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Aug 1945	
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[REDACTED]

413TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
414th Fighter Group, VII Fighter Command
20th Air Force, Army Air Forces
Pacific Ocean Areas, APO 86

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DOD DIR 5200.9

Squadron History: August 1945

R.C.

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5-0601-13

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

413th Fighter Squadron
414th Fighter Group, VII Fighter Command
20th Air Force, Army Air Forces
Pacific Ocean Areas, APO 86

1. Arrived APO 86, 7 July 1945.

2. Losses in action:

Killed: 2nd. Lt. Harold E. Regan, O-810075 at APO 86 resulting from bail out approximately 225 miles Northeast of Base. Engine failed due to damage sustained in attacking Akenogahara, Japan, 14 August. Death occurred 19 August.

Missing: 2nd. Lt. Scott B. Coley, O822167, last seen in the vicinity of Kita. Became separated from Squadron in bad weather 1 August 1945.

3. Air Medals awarded to 27 Pilots, August, See Appendix, Item 5.

4. Negative

5. Strength 1 August: 61 officers, 252 enlisted men.
 31 August: 71 officers, 253 enlisted men.

6. P-47-N aircraft, 1 August: 12
 31 August: 26

7. Combat losses: 3 P-47-N aircraft.

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

C O N F I D E N T I A LINTRODUCTION:- The Squadron Pulse

August was a month of great events and of great changes from outside the Squadron. On the first day of August the Squadron flew its first full-scale combat mission, to be followed by two more. Then came the momentous announcements^{of} the atomic bomb, Russia's entry into the war, and the Jap request for peace, all within a period of five days. The month was just half over when peace became all but official.

In fifteen days the Squadron had reached its highest pitch of combat activity, and then relaxed into the dawn of peace. It was a busy time if not a confusing one. The pulse of this Squadron swung high, then settled back to normal as the month wore on. Yet it never stopped nor ~~even~~ ^{did it} hesitate. Those who were busy putting the combat team over the Japanese Empire on August 1st, were busy maintaining equipment and flying time on August 31st. Those who wondered when they would move up to attack the Empire, wondered if they would be in the occupational forces, then began to guess at the time they would go home. There was less work to do, but everyone had something to do, and he did it.

The Squadron's mission changed with events. For the first half of the month the mission was of a full combat nature: attacking enemy air installations in the home islands of Japan to prevent their use by the enemy. As no enemy aircraft were found orders

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permitted attack on targets of opportunity near the airfields. During the last half of the month another transition period got under way: a transition from combat to peacetime readiness. The transition was to be a gradual one, dependent almost entirely for its motivation on events outside of the Squadron.

Combat Missions

VLR #1. On 1 August 1945 the Squadron flew its first mission over the home islands of the Japanese Empire. Because of weather six aircraft were forced to abort, but eight ships continued through to attack Okazaki Airdrome, east of Nagoya. Major Murdock, Captains Deardon, McIntosh, and Whittle; Lieutenants Fredericksen, Kehoe, Plevniak, and Wellman, strafed the target area, setting fire to barracks and damaging a power line. Lieutenant Coley was lost. No enemy aircraft were sighted.^{1.}

VLR #2. Takamatsu airfield on Shikoku Island was attacked 8 August by 12 aircraft of this Squadron. Barracks and buildings in the target area were damaged by rocket and machinegun fire. On the return, targets were numerous with damage to the following: a factory, electric locomotive, two patrol vessels, a freighter, and two fishing boats. Major Wignall's plane was hit by flak and he was forced

1. See mission reports, Appendix, Item 1.

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to bail out; he was picked up very shortly by a submarine. Lt. Collyer's plane ran out of gas; he too bailed out and was taken aboard a destroyer. This was the most fruitful mission flown.^{2.}

VLR #3. On August 14th the Squadron set out to attack Akenogahara airfield, south of Nagoya. Because of poor visibility only one flight reached the target area. This flight flew top cover, over the Airfield, for the 456th Squadron, then attacked and damaged 6 small boats in a cove east of the field. Lt. Regan's aircraft was hit, and he bailed out on the way home; he was picked up, ^{mortally} severely injured, by a destroyer.^{3.}

VLR #4. The last mission of the month, flown on 30 August, turned out to be a VLR sight-seeing tour of the Tokyo area. On this "show of Power" mission 21 aircraft participated. Among many notable sights were the air operations around Atsugi Airdrome, a well burned-out Tokyo (seen from low altitude), the landing operations near Yokohama, and the fleet anchored in Sagami Bay. Many of the pilots as they flew over the area, heard the ground controller's play-by-play description of the landing operations.^{4.}

2. See Mission reports, Appendix, Item 2.

3. See Mission reports, Appendix, Item 3.

4. See Mission reports, Appendix, Item 4.

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Lt. Flint's aircraft developed an oil leak, and he spent the night on Atsugi airdrome while waiting to return to Iwo.

On none of these missions were any enemy aircraft encountered, either in the air or on the ground. The only opposition was flak which, while always meager and light, was in several cases quite accurate. These missions were successful, for they helped keep enemy airfields, in the areas attacked, clear of all enemy planes, and thus restricted their use. In addition to fulfilling its primary mission the Squadron damaged some enemy shipping and ground installations.

Combat Air Patrol missions were flown beginning August 2nd. Constant patrol was maintained from 0530 until 1930, on days designated by higher headquarters. Each patrol flew one and one-half hours, with four or eight aircraft participating, and eight more standing by. This Squadron encountered no enemy aircraft while flying CAP.

On the Line

Combat activity brought no particular difficulty in Line activities. Aircraft maintenance was no more difficult whether the planes were flown in combat or were sitting on the ground. Each Section and each man knew the work to be done and accomplished it. After the Squadron moved to its permanent line area, on the 10th inspections showed all Sections to be in good operating condition.

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During the month the Squadron expended, on combat missions, 19320 rounds of calibre .50 ammunition and 20 rockets. In addition to this three practice bombing missions resulted in the expenditure of three 500-pound practice bombs and 14 rockets.

New aircraft were added to the Squadron in early August. Nine planes were assigned during the first week, and eight more on the 17th. This raised the total of aircraft from 12 to 26 - three were lost.

Only great difficulty on the line was caused by a tech order change (TO 02-10GC-16, 12 July 1945). In order to comply with this change, supercharger and air intake systems were partially removed, and new tools had to be made to handle the job. Time for the job averaged about two days for each aircraft.

The Ordnance Section came through with an improvisation to eliminate the difficulty in starting their 110 volt generator. A stop switch, using a standard type toggle switch in place of the momentary contact type originally used, eliminated the trouble.

Awards and Decorations

August 29th brought the first Awards for this Squadron: Air Medals. Twenty-eight pilots received the Award for missions flown to the Empire.⁵ The Citation read, in part, as follows:

5. See Appendix, Item 5.

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"The mission involved flight of more than 1500 miles over water where weather conditions were normally extremely poor, and where no intermediate bases existed. Despite the hazard of very long over water flight in a single engine aircraft, the ever present danger of heavy antiaircraft gunfire and automatic weapons fire, the mission was successfully completed and contributed materially toward the elimination of the Japanese War Machine.

Men at Sea

During combat operations for the month of August three pilots were forced to bail out and make themselves available to the various air-sea rescue facilities. The stories, in brief, of two of them follow, along with that of the one man of this Squadron who became occupational for a day.

Major Wignall found parachute silk very attractive after his plane was hit by flak on August 8th. He bailed out over the Rally Point and was picked up by a submarine within half an hour. Life aboard the sub was quite interesting, according to the Major, who understudied the sub commander for almost two weeks while the sub finished its patrol. The patrol was assigned the task of blockading the entrance to Kii Channel. The Major picked up a good knowledge of submarine operation before returning, via Guam, to the Squadron on August 22nd.

Lt. Collyer bailed out on the August 8th mission also, when his ship ran out of gas about 200 miles from home. He was in the water only about ten minutes when he was picked up by a destroyer, the

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U.S.S Downes. Lt. Collyer spent four days aboard, was given the freedom of the ship, and all in all had a very enjoyable time.

Lt. Flint attempted to help the occupation forces when he landed at Atsugi Airfield on 30 August, after his plane developed an oil leak. He landed at 1045, about the time General MacArthur was expected, and hence landed on an auxiliary metal strip, which he claims was rougher than any other strip on which he had landed. With the aid of a B-25 mechanic and an armorer he made the necessary repairs that afternoon. He was refused food and water by an American Major, but a crew chief smuggled some out. Lt. Flint saw General MacArthur when the latter arrived. Later on he examined several Jacks and Franks, which appeared to be of poor construction, built of cheap materials. After sleeping overnight in the cockpit of his plane, he finally managed to hitch a ride back to Iwo on the tail of a B-29.

Personnel

There was a considerable increase, during the month, in pilot strength. On 1 August the Squadron had an assigned strength of 61 officers and 252 enlisted men; on 31 August this had increased to 71 officers and 253 Enlisted Men. On 6 August twelve pilots joined the Squadron from the 508th Fighter Group, Oahu, Hawaii.⁶

6. See Appendix, Item 6.

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(one of these officers, Captain Carlson, transferred to the 15th Fighter Group).

2nd. Lt. Harold E. Regan, O-810075, died on 19 August, as the result of injuries sustained when he bailed out of his damaged ship, returning from the mission of August 14th. He was buried on Iwo Jima with full military honors.

2nd. Lt. Scott B. Coley, O822167, was missing in action as of August 1st. His plane was last seen in the general vicinity of the Rendezvous Point (Kita) when rain clouds and haze scattered the Squadron.

Promotions during this month affected a large number of officers and enlisted men. 77 enlisted men were promoted on orders dated August 1st and August 15th.⁷ Officer promotions were⁸ announced 22 August, as follows:

To Captain: James L. Goss, Lew D. Newsom, and Lee W. Spitler.

To 1st. Lieutenant: Horace C. Barnes, William R. Foster, Franklyn E. Kehoe, Richard G. McIntyre, John F. Muxworthy Jr., George A. Plevniak, Wilfred G. Russell, Robert J. Shippee, Dante A. Votolato, Lawrence Waidhofer, Robert C. Weitz, James I. Wellman, John L. Worden, and William D. Yanarella.

activities and current events

The "home" front saw improvements in living and recreation facilities. Officers and men improved their living areas during

7. See Appendix, Item 7

8. Par. 1 and 2, S.O 38, Hq 20th Air Force, APO 234, c/o P.M. San Francisco, Calif., 22 August 1945.

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off-duty hours to increase the semblance to luxury. The Squadron mess was transferred to a quonset hut and began serving in its new quarters on August 15th. One section of the building was set aside for the Day Room, with its facilities for playing records, letter writing, and ping pong. Included in the Day Room is a miniature PX which dispenses free-of-charge cigarettes, candy, and other items received from the Red Cross. The enlisted living area was also blessed with the installation of a new latrine and more showers.

The officers were disappointed with the food served in the Group Officers' Mess, which opened early in the month. On the other hand opening of the Squadron Officers' Club on the 24th brought great satisfaction. The construction of the Club, quonset hut and interior furnishings, was accomplished by a number of the officers in their *spare* time. Notable were the bar, complete with brass rail, booths, radio, gambling tables, and "dance floor". To aid visiting dancers a powder room was added close by.

Air raid alerts on the fourth and tenth of the month reminded members of the Squadron that the enemy still had flyable aircraft. More excitement came from the alert for enemy attack. This lasted for three days, from the sixth to the ninth. Everyone went to work cleaning weapons (some of them for the first time), sharpening knives, and

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otherwise preparing for enemy airborne forces. Ammunition was issued, and men slept with their weapons close at hand. But the enemy failed to cooperate.

The greatest effect on Squadron personnel came, of course, from the announcement of peace negotiations. From the eleventh to the fifteenth everyone in the Squadron strained to hear the news, waiting for the word of war's end. When the announcement finally came everyone took it very calmly. There were no great celebrations. They would come only as individuals returned home. Meanwhile the question in everyone's mind was: what will happen to us now? Some would go home soon, some would stay on, for how long they didn't know. So officers and men turned back to their job - celebration could wait.

Transition to Peace

With War's end the Squadron began the transition from combat activity to peacetime readiness. Because peace came so quickly and because final settlement of terms dragged out in time, this transition got under way slowly. Details on discharge credits were worked out first. Then on 27 August it was announced that peacetime standards would go into effect shortly, that peacetime inspections and parades would begin. By the end of the month these plans were ready to go into effect.

This, then, was the Squadron's history for the month of August, from the highest pitch of combat to the relatively quiet beginnings of

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transition to peace. The combat mission was accomplished; the transition was barely under way. What lay ahead was all the real transitional work and much uncertainty as to the future. What would happen was to be determined by sources outside the squadron - meanwhile it was a matter of hopeful waiting!

CHARLES D. KUHNEN,
2nd. Lt., Air Corps,
Historical Officer.

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A P P E N D I X

- Item 1. VLR #1: Mission Reports.
- Item 2. VLR #2: Mission Reports.
- Item 3. VLR #3: Mission Reports.
- Item 4. VLR #4: Mission Reports.
- Item 5. Air Medal Awards.
- Item 6. Personnel assigned 1 - 31 August.
- Item 7. Promotion Orders: Enlisted Men.

