None
 6. Squadron was airborne at 0628 climbed to 10,000' and on course at 0635. Reached DP at 0940. Squadron drew flak enroute to TA from Kusasa and Kamoyama A/F's and from the area around the town of Kusasa. As Squadron reached PT and separated into sections Red and Yellow Flights made a strafing run SW to NE from 10,000'. Capt. Powell observed hits on a twin engine
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-15,
19 July 1945, contd.

unidentified plane in the area NE of East field. Lt. Kinsey observed this plane to be smoking as he made his pass. Lt. Kinsey observed hits on hangars, administrative buildings and 2 gun positions on S end of East field. A primary trainer was also observed in the same area and hit by Lt. Kinsey but damage was undetermined. After completing run, Red Flight pulled off target circled and then headed for rally point.

YELLOW FLIGHT: Flight followed Red Flight over target. As Lt. Worton was about to start his pass, he observed a bogie at 90 degrees SE at about 6,000'. The Jap made no attempt to take aggressive action so Lt. Worton broke off target and attacked him. After drawing in close Lt. Worton gave him a few short bursts and the plane was seen to blow up and fall to the ground. After completing "kill" Lt. Worton joined his flight after 2, 3 and 4 had completed their pass. Lt. Hutchison, Yellow 4, observed destruction of gun positions NW of field. After completing pass Yellow Flight joined Red Flight and headed for RP.

BLUE AND GREEN FLIGHTS: Flights followed Red and Yellow Flights over target making pass from SW to NE. One twin engine, two single aircraft unidentified were observed at dispersal area. Lt. Petrouleas damaged one single engine unidentified. Several dummies were observed on NE corner of East field. After making pass flights returned to RP.

Flights joined at RP and Squadron returned to base pancaking at 1342. Lt. Fitzgerald, Red 3, returned at 0723 because of engine trouble being replaced by Capt. Martin of Red Reserve. Lt. Burnett was an extra in Red Reserve and was ordered back to base.

7. a. Heavy and inaccurate from Kumozu and Kamayama A/F's. Light and accurate from the town of Kamana. Drew light and inaccurate flak from Bagoya defenses.

- b. inaccurate for altitude and direction.
- c. Moderate
- d. Medium
- e. Picked up from searchlight from Suzuka A/F.

8. a. None

b. None

c. 10 planes in dispersal area of East Airfield. Three dummy A/C on ramp.

d. None

9. All None.

10. 75 miles from base a front was encountered with tops at 11,000'. Over target area 4/10ths. Visibility 6 miles.

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-15,
19 July 1945, contd.

11. a. Ammo: 13,970 rds. .50 cal. expended.
b. Gas:
1. 66.7 gals. aver. left per plane.
 2. 43 gals. min. reserve.
 3. 90 gals. max. reserve.

12. None.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

20 July 1945

VLR FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Fighter Sweep on Meiji A/F.
b. 20 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 148
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-24.
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-16
b. 17 - RED FLIGHT: Major Gells, Lts., Kiggins, Scarsa, Doughty.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Ryniker, Twigg, Reed, F/O Powell.
BLUE FLIGHT: Capt. Ejereth, Lts., Saunders, Jans, F/O Jones.
GREEN FLIGHT: Lts., Grover, Anderson, Weaver.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Baccus, Sorgnit.
c. 4
d. 15
e. 1 - Lt. Collie of the 78th Fighter Squadron.
f. 14
g. 0950
h. 1005
i. 1255
j. 1255
k. 1320-1325
l. 1345
m. 1649
 4. a. 1 - Lt. Collie of the 78th Fighter Squadron, unknown. Was not observed to pull out after run on ST, Okasaki A/F. - Missing.
b. Lt. Twigg (47th F.S.) A/A hole through engine damaging carburetor. Pilot uninjured.
Lt. Bruckner (78th F.S.) A/A hole through canopy. Pilot uninjured.
All of Blue Flight received slight damage - small holes throughout fuselage. Lt. Baccus, Kiggins, Scarsa and Bruckner of the 78th F.S. who flew with our Blue Flight. All pilots were uninjured.
 5. a. Air: None Ground: 1
b. 1 Zeke damaged on ground, Okasaki A/F - Lt. Grover.
c. 47th Fighter Squadron Restored
none Damaged
1-Steer roller on SE corner of Meiji A/F.
Buildings in NE corner of Meiji A/F.
- [REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-16,
20 July 1945, contd.

c. 47th Fighter Squadron.

Damaged

Bangar Area on Okazaki A/F.
Factory between Okazaki A/F and Meiji A/F.
8-small fishing boats in river by
Kamezaki A/F.

6. Squadron following the 78th Fighter Squadron was airborne at 0959. Reached rendezvous point at 1005. Major Ellis returned to base at 1010 because of excessive mag drop. He was replaced by Lt. Baccus of Red Reserve. At 1220 Lt. Doughty returned to base because of sickness. He was replaced by Lt. Bruckner of the 78th Squadron. Lt. Weaver and F/O Jones returned at 1255. Lt. Weaver had gas gauge leaks in left wing and F/O Jones had high coolant temperature. Lt. Collie (78th F.S.) replaced Lt. Weaver. Squadron reached landfall at 1250. Capt. Bjerath's radio went out so Blue Flight orbited 3 miles S of Otsu A/F at 7,000' until the other flights returned from PT. Lt. Baccus, Red leader, led Yellow and Green Flights on to PT, Meiji A/F. When Squadron reached Pt 7/10ths cloud coverage obscured Meiji A/F. However, Lt. Baccus discovered a hole at 5,000' through to the airfield. He made one run from N-S 5000' to deck at 450 mph. Lt. Baccus observed hits on a steam roller at SE corner of runway and Lt. Bruckner (78th) observed hits also on the steam roller and hangars in SE corner of field. Damage to buildings in NE end of field also observed. Green Flight followed Red Flight down on target. Starting their run from 7,000' to deck, they hit gun emplacements and hangars lines. Yellow Flight because of cloud coverage lost Green Flight momentarily over target, so let down to 4,000' and did not make run but just passed over Meiji A/F on way to Okazaki A/F. All the way from Toyobashi to Meiji intense and very accurate as was received. Yellow Flight approached Okazaki from NE-SW starting run from 5000' to deck. Lt. Grover damaged one (1) Zeke on the ground. No other planes were observed. Flight then climbed back to 7,000', looked for enemy A/C. Yellow Flight then continued out over bay to RP. It was then that number 4 man in Lt. Grover's flight was missing - Lt. Collie (78th Sq.). There was no radio call from him. No one in the flight saw him hit or go in. This was at 1326. The Squadron then formed with 78th and 45th Squadrons at RP and returned to base. The last plane pancaked at 1649.

	b.	c.	d.	e.
7. Meiji A/F	accurate	intense	heavy	none
Okazaki A/F	accurate	intense	heavy	none
Toyobashi to Meiji	accurate	intense	heavy	none

8. All None

9. All None

10. Weather good to target. 5/10ths 1000' - haze, smoke and showers.
Visibility 5 miles over target area.

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-16,
20 July 1945, contd.

11. a. Ammo: 9,115 rds. .50 cal. expended.
b. Gas:
1. 94.3 gals. aver. left per plane.
 2. 69 gals. min. reserve.
 3. 135 gals max. reserve.

12. None

[REDACTED]

19TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
A.F.O. # 86

21 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-17
19TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-25

1. A. Four (4) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
B. None
2. A. None
B. None
3. Skip Bomb Chichi Jima.
4. MANUAL RED: Lts., Sparks, Dow, Beaver, T/O Loveless.

Take Off: 0905 Over Target: 1001-1015 Pancaked: 1106

Manual Red was airborne at 0905, on course at 0920 and reached Chichi Jima at 1000 as scheduled. After contacting Flaymate 1, Lt. Sparks, Manual Leader, led the three flights from 47th, 49th and 78th on a glide bombing run in string. Approached target from NEB to SSW. Manual Red started the run from 7,000' with release at 500'. Blue and Yellow flights released at 1,000'. Flights passed over target between 300-400 mph. Eighty percent hits were observed in target area (camouflaged structures in TA 247A). Six 20-30' fishing boats observed in TA 246A and 25W. Flights joined up at rendezvous, 5 miles S of Chichi, and proceeded to Raha Jima reaching there at 1018.