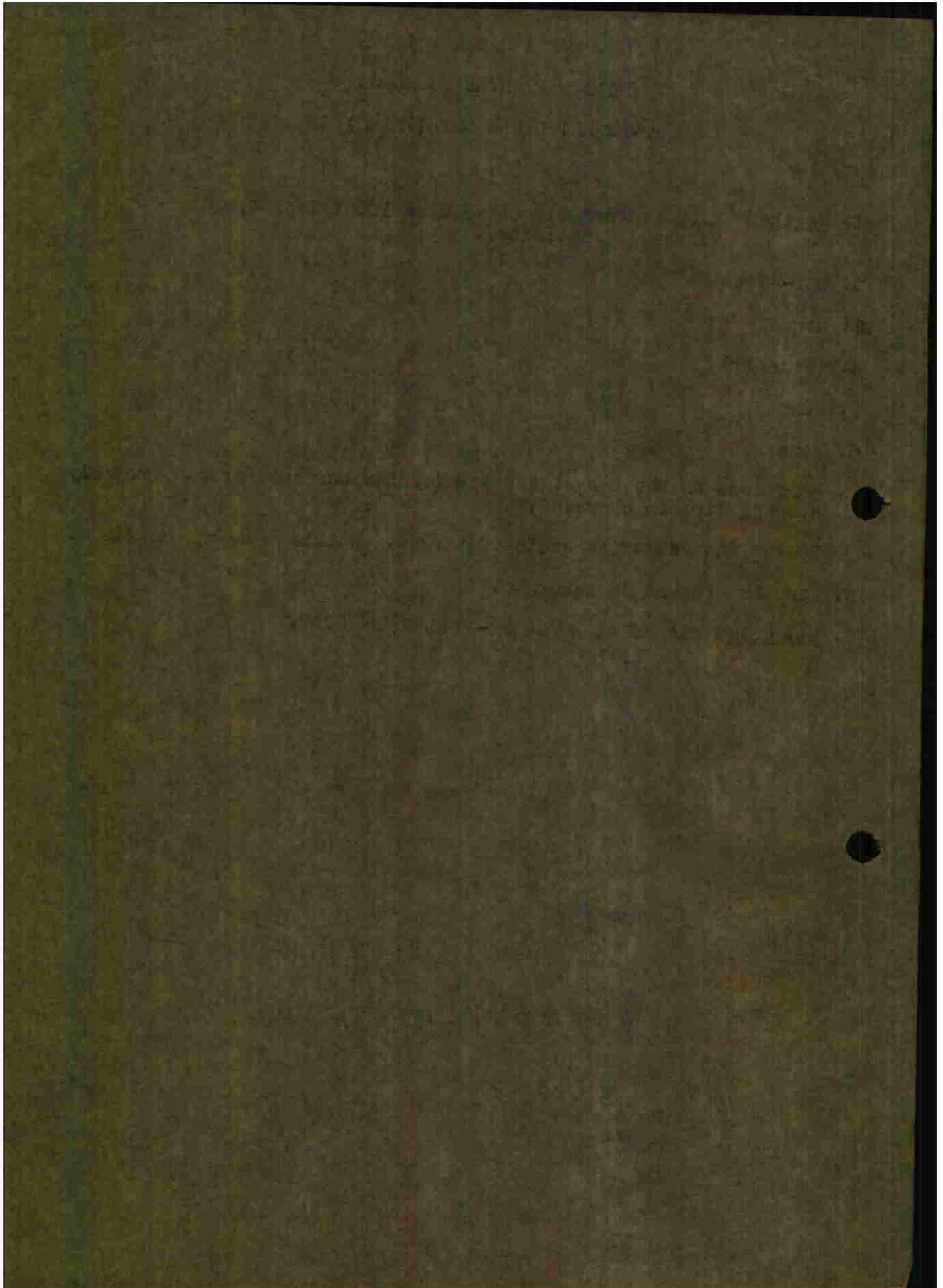
Item 1.

VLR Mission Reports dated 1 August 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL
413TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
VLR RETURN REPORT (FLASH)

1. Weather Cloud coverage .8 to .9 base 1000' Tops 5,000'
Visability unlimited.
2. 8 P-47's
3. None
4. (Primary)
5. None
6. None
7. Went down on the target and strafed the barrack area. Probably
started fire in barracks.
Power line set afire south of target. Nothing hit on the field.
8. Very meagre and in accurate.
9. Lt. Coley missed at 25/35 N - 140/50 E 0727.

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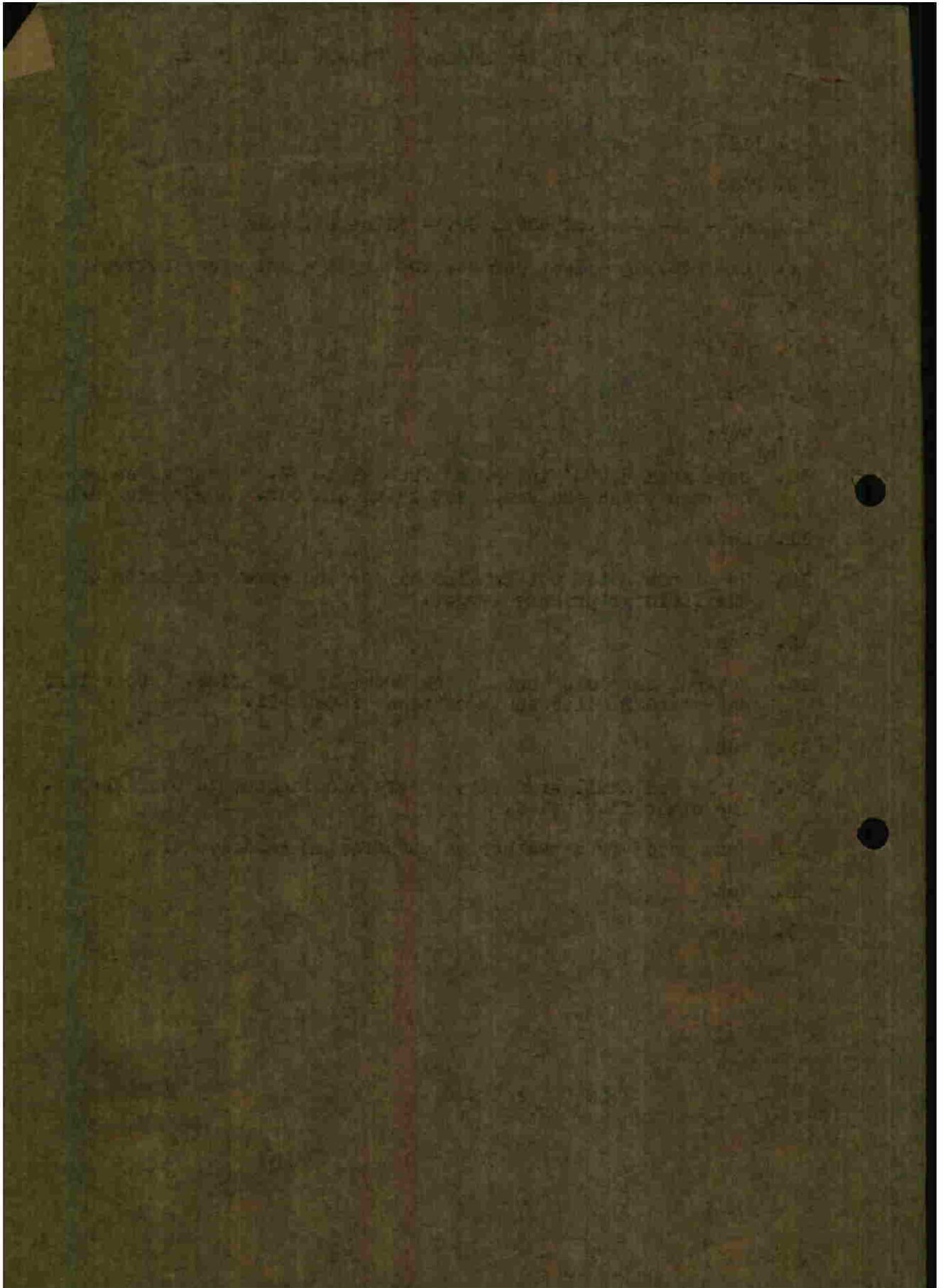


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VLR #1 Mission Summary Report 413th F. S.

1. 1100
2. None
3. One - 44-88496 of 437th Sq. - Pilot Lt. Coley.
4. One missing - lost enroute to target - not enemy action.
5. None
6. None
7. None
8. None
10. Dove from 8,000' in spread from NW to SE. Straffed hanger and barrack areas and swept out going all out. Headed for R/P.
11. None
12. No planes noted but dummies all around outer perimeter of the field at primary target.
13. None
14. Several barracks shot up one probably set afire. Power line set afire 2 miles south of town of Okazaki.
15. None
16. 40 MM and small arms fire meagre and inaccurate over target. No other flak noted.
17. None aside from weather which affected rendezvous.
18. None
19. None

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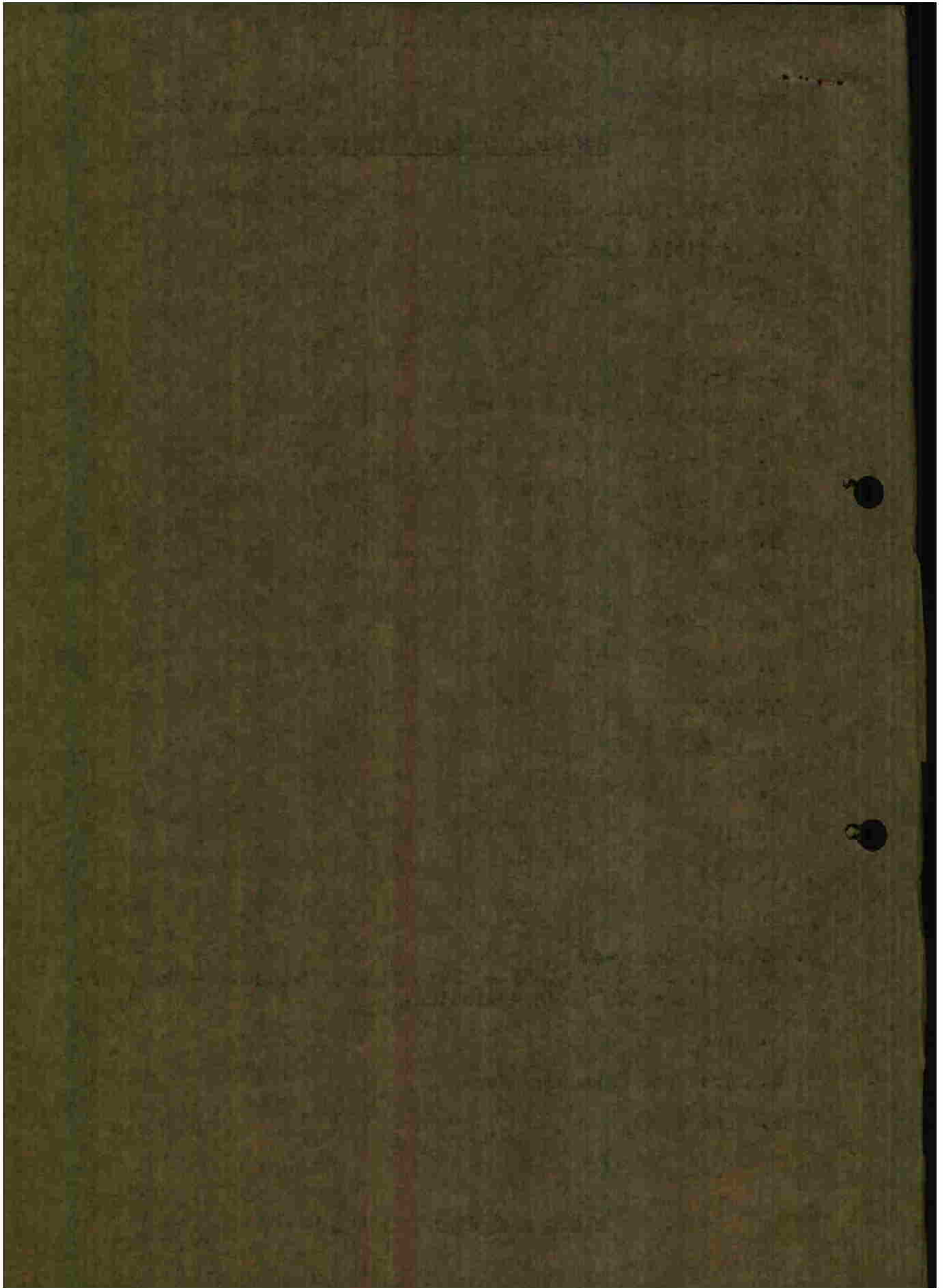
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1 August 1944.

VLR FIGHTER GROUP MISSION REPORT

1. a. 413th Fighter Squadron
2. a. Airfield Strafing
 - b. 1 August 1945
 - c. 155
 - d. 08-001
3. a. 413th Ftr. Sq.
 - b. 16 P-47's
 - c. 6 P-47's
 - d. 8 P-47's
 - e. One
 - f. 8 P-47's
 - g. 0657 $\frac{1}{2}$
 - h. 0737
 - i. 1050
 - j. 1052
 - k. 1100
 - l. 1135
 - m. 1444
4. a. Total One P-47
 2nd. Lt. SCOTT B. COLEY - 413th Fighter Squadron - unknown -
 25° 35' N - 140° 50'E - missing.
 - b. None
5. a. Air: None Ground: None
 - b. None

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5. c. Squadron - 413th F.S. Destroyed: None Damaged: Several Barracks.

6. Immediately after take off Squadron ran into overcast and was scattered. Four aircraft returned to base because of radio trouble; two returned because right wing tank of element was siphoning fuel. Remaining ten aircraft effected rendezvous. Between rendezvous and departure one aircraft was missed going through overcast. From Departure Point to target squadron flew at 8000 feet, above overcast. At Initial Point (three miles NW of target) squadron started dive through clouds (coverage .9, bases at 1000'). Target was Okazaki Airfield located two miles NW of town of Okazaki. Several barracks were hit by machinegun fire, one probably set afire. Turned right off target, flying low for several miles, and setting afire power line two miles south of town of Okazaki. Then began climbing, reaching 8000 feet at Rally Point. No enemy fighter opposition encountered. Returned to Base.

Several barracks in north sector of target area seen to be hit and damaged, one probably set afire. Power line two miles south of town of Okazaki damaged by strafing, and set afire.

7. a. None

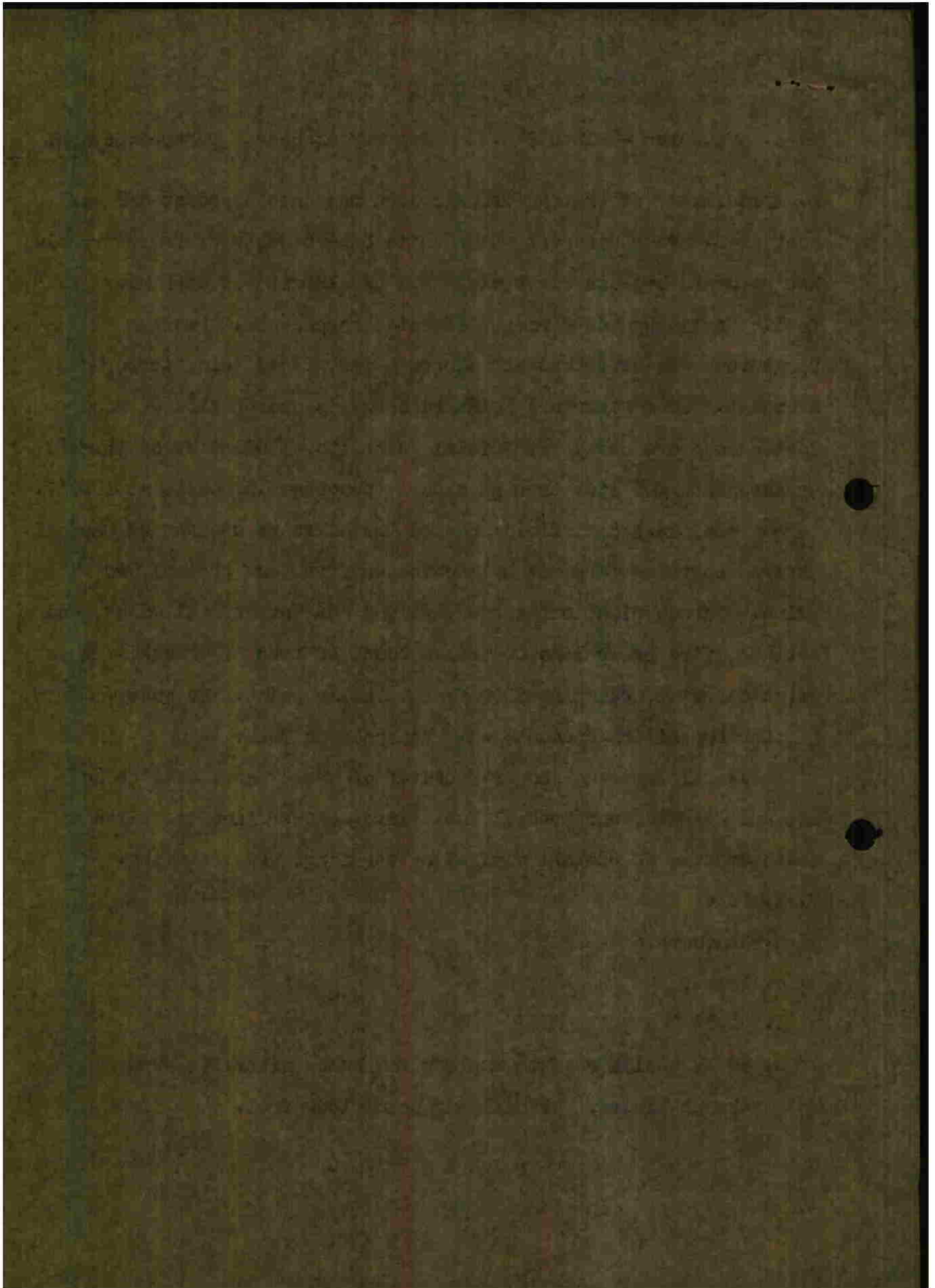
b. Inaccurate

c. Meager

d. Light

e. 40 MM shells seen to explode far below aircraft, even though aircraft were flying below 1000 feet.

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8. a. None

b. None

c. Dummy aircraft seen around entire perimeter of Field.

Dummies very poorly constructed of wood and stone and easily identified.

d. Nothing new noted.

9. a. Three radios went out completely.

b. One radio picked up only "U" signal through 360° turn.

c. None

d. None

10. Difficulty encountered in effecting rendezvous, because of overcast. Target area almost completely obscured by .9 cloud coverage over altitude of 1000 feet. Solid overcast entire area West of target.

11. a. 6071 rounds

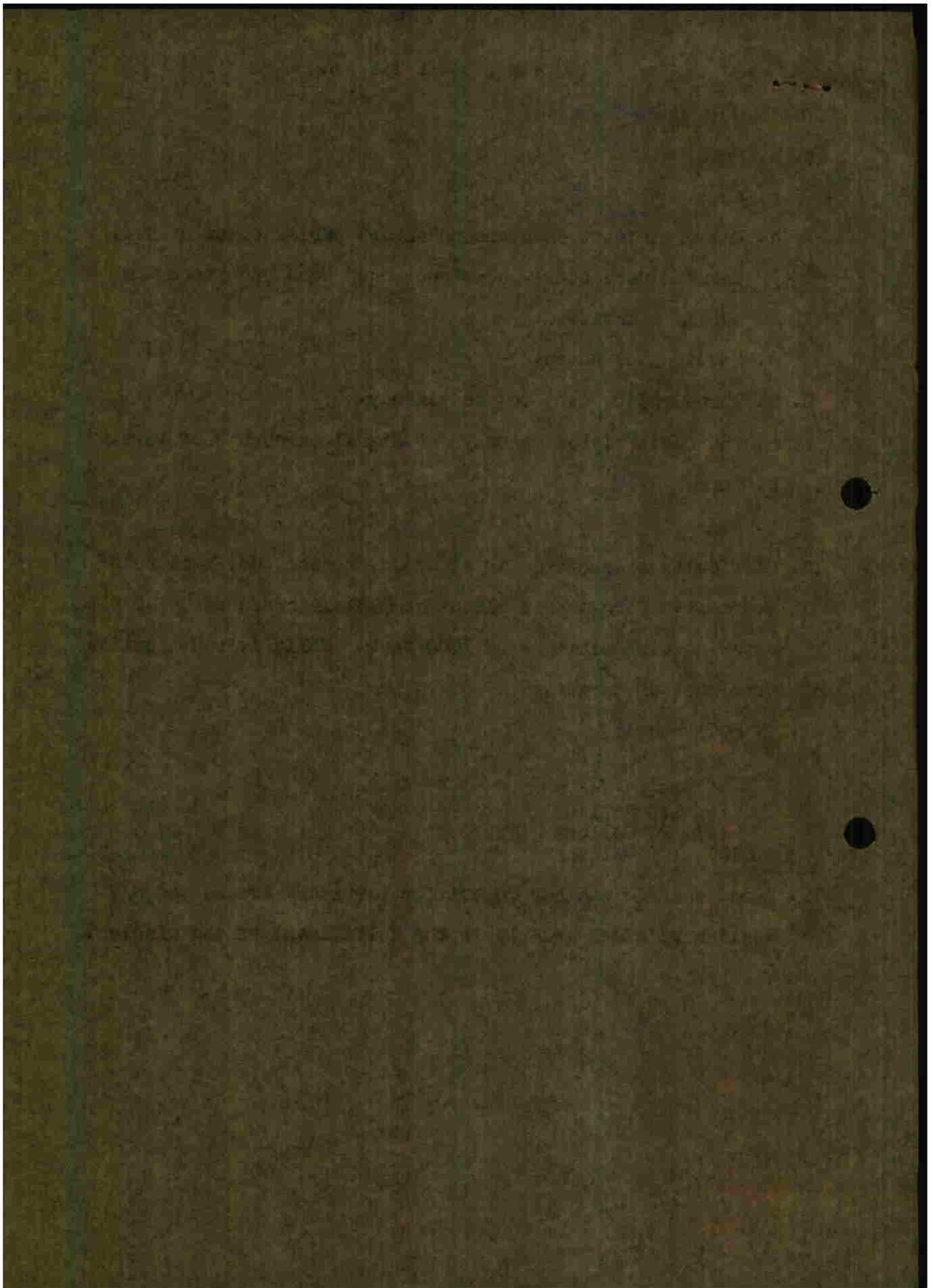
b.

(1) 145 Gallons

(2) 80 Gallons

(3) 190 Gallons

12. More accurate weather report for territory around the B/V would have aided greatly in the fulfillment of the mission.



Item 2:

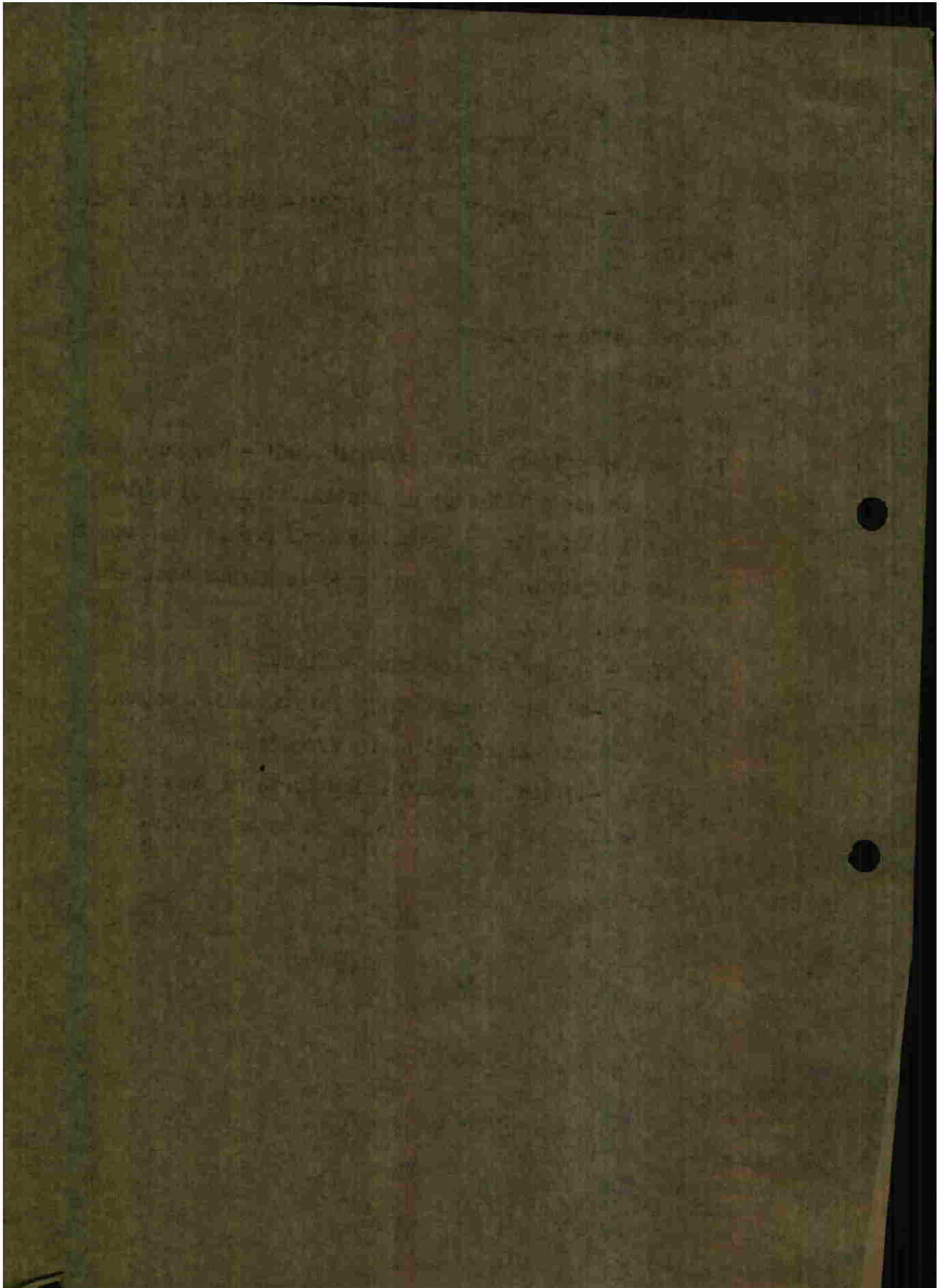
VLR Mission Reports dated 8 August 1945.

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VLR RETURN REPORT

1. Solid - Base 8,000' Top 10,000' - Visability 3 miles.
2. 12
3. None
4. Takamatsu - Primary
5. None
6. None
7. Dove on primary target from 12,000' - saw no enemy A/C on field but shot up installations and a few small boats plus a locomotive and r/r station south of air field. Boats shot were in harbor east of target.
8. Flak - Meagre - Inaccurate - Light
9. a. 1 P-47 went downat Rally Point. Pilot bailed out and was picked up by submarine.
b. 1 P-47 went down 100 miles north of Iwo. Pilot bailed out and was picked up by destroyer.