After searching for shipping flights left Raha at 1027 and pancaked at Iwo Jima at 1106.

5. Weather: Good, 1/10th cumulus down to 2,000'. Visibility - conv.
Comm: Good
 6. Undetermined.
 7. Ammo: 800 rds. .50 cal. expended. 3 - 500' AR-M-64 bombs with tail fuse AR-M-113 4-5 second delay.
Gas: 526 gals. consumed.
 8. Manual Leader, Lt. Sparks, observed these structures to be possible concrete revetments for water or fuel tanks. They are 40-50 feet wide, 70 feet long and 10 feet deep.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
A.P.O. # 86

23 July 1945

MISSION REPORT

47TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-18
15TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 7-27

1. A. Six (6) P-51's of the 47th Fighter Squadron.
B. None
2. A. One (1) - Lt. Norton, Manual Red Leader bailed out 20 miles S of Haha on vector of 190 degrees. Pilot safe.
B. None
3. Scip Bomb and Strafe TA 247A, Chichi Jima.
4. MANUAL RED: Lts., Norton, Kriss, Fitzgerald, Lancaster (78th).
JOSEPHINE ESCORT: Lts., June, Olivier.

Take Off: 1000 Over Target: 1045-1055 Pancaked: 1250

Manual Red was airborne at 1000 o'clock on course at 1005 and reached Chichi Jima at 1045. After going up the West side of Chichi flights approached target from NW starting run from 9,000' to deck in string 47th, 49th and 78th Squadrons respectively. Josephine and Escort orbited over Futani Bay at 5,000' and observed the following hits: 2 hits in water in TA 263X, 2 hits in TA 199E and the rest in the target area of 247A. Damage was undetermined. After completing run flights headed SE for Haha and while passing over SE tip of Chichi received light and inaccurate 20mm from TALSAA. Upon reaching Haha flights passed over Kitamura Town and strafed what appeared to be warehouses in TA 414X. Damage was unobserved. While searching for shipping around Haha, Lt. Norton apparently thought he was hit by flak from TA 330B because his coolant was leaking, so called Josephine that he was going to bail out. Lt. Norton bailed out 20 miles S of Haha. After giving Bird Dog 3 Lt. Norton's position, Josephine dropped life raft but the chute did not open so the Josephine of the 46th Fighter Squadron of the 21st Group dropped its life raft. This time the life raft was dropped with success. After orbiting over Lt. Norton until 1130 Manual Red Josephine joined the other flights and returned to base pancaking at 1250.

5. Weather: 7/10ths over target.
Coma: Good.
 6. Undetermined.
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-18,
23 July 1945, contd.

7. Ammo: 5,965 rds. .50 cal. expended.
8 - 500# AN-M-64 bombs with AN-M-113 4-5 sec. delay fuse in tail.
Gas: 1062 gals. of gas consumed.
8. Lt. Horton is being rescued by Bird Dog 3.

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.F.O. # 86

24 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
 2. a. Fighter Strike on Ragunighara A/F.
b. 24 July 1945
c. F.O. No. 151
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-28
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-19
b. 14 - RED FLIGHT: Lt. Col. Booth, P/O Loveless, Lts., Locke, Moore,
YELLOW FLIGHT: Major Andersen, Lt. Gilbride, Capt. Martin,
Lt. Kinsey.
BLUE FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, Lts., Allen, Fitzgerald, Kriss.
RED RESERVE: Lts., Sparks, Dow,
c. 2
d. Negative
e. Negative
f. Negative
g. 0837
h. 0847
i. Negative
j. Negative
k. Negative
l. Negative
m. 1039
 4. a. None
b. None
 5. All None
 6. Squadron was airborne at 0837, reached Kita Rock on time. Major Andersen's gun relay switch stuck so he returned to base pancaking at 0837. Capt. Powell returned because of gas fumes in cockpit and pancaked at 1000. When Squadron reached Kita Rock tops 12,000', broken in layers 4 to 8. Visibility 15 miles. To west calling lowering stratus clouds bases 10,000' below scattered clouds - visibility 5 miles - moderate rain. After being on course for one hour the Squadron returned with last plane landing at 1039.
 7. All Negative
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-19,
24 July 1945, contd.