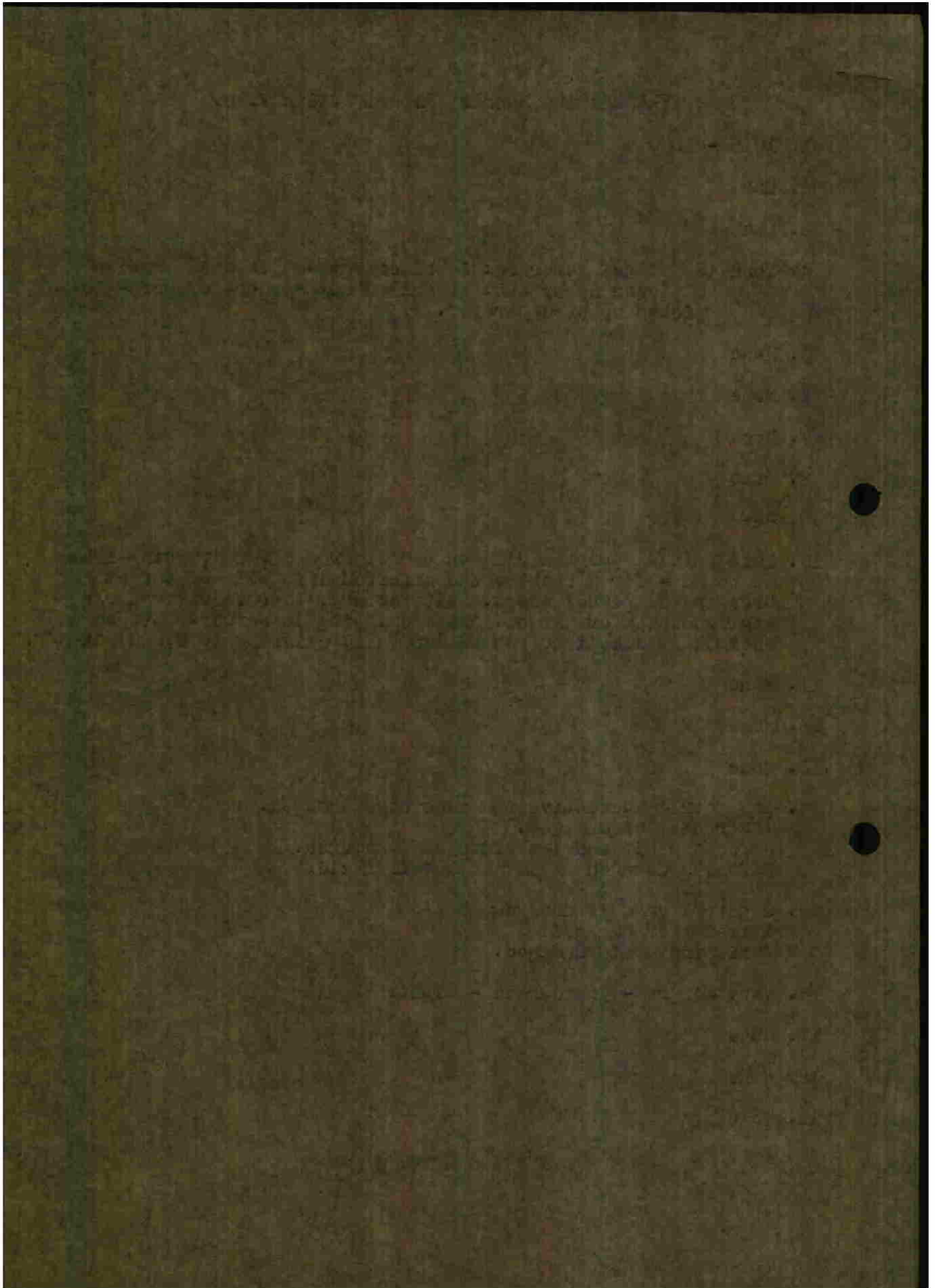
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VLR Mission Summary Report 413th F. S.

1. 1015 - 1030
2. One
3. One
4. None (2 not yet returned: 1 bailed out due to enemy action & picked up by sub. 1 bailed out - short of gas - picked up by destroyer.
5. None
6. None
7. None
8. None
9. ----
10. Left initial point diving on target from 12,000', going from SW to NE - fired rockets and strafed left side of target area and dispersal areas. Hit factory, locomotive, and r/r station south of target. Also shipping in harbor. Stayed on deck until almost to end of landfall, climbing to 8,000' at R/P.
11. None
12. None
13. None
14. 1 Electric locomotive and nine cars damaged.
1 r/r station damaged.
a factory hit and set afire at Takamatsu.
Barracks damaged at Takamatsu air field.
15. 2 patrol vessels damaged
1 freighter damaged
2 fishing boats damaged.
16. Very meagre - Inaccurate - Light.
17. None
18. None
19. None

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413TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

414TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO # 86

VLR FIGHTER GROUP MISSION REPORT

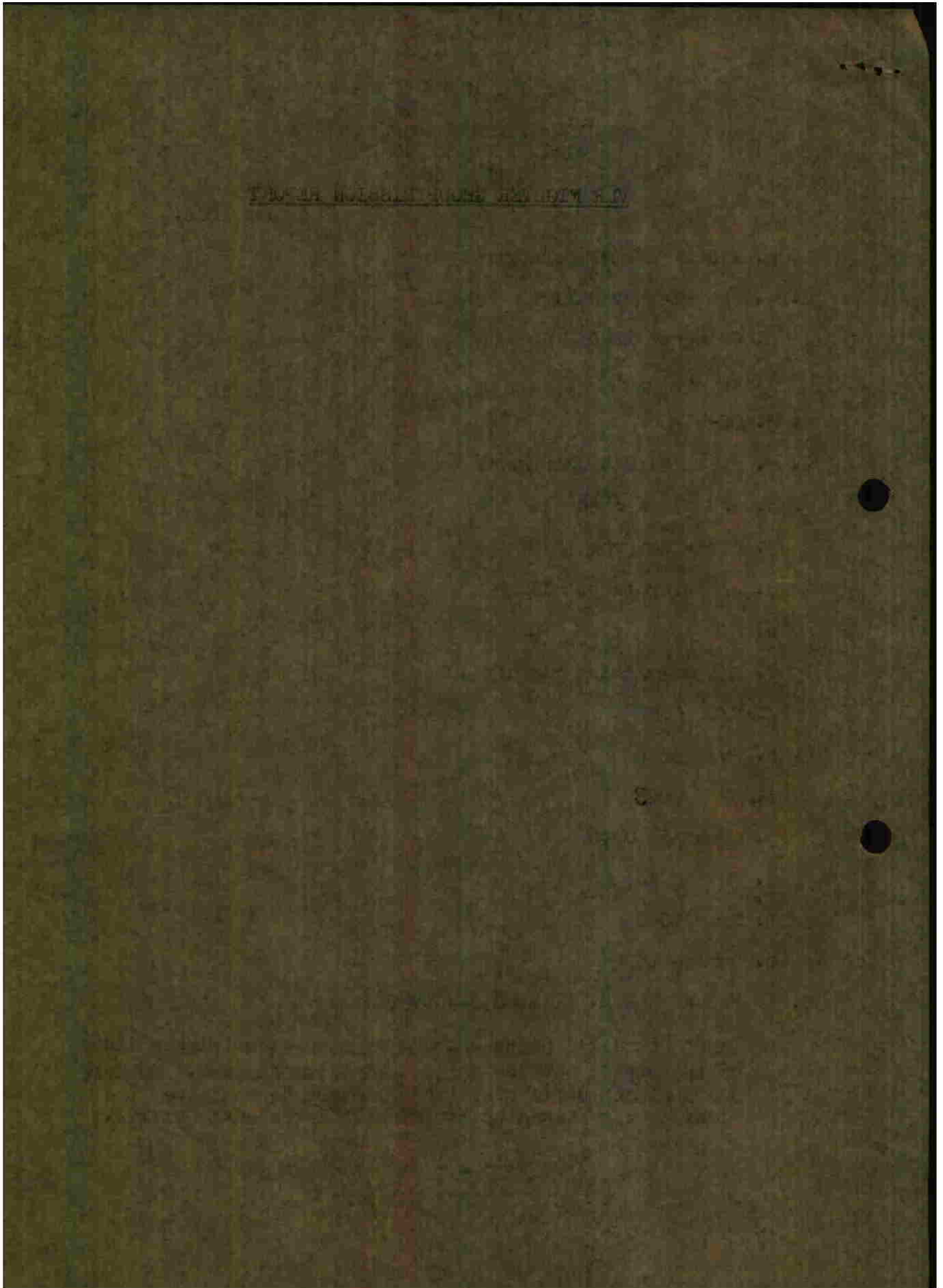
8 August 1945.

1. a. 413th Fighter Squadron
2. a. VLR Fighter Strike
 - b. 8 August 1945
 - c. FO 162
 - d. 08-002
3. a. 413th Fighter Squadron
 - b. A/C dispatched 14
 - c. Early Returns 2
 - d. A/C over target 12
 - e. A/C lost 2
 - f. A/C completing mission 10
 - g. T/o 0609
 - h. Rv 0625
 - i. DP 0943
 - j. Landfall 0945
 - k. TOT 1015
 - l. RP 1045
 - m. Landed 1435
4. a. Major PAUL R. WIGNALL O-409786

Major Wignall's plane was hit by a burst of flak while on the strait between Awaji Island and Shikoku. He held his position until over the RP where he went over the side. He was picked up ten minutes later Juke Box 722.

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2nd. Lt. FRANK F. COLLYER, III. O-831532

Lt. Collyer ran out of gas before reaching base and was to bail out about 100 miles northwest of Iwo at 1405. He inflated his raft and was picked up by Bird Dog 63.

b. Our A/C damaged:

Lt. RAYMOND W. ALLISON O-830144

A small arms or mg bullet went through dorsal fin. Pilot uninjured.

5. a. (1) Air: none (2) Ground: none

b. None

c. Enemy shipping losses:

2 Patrol vessels damaged.
1 Freighter damaged.
2 Fishing boats damaged.

d. Damaged to ground installations:

Electric locomotive damaged -
A factory probably set afire.-
Several barracks hit on target
Several buildings hit on SE of target -

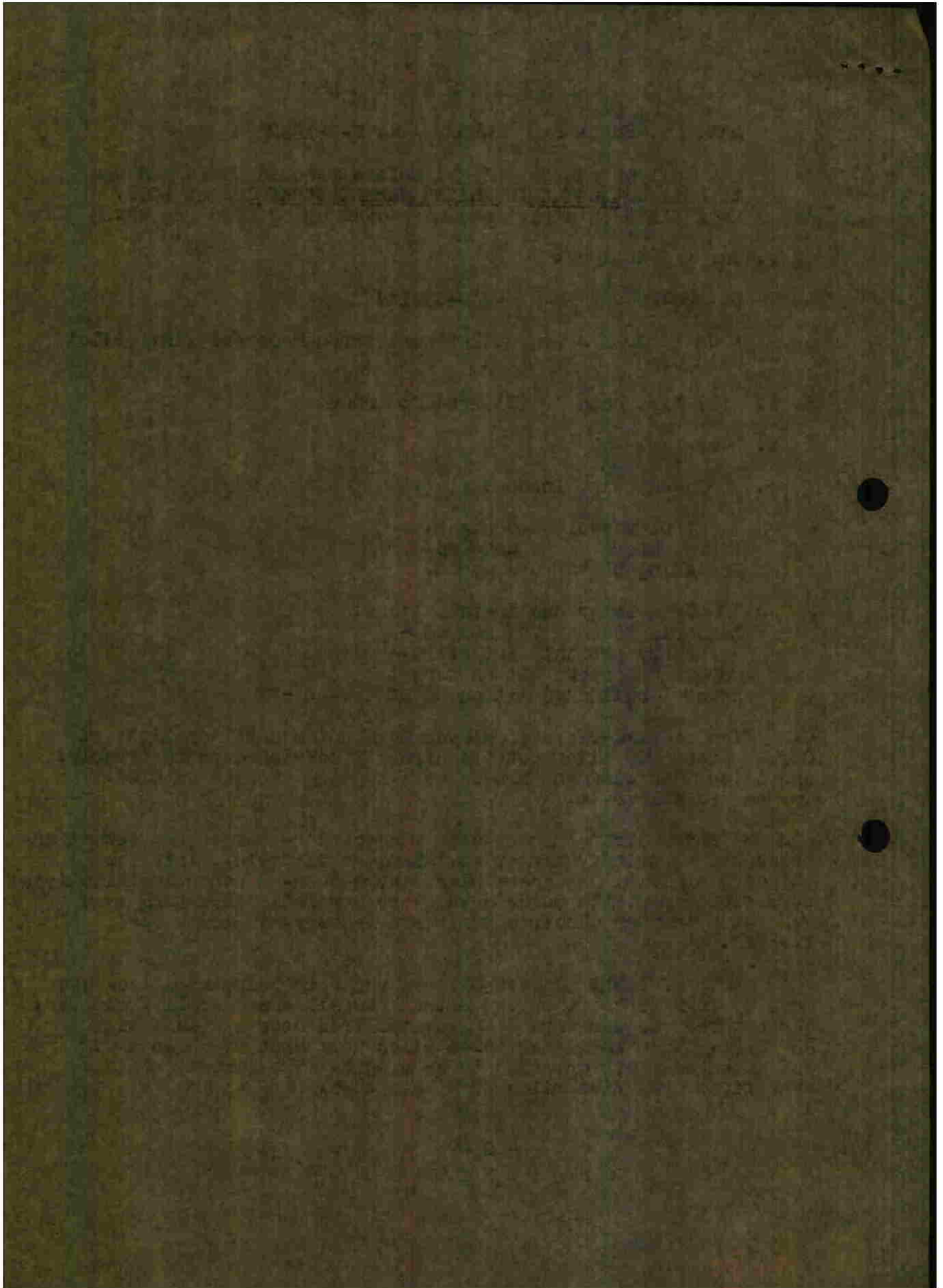
6. Time of take-off was delayed 34 minutes until daylight at 0609. About 200 miles out one aircraft developed radio trouble, and along with wingman turned back, landing at Base at 0800. Two spares filled in.

No enemy aircraft were seen at secondary target, so formation proceeded to primary target at Takamatsu airfield. This was attacked at 1015. No enemy planes were seen. Ground installations were fired upon with rockets and were strafed. Returning over Takamatsu town an electric train and factory, in town, were strafed.

North of town, between Shikoku and Shio Shima an attack was made by four aircraft on two patrol vessels and a small freighter. These three vessels were damaged, and freighter was left with 35° list. In a small bay three miles northeast of Shide a CVD was attacked. CVD appeared to be a hulk. Two fishing boats were fired upon five miles of Hiketa town.

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halfway between the southern tip of Awaji Shima and Tokushima Airfield one aircraft was damaged by flak. Pilot bailed out over Bally Point at 1057, and was picked up by Juke Box 722. On the return trip one aircraft ran out of fuel 100 miles north of Base. Pilot bailed out at 1405 and was picked up by Bird Dog 63.

7. (a) Flak at SW corner of Awaji Island
One burst off SE coast of Shikoku between towns of Mugi and Tomooku. Seen from 8,000'.
Burst of 40 mm from Shiono - Misaki air field, Naval.

(b) All flak inaccurate, Meagre & Light.

8. None

9. (a) Two radios went out forcing men to return to base.

(b) Uncle Dog honing very effective.

10. Weather: Two to Kita: 5/10 cumulus based at 2000' with top at 5000'. Visibility unlimited.

Kita to DP: 1/10 to 5/10 based at 3000' top at 4000'. Visibility unlimited

Target : 10/10 based at 2000' top undetermined

R/P to Base: 5/10 based 2000' top 5000' - unlimited.

Base : 8/10 based at 600' top undetermined - visibility 5 miles.

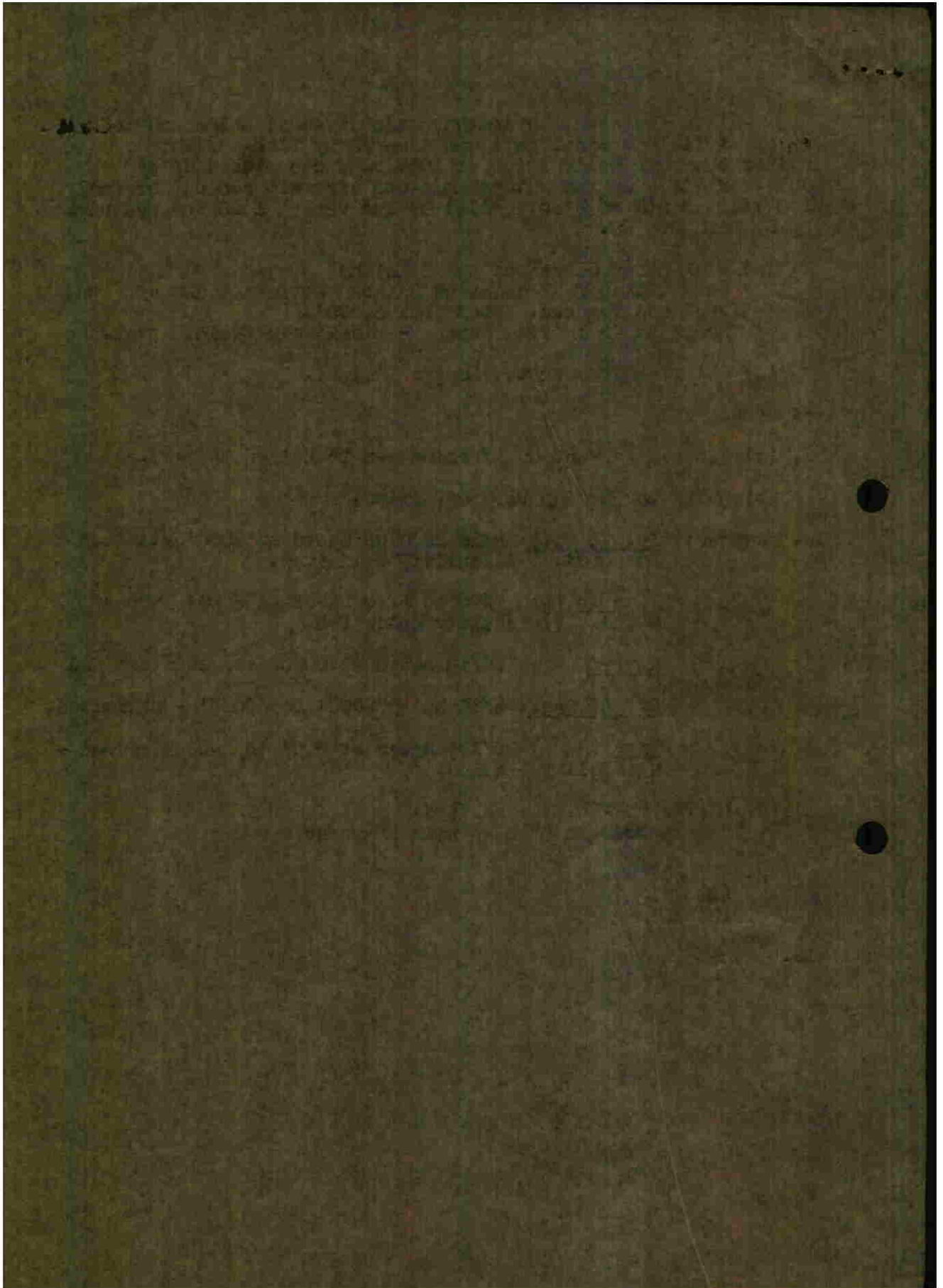
11. a. 15,723 rds. of .50 calibre.
23 rounds 5" HVAR with 5" motor.

b. (1) 107
(2) 81
(3) 151

12. None

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Item 3:

VLR Mission Reports dated 14 August 1945.

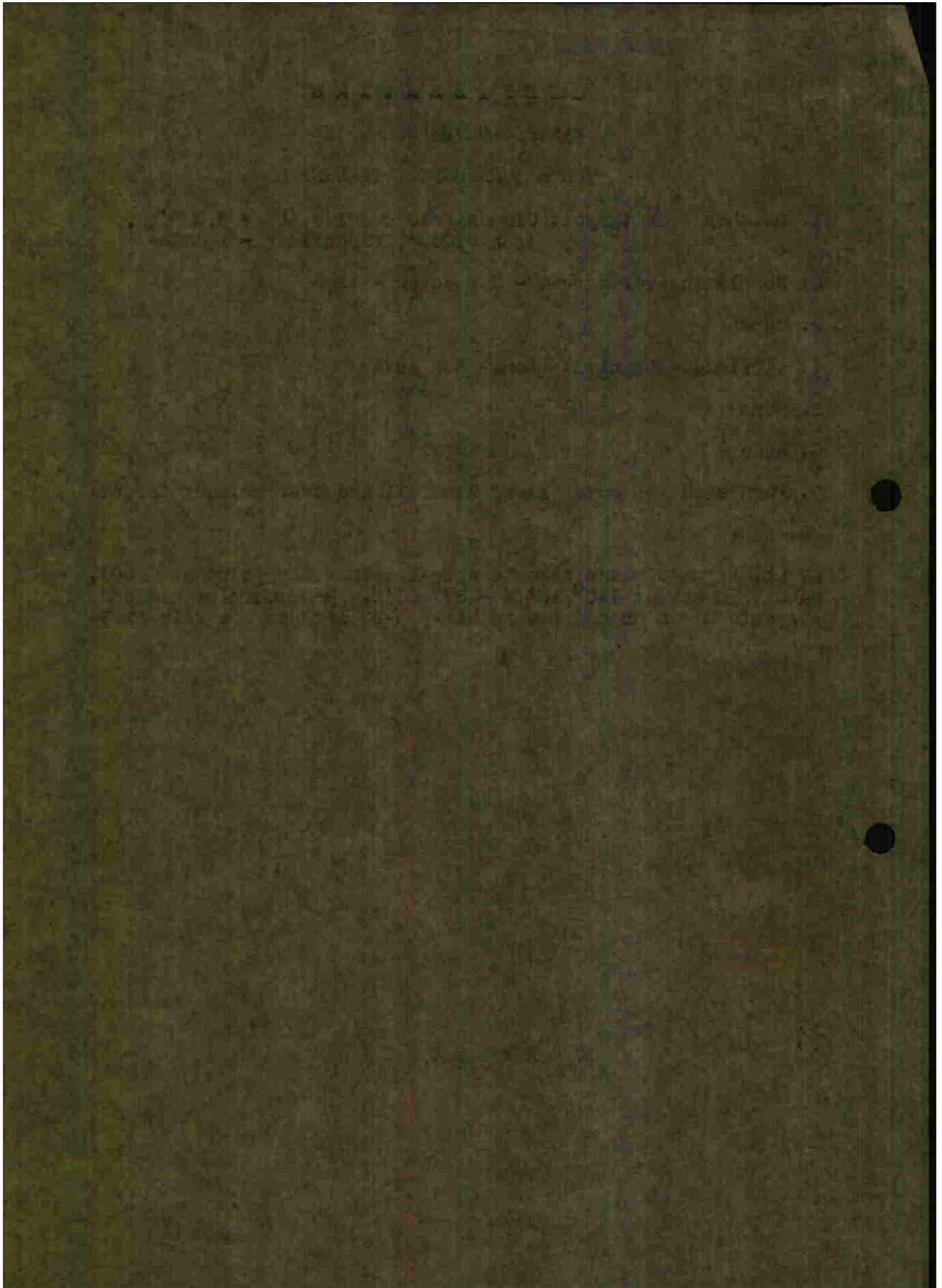
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413TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

VLR RETURN REPORT (FLASH)

1. Weather over target: Clouds 9/10 cumulus, base 5,000',
tops 9,000', visability - 1 mile.
2. No planes over target - Top cover - 12
3. None
4. Airfields attacked: None- top cover
5. None
6. None
7. Furnished top cover along landfall and over primary target.
8. None
9. Lt. Regan's plane seen to spiral over rally point at 6000'.
He bailed out at 140° 15' E - 27° 50' N. B-29 circled him and
Playmate 61 is headed toward him. B-29 dropped him life raft.

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

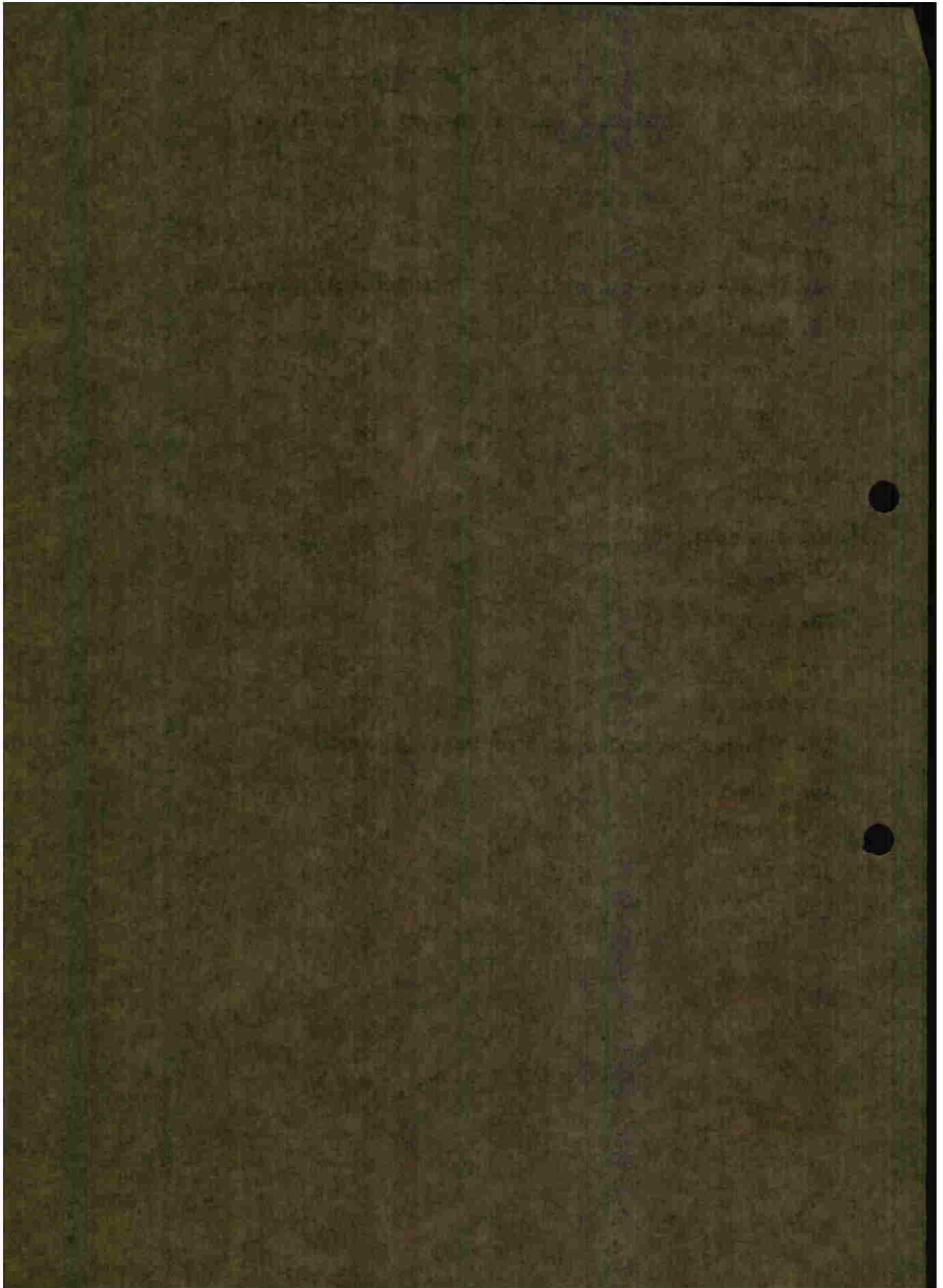


C O N F I D E N T I A L

VLR Mission Summary Report 413th F. S.