8. All Negative

9. All Negative

10. See Narrative.

11. a. Ammo: None.

b. Gas:

1. 362 gals. over left.
2. 269 min. reserve.
3. 379 max. reserve.

12. None

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

28 July 1945

VLR FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron.
2. a. Fighter Strike Mito Area.
b. July 28 1945
c. F.O. No. 153
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-29
3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-20
b. 14 - RED FLIGHT: Lt. Col. Booth, F/O Loveless, Lts., Locke, Moore.
BLUE FLIGHT: Maj. Anderson, Lts., Gilbride, Reed, Tillman.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts., Baldwin, Allen, Sher, Kriss,
RED RESERVE: Lts., Cameron, Dow.
c. None
d. 12 (2 cover)
e. None
f. 14
g. 0730
h. 0800
i. 1055
j. 1055
k. 1055-1130
l. 1200
m. 1510
4. a. None
b. None
5. a. Air: None Ground: 4
b. None
c.

Red and Blue Flts.	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Lt. Baldwin	1-factory	
Blue Flt.	1-locomotive	
Red Flt.		1-factory
		1-radar station
		1-60' boat
6. Squadron left Kita at 0800 and at 0900 encountered a front solid up to 35,000'. Formation went around 40 miles East at 0945 was back on course. At 1055 arrived at DP and skirted around Choshi Pt. and made landfall 5 miles North of Konoike at 1100. No planes observed at Konoike.

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-20,
28 July 1945, contd.

Formation continued West for about 15 miles and turned SW and observed no planes on Yachimata. No planes seen at Tokyo. This Squadron made a point at Kobara going over the South end of field at 5,000'. Two planes were seen near intersection of runways and 2 near hangars. Squadron continued toward RP and at about 140 degrees 22' E and 35 degrees 10' N Lt. Baldwin destroyed a locomotive. Red and Yellow Flights strafed a group of factory buildings followed by Blue Flight at 140 degrees 19' E and 35 degrees 9' N and it exploded after they went over. The smoke could be seen for 40 miles. Blue Flight strafed a radar station at 140 degrees 7' E and 35 degrees 10' N. Red Flight strafed a small 60' wooden boat along the shore line at about the same area. Another small factory was damaged by Blue Flight. The last planes left the rally point at 1200. Red Reserve had stayed at the RP providing high cover for B-29's. The same front was encountered and the formation climbed to 20,000' to get over it. Last planes landed at 1510.

7.
 - a. 25 mm bursts observed at Kobara coming from wooded area W of Field.
 - b. inaccurate
 - c. meager
 - d. medium
 - e. Heavy flak at 5,000' observed along Tokyo Bay shore line to Kisarazu. Apparently directed at no one.
8. All None
9. All None
10. Front up to 35,000' about 300 miles out. Gavu over mainland.
11. Ammo: 8,177 rds. .50 cal. expended.
Gas:
 1. Aver. left 57 gals.
 2. Max. reserve 89 gals.
 3. Min. reserve 0 gals.
12. None

[REDACTED]