1. 1410
2. One
3. None
4. None - Lt. Regan bailed out but probably picked up.
5. None
6. None
7. None
8. None
9. ---
10. Top cover
11. None
12. None
13. None
14. None
15. 1 Sugar Dog and 5 smaller boats damaged.
16. None
17. None
18. None
19. None

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



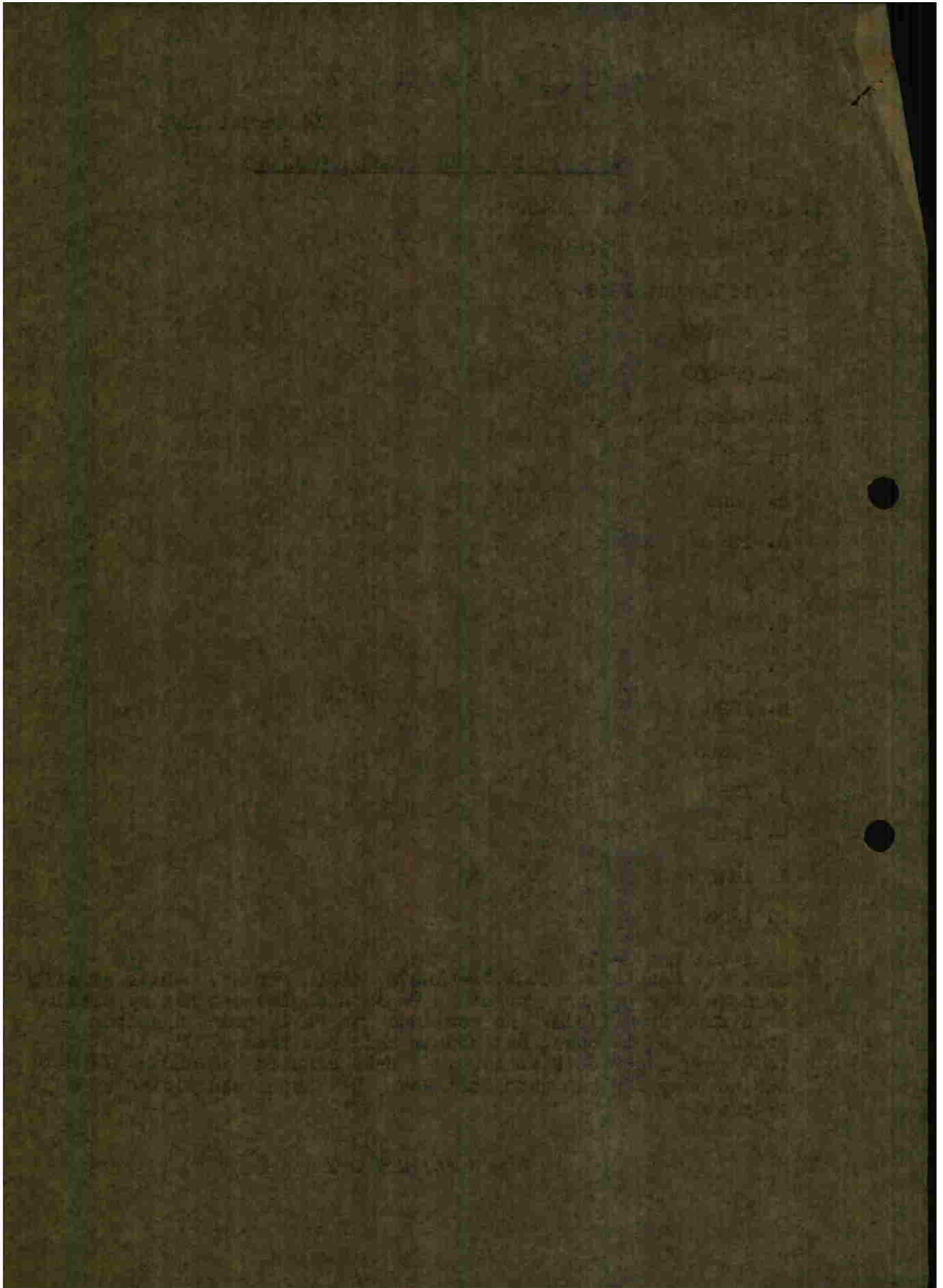
C O N F I D E N T I A L

14 August 1945

VLR FIGHTER GROUP MISSION REPORT

1. a. 413th Fighter Squadron
2. a. VLR Fighter Strike
 - b. 14 August 1945.
 - c. FO 167
 - d. 08-003
3. a. 413th Ftr. Sq.
 - b. 12
 - c. None
 - d. 12
 - e. 1
 - f. 11
 - g. 0952
 - h. 1020
 - i. 1355
 - j. 1358
 - k. 1410
 - l. 1445
 - m. 1805
4. a. Total One P-47.
 2nd. Lt. HAROLD E. REGAN, O-810075, 413th Ftr Sq. While strafing on deck over primary target Lt Regan's engine was hit by small arms fire from field. He continued to rally point and then tried to get to base, but had to bail out from 6000', at 140° 15'E - 27° 50'N at 1700. A B-29 circled him and a playmate was heading for him when last seen, Lt. Regan was picked up by playmate.

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



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

b. 1st. Lt. URBAN L. DREW O-812776 - 413th Fir Sq. Hits by small arms fire on nose and both wings. Pilot uninjured.

5. a. None

b. None

c. 1 sugar dog and 5 small boats in Cove directly east of primary target damaged.

6. Take off was two hours late, at 0945. Route out and landfall were as briefed. However, after making landfall an area of poor visibility was encountered. At or near a road junction (34° 23'N 136° 49'E) one flight became separated from the rest of the Squadron, and proceeded to target.

The first two flights turned, at the road junction and followed road leading southwest along the coast. No military targets were sighted, so at Owashi (34° 05'N 136° 12'E) these flights turned and proceeded east until on original course home, by passing the Rally Point.

The third flight, proceeding to target, flew top cover for aircraft of 456th Squadron as the latter attacked Akenogahara Airfield. Circling the flight found attacked and damaged six to eight small boats in a cove directly East of Akenogahara. One element then returned to strafe a possible aircraft in the South dispersal area of the Field, while remaining element flew cover. Attacking element strafed shop area on SE side of airfield, causing sharp explosion but probably no fire. This element drew machine gun fire from positions just east of shop area. Both aircraft were hit. Flight was rejoined and arrived at Rally Point 1435. One of damaged aircraft experienced trouble there, but was able to proceed toward home as far as (27° 50'N 140° 15'E), where pilot bailed out and was picked up by ASR. Remaining three planes returned to base at 1805.

7. a. Akenogahara airfield - shop area - SE corner of field.
(Meager, light, accurate)

8. a. None

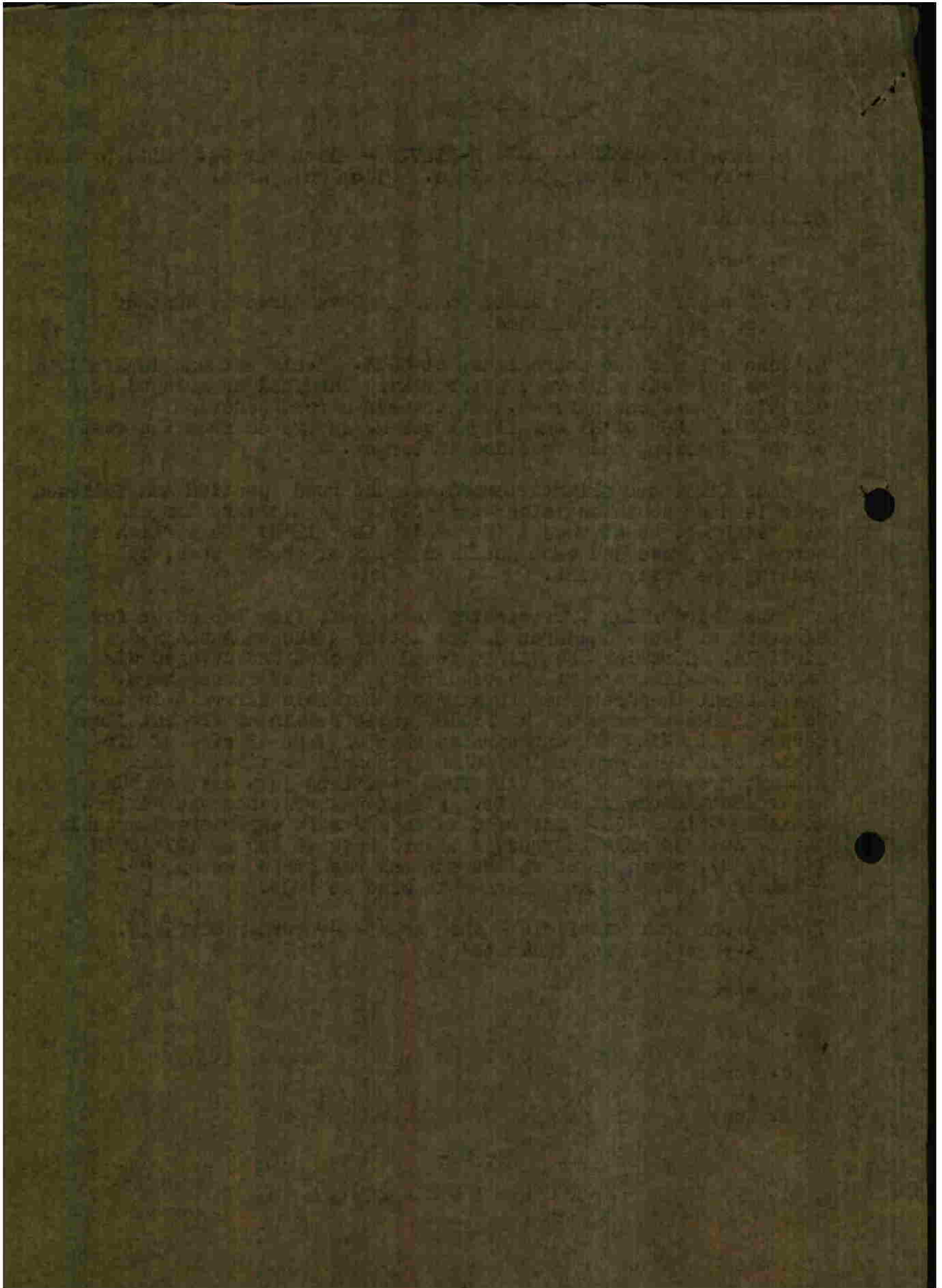
b. None

c. None

d. None

- 2 -

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

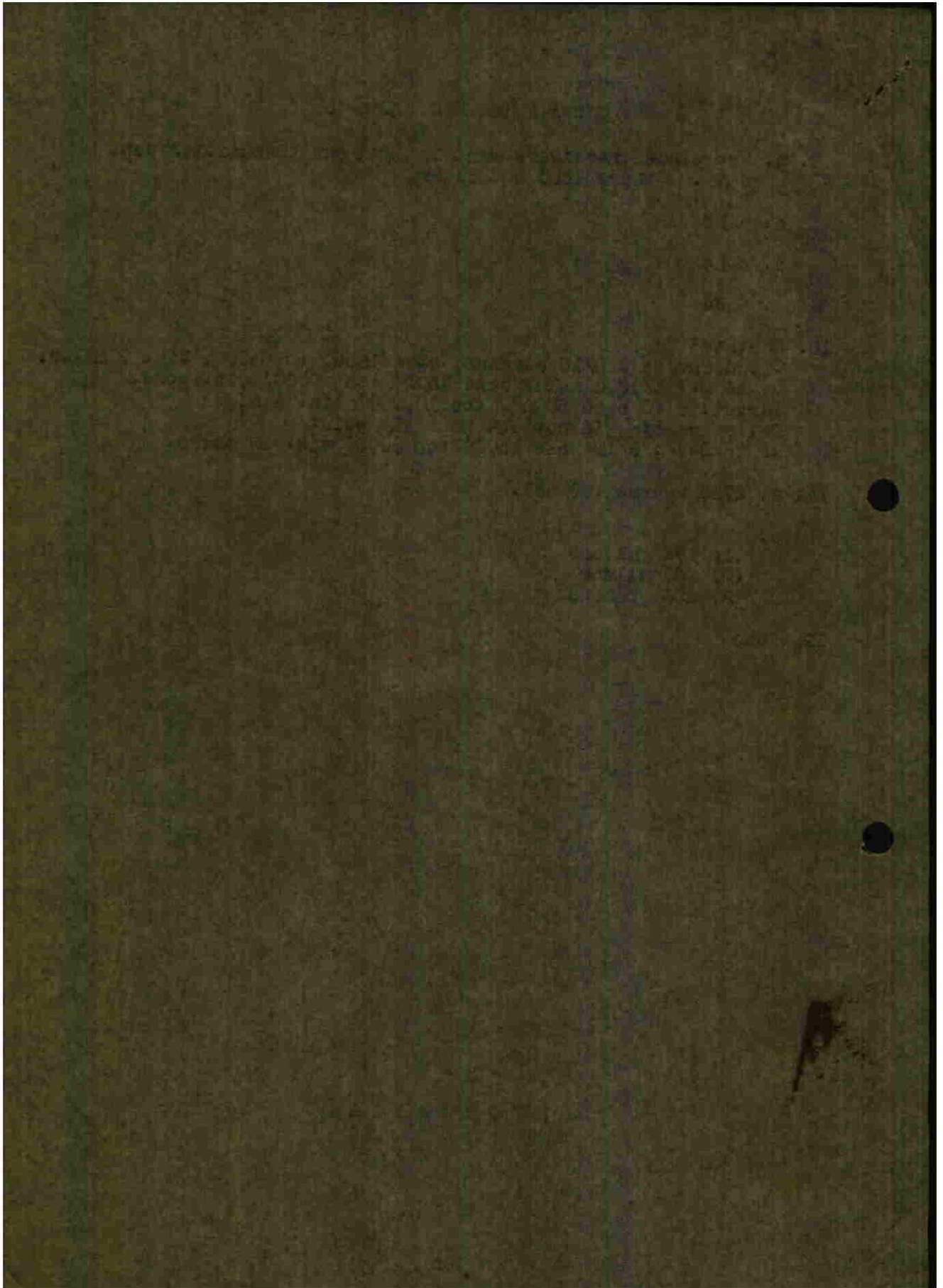


C O N F I D E N T I A L

- a. Two planes receivers went bad and one transmitter went out. Others loud and clear.
 - b. none
 - c. none
 - d. None
10. Weather:
Cloud coverage 3/10 cumulus, base 1500, top 4500, vis. 7 miles.
Ry to DF: 1/10 cumulus base 1500' top 8000' vis. good.
Target: 3/10 base 5000', top 10,000' vis. 2 miles
Rally Point: Did not get to rally point
RP to Base: 5/10 base 1500' top 6000' vis. 10 miles.
11. a. 2735 rounds .50 cal.
- b.
 - (1) 170 gallons
 - (2) 86 gallons
 - (3) 296 gallons
12. None

- 3 -

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



Item 4:

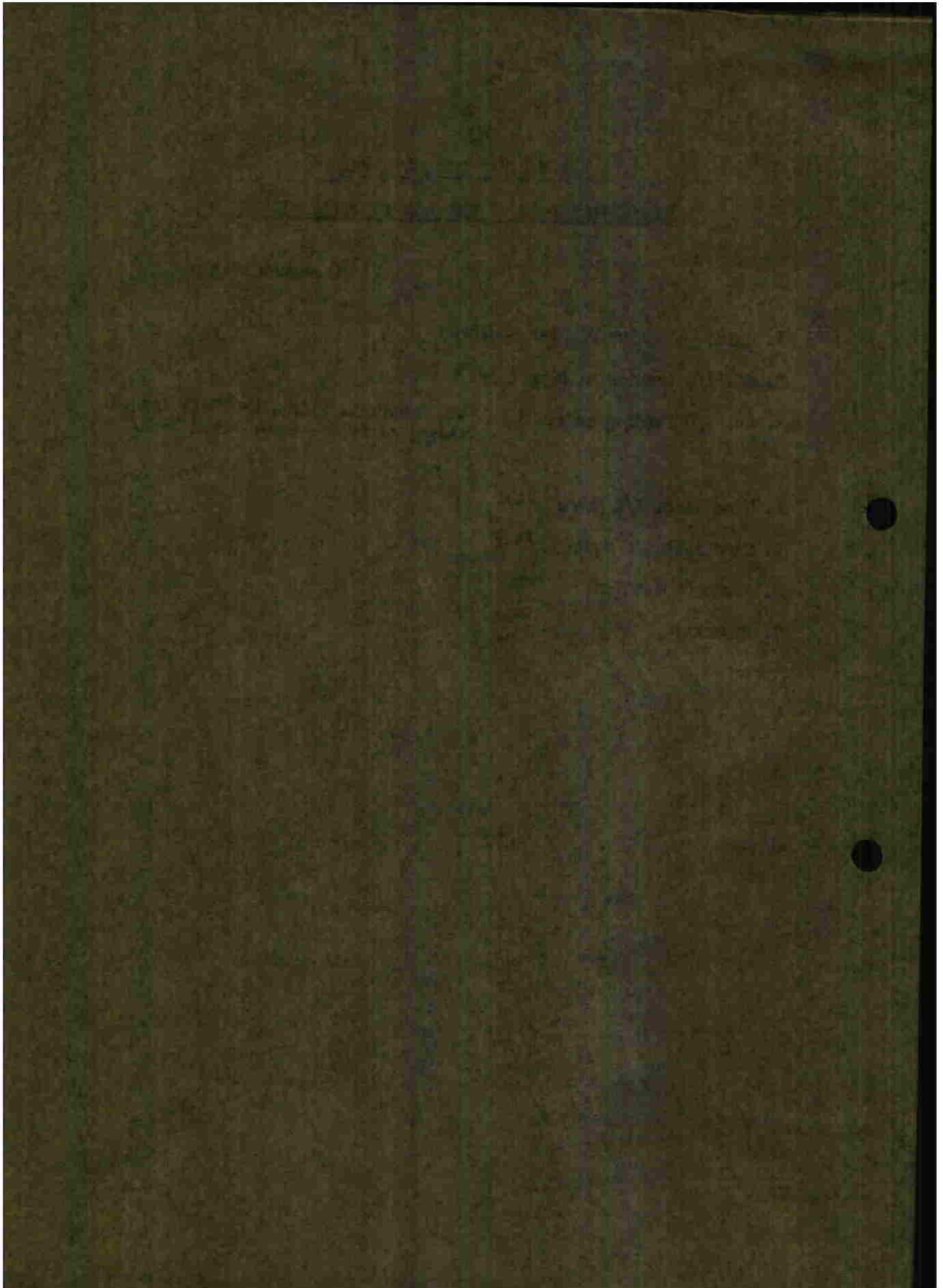
VLR Mission Reports dated 30 August 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE REPORT ON VLA SHOW OF POWER MISSION

30 August 1945

1. Unit: 413th Fighter Squadron
2. No. A/C landing at home base: 20
3. No. A/C landing away: 1 Lt. Robert L. Flint, C-798272 landed
Atsugi at 1050 - cause - oil leak.
4. Time first A/C down: 1401
5. Time last A/C down: 1419
6. Enemy Opposition: None
7. Remarks: None



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

30 August 1945

VLR FIGHTER GROUP MISSION REPORT

1. a. 413th Fighter Squadron

2. a. VLR Show of Power

b. 30 August 1945

c. FO 158

d. 08-004

3. a. 412th Ftr. Sq.

b. 22

c. 1

d. 21

e. 0

f. 20

g. 0632

h. 0700

i. 1002

j. 1002

k. 1020 - 1033

l. 1050

m. 1419

4. a. None

b. None

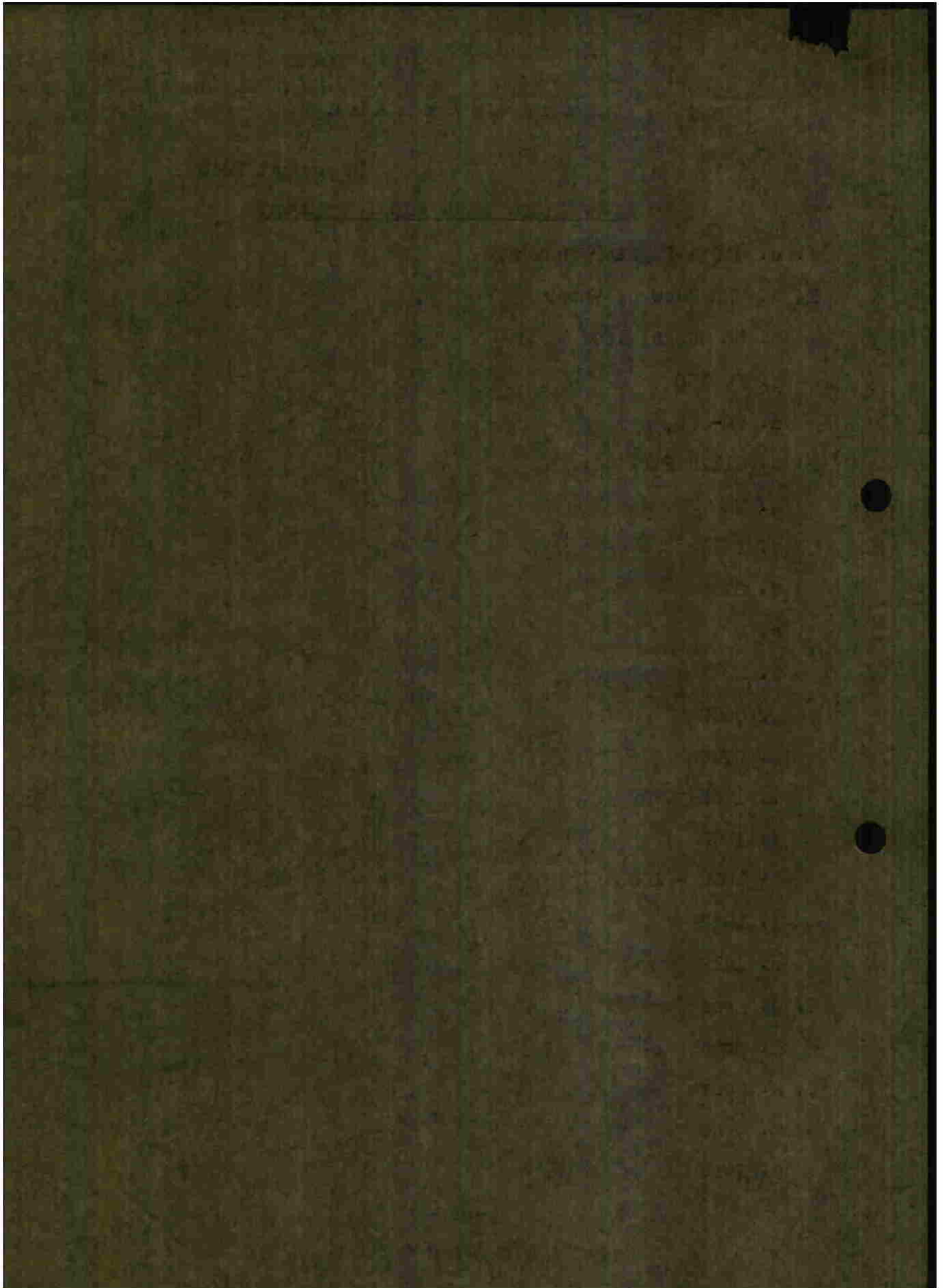
5. a. None

b. None

c. None

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL



Two aircraft took off at 0620, after a twenty minute delay until daylight. Immediately after take-off one aircraft returned when wing tanks failed to function. Landfall was made near Hiratsuka at 1002. Shortly thereafter Atsugi Airfield came into view. With its airborne operations in progress, field and sky were filled with aircraft, particularly C-54's.

In the Tokyo Bay area cloud cover obscured ground installations as the Squadron flew over Tokyo at 9,000'. The entire region was cluttered with B-29's in formation. During the flight up from the Atsugi area radios blared as the Ground Controller gave a play-by-play description of the landing of ground forces near Yokohama.

The Squadron proceeded northeast of Tokyo as far as Shiroy Airfield, and then returned to circle Tokyo for thirteen minutes at 1500 feet. The city was very thoroughly burned out. After circling the Squadron headed down Tokyo Bay, past the many ships participating in the landing operations, and the F6F's flying cover for them. One aircraft, leaking oil, left the Squadron over Yokohama to land at Atsugi. Then, across Sagami Bay with its large ships, including battleships and at least one carrier.

Reaching the Rally Point at 1050, the Squadron turned towards home, reaching base, without incident, at 1401.

7. None

8. a. None

b. None

c. Many enemy a/c of all types noted at Kashiwa, Matsudo and Shiroy Airfields, Northeast of Tokyo.