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the A-2
A.P.O. # 86

30 July 1945

VII FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT

1. a. 47th Fighter Squadron
 2. a. Fighter Strike Base A/T
b. July 30, 1945
c. F.O. No. 154
d. 15th Fighter Group Mission # 7-
 3. a. 47th Fighter Squadron Mission # 7-21
b. 16 - RED FLIGHT: Capt. Powell, Lts. Doughty, Elliott, Barlow.
YELLOW FLIGHT: Lts. Sparks, Burnett, Scamara, Heints.
BLUE FLIGHT: Lts. Bacchus, Taigg, Weaver, Saunders.
RED RESERVE: Lts. O'Mara, Anderson.
PEARL FLIGHT: (with 45th) Lts. Klessig, Forman.
c. 0
d. 12
e. 1
f. 15
g. 0743
h. 0815
i. 1155
j. 1155
k. 1215-1230
l. 1230-1255
m. 1552
 4. a. One P-51D. Captain Walter H. Powell killed, 47th Fighter Squadron. Side blew off plane and coolant leaked out. Possible flak although no burst seen by other members of flight. About 15 miles from shore in Misaki.
b. None
 5. a. Air: None Ground: None.
b. None.
c. 47th Fighter Squadron

	<u>Damaged</u>
	3 Factories
	1 Powerhouse
	1 Sugar Dog
 6. At 150 miles from the mainland formation climbed to 14,000 feet to get over a front. This Squadron stayed at 13,000 feet on inland and passed over Tambaichi which was observed through a break. No planes observed on
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. # 7-21,
30 July 1945, contd.

field. The PT Hanshin was observed and the 78th Squadron went in for a pass while this Squadron and the 45th flew high cover. About 20 bursts of heavy flak were received accurate but trailing. The Squadron covered this area for 5 minutes, while the 78th was on the target and then went North going about 10 miles N of Kyoto and turning West and SW for about 25 miles. After cruising around this area for 15 to 20 minutes and observing no bogies the Squadron returned to the East of Osaka and then SW to Sano where the 45th and 47th made strafing passes. No targets were found by the 47th and 2 flights strafed a factory N of the field. Light MG fire only was received from the field and factory. Red and Yellow Flights flew down the coast line while Blue Flight flew high cover over the 45th which continued to strafe Sano. Yellow Flight strafed 2 other factories and a powerhouse while Red Flight strafed a Sugar Dog receiving heavy MG fire in return. After proceeding about 25 miles down the coast line the right side of Capt. Powell's plane was seen to explode leaving a hole about 2 by 4 feet between the tail and wing. Cause is unknown although could have been flak. A burst was not seen and no other flak seen in that vicinity. The flight was at 2200' altitude. Capt. Powell turned the flight over to the element leader who started leading the way to the RP. Capt. Powell was losing coolant and couldn't keep up due to overheating. Lt. Barlow stayed with him as he turned out to sea to bail out. The element leader went for help from Airdale 722. Capt. Powell's coolant door blew off and flame was coming from his exhaust. He continued to lose altitude and had to jettison his canopy which was frosted over. At 800' he rolled over and then split S. Plane was described to snap then half roll and go in head on. Capt. Powell did not bail out and the plane sank immediately. The other 3 planes buzzed the area within seconds and did not see him although his life raft, cushion and parachute were observed just under water. On the second pass the parachute had almost sunk from sight. The 3 planes orbited the area for 30 minutes and left super dumbos there and the sub was on the way. When Red 3 and 2 arrived at the RP at 1255 all the B-29's had left so Lt. Elliott and Lt. Dougherty returned alone without DU. They hit Chiichi and returned from there. Lt. Barlow who did not leave area of crash until the very last case all the way home alone. He was able to orient himself over Tori and also contacted Playmate 703 and 1 who gave him a vector. He landed at 1555.

7. a. None
 b. Accurate over Hanshin for altitude. Inaccurate over Hanshin for direction.
 c. Meager - Hanshin, meager - Sano
 d. Light and Heavy
 e. About 10 heavy inaccurate bursts received at Ogura and a number of bursts along the coast line from Sano A/F South.
8. All None

[REDACTED]

47th Ftr Sq, Mission Rpt. / 7-21,
30 July 1945, contd.

9. All None

10. Front 150 miles off coast up to 14,000' broken clouds over mainland
9/10ths top 6,000' bottom 2500'.

11. Ammo: 15,700 rns. .50 cal. expended.

Gas:

1. 100.5 gals. aver. left.
2. 172 gals. max. reserve
3. 60 gals. min. reserve.

12. None