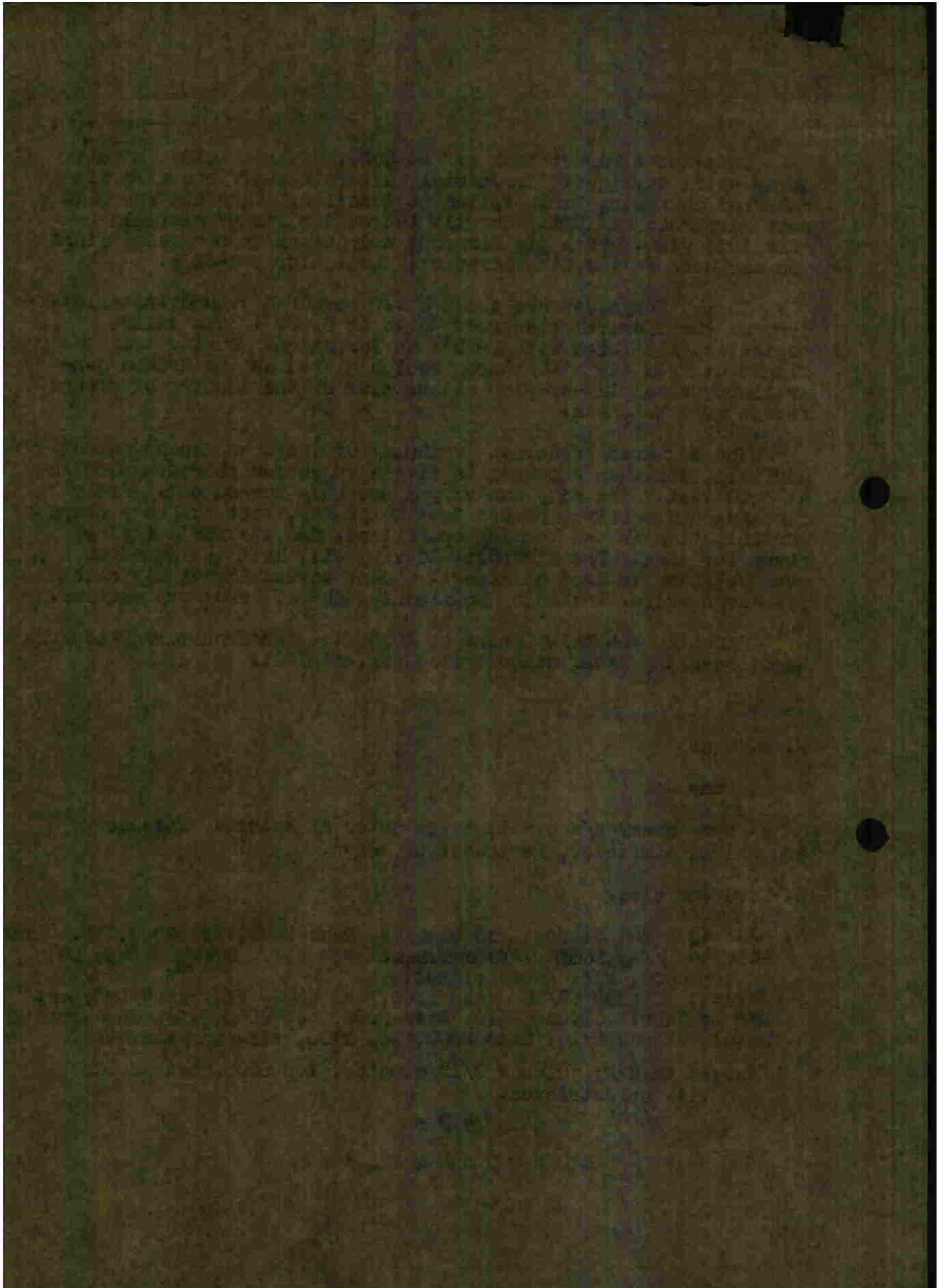
9. Loud and clear

10. Base to Kita: Clouds 5/10 cumulus, Base 2000, top 8000, Vis. Unres.
 Kita to D/P: Clouds 2/10 cumulus. Base 2000,
 top 6000, vis. unrestricted.
 Target: Clouds 9/10, Base 1500, top 3500, Vis. unrestricted.
 R/P to Base: Clouds 1/10, Base 3000, top 6000, vis. unrestricted.
 Base: Clouds 2/10, Base 2000, top 5000, vis. unrestricted.

Target to R/P: Clouds 2/10 cumulus, top 6000, base 3000,
 vis. unrestricted.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

11. a. Ammo expended: None

b.

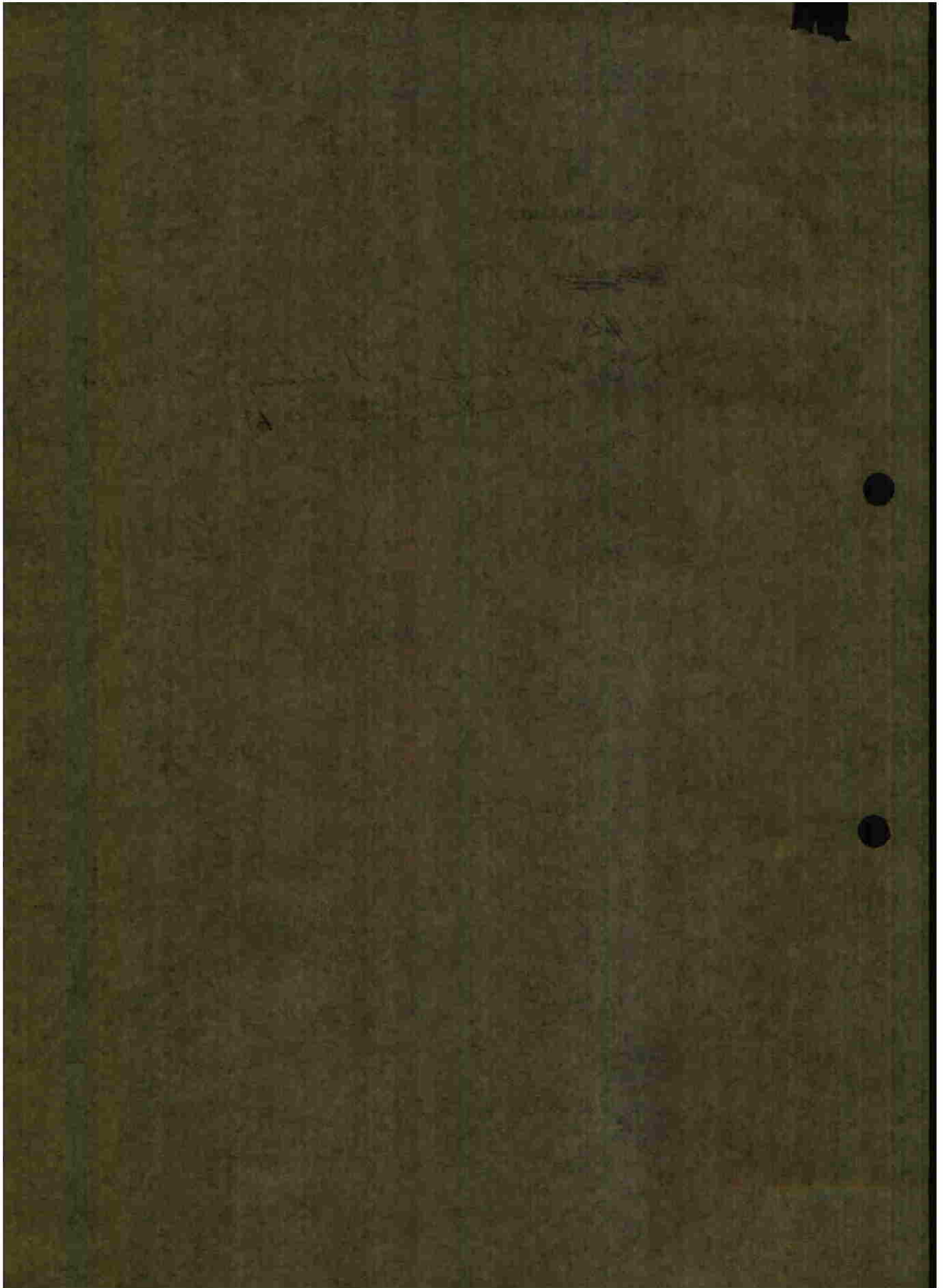
(1) ~~247~~ 219

(2) 146

(3) 276 (41C landing at Atsugi AF was not included in "b")

12. None

CONFIDENTIAL



Item 5:

Air Medal Awards for Missions flown on dates indicated.

C O N F I D E N T I A LAIR MEDAL AWARDS FOR MISSION FLOWN ON FOLLOWING DATES1 August 1945

Major	LEWIS C. MURDOCK	(Bronze OLC to Air Medal)
Captain	RUSSELL W. DEARDON	(Bronze OLC to Air Medal)
Captain	FRANCIS W. JOHNSON	
Captain	LAWRENCE P. McINTOSH	(Bronze OLC to Air Medal)
Captain	EARNEST J. WHITTLE JR.	
1st. Lt.	ROBERT A. FREDERICKSEN	
1st. Lt.	FRANKLYN E. KEOHE	
1st. Lt.	GEORGE A. PLEVNIK	
1st. Lt.	JAMES I. WELLMAN	

8 August 1945

Major	PAUL R. WIGNALL
Captain	ROBERT DALY
Captain	LEW D. NEWSOM
1st. Lt.	RAYMOND W. ALLISON
1st. Lt.	ROBERT J. SHIPPEE
1st. Lt.	GEORGE V. STAMBAUGH
1st. Lt.	DANTE A. VOTOLATO
1st. Lt.	JOHN L. WORDEN
2nd. Lt.	FRANK F. COLLYER III
2nd. Lt.	DUANE R. IHRIE

14 August 1945

Captain	JAMES L. GOSS	
Captain	IRVING W. HORWITZ	(Bronze OLC to Air Medal)
1st. Lt.	URBAN L. DREW	(Bronze OLC to Air Medal)
1st. Lt.	FRED G. NOTT	
1st. Lt.	C. S. RICHMOND	
1st. Lt.	JAMES R. THOMAS	
1st. Lt.	ROBERT C. WEITZ	
2nd. Lt.	RUSSELL I. ALDERSON	
2nd. Lt.	HAROLD E. REGAN	

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

Item 6:

SO #112, Hq. 414th Ftr. Gp SE, APO 86, dtd 11 Aug. 1945.

List of Officers transferred this Sq. 6 Aug. 45.

SO #110, Hq. 414th Ftr. Gp SE, 5 Aug. 1945.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
414TH FIGHTER GROUP ST
APO 86

D-3

SPECIAL ORDER)

NUMBER 110)

5 August 1945

(1055) AC

1. The fol 0/having been asgd this Hq per par 11 SO 76 Hq VII Ftr Comd APO 86 dtd 5 Aug 45 are further asgd to the orgns indicated:

Hq Det 414th Ftr Gp SE APO 86

CAPT THOMAS J FARLEY 0660127

413th Ftr Sq SE 414th Ftr Gp SE APO 86

CAPT ARNOLD F GRILSON	0724702	1ST LT HOWARD J DUNCAN	0778095
1ST LT HUGH C DISCHINGER	0778090	2D LT ELLER D DUSTARHARS	
2D LT MELVILLE G GREENBERG			02012638
	0535974	2D LT EARL J JONES	02067512
2D LT EDWIN N JORDAN	0835894	2D LT RICHARD L LANE	02067528
2D LT JONNIS A MARSTON	0834261	F/O KENNETH N ALEXANDER	T65008
F/O HOWARD C CUMINS	T65022	F/O WILLIAM R McCONNELL	T131389

437th Ftr Sq SE 414th Ftr Gp SE APO 86

CAPT ROBERT W MARTIN	0659531	1ST LT DAVID E FITTON JR	026807
1ST LT WILLIAM C FULLILOVE		1ST LT GEORGE E LAXON JR	026769
	026575	2D LT RAY R CAMMIDA	0830401
2D LT RALPH R HOLMER	02063837	2D LT RENEY A JONES	0716161
2D LT ROBERT R STINSON	0736759		

456th Ftr Sq SE 414th Ftr Gp SE APO 86

CAPT - ROBERT C WILLIAMS	0727610	1ST LT ROBERT E BURTOW	0779355
1ST LT JULIAN A DEAN JR	0804124	1ST LT ROBERT R GUNN	0778134
1ST LT PETER BALDONI	0831503	2D LT RICHARD A DACON	0822607
2D LT LLOYD J MILLER	0832556	2D LT THOMAS B O'HANLON	0832674
2D LT LYMAN L SHEFFIELD	02012610		

BY ORDER OF COLONEL TROTT:

OFFICIAL:

F. C. Taylor
F. C. TAYLOR
Captain, AC
Adjutant

F. C. TAYLOR
Captain, AC
Adjutant

-1-

R E S T R I C T E D

Item 7

S. O. #108, Hq 414th Ftr. Gp SE, APO 86, 1 Aug. 1945.

S. O. #113, Hq. 414th Ftr. Gp SE, APO 86, 15 Aug. 45.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
414TH FIGHTER GROUP SE
APO 86

D-3

SPECIAL ORDER)

NUMBER 108)

1 August 1945

1. The fol named EM Hq Det 414th Ftr Gp SE are promoted and/or appointed to grades indicated eff 1 Aug 45.
Auth: AR 615-5.

TO BE TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

S Sgt King E Coulter	33165398	AC
S Sgt Ralph E Gasper	33100923	AC
S Sgt Franklin How	31101547	AC
S Sgt Bernard J Mueller	36234025	ORD

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Sgt Anthony C Gromek	32306431	ORD
Sgt Robert H Read	33120165	AC
Sgt Percy O Risedorph	32848627	AC

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Cpl Walter C Pieschke	16172034	AC
Cpl Anton Popp	39321892	MC
Cpl Vincent D Wynne	17126962	AC

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMPORARY)

Pvt John Babyn	32556338	AC
Pvt Robert P Jordan	35585538	AC
Pvt Paul F Lutt	12174856	AC

2. The fol named EM 437th Fighter Squadron SE 414th Ftr Gp SE are promoted and/or appointed to grades indicated eff 1 Aug 45. Auth: AR 615-5.

TO BE FIRST SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

T Sgt Jack G Hanna	7025603	AC
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TO BE MASTER SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

T Sgt Jack Devine	6289717	AC	T Sgt Gunter F Adler	12057945	AC
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TO BE TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

S Sgt James E Crocker	33219650	AC
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TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Sgt Theodore Beasley	32089175	AC	Sgt Peter Darpino	32268715	AC
Sgt Thomas J Treach	17128448	AC	Sgt Carlos D Quinn	35678364	AC
Sgt Arnold P Koch	37303127	AC	Sgt Henry W McNeill	34231143	AC
Sgt Keith S Newman	37240266	AC	Sgt David V Rance	17064078	AC
Sgt Arthur J O'Neill	31138517	AC	Sgt Andrew Przywara	36111493	ORD
Sgt William F Schafer	17064072	AC			

-1-

R E S T R I C T E D

RESTITUTION

R E S T R I C T E D

Par 3 SO 108 Hq 414th Ftr Gp SE, APO 86, dtd 1 Aug 45, con't.

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMPORARY)

Pvt Umile Betro 32272990 AC Pvt Robert L Billmeyer 13159554 AC
 Pvt Henry N Erbse 35222728 ORD Pvt Norman L Havener 38445984 AC
 Pvt Chester A Johnson 16023585 AC Pvt Frederick E Jordal 39477185 AC
 Pvt William P Margavitch 31408488 AC

4. The fol named EM 413th Ftr Sq SE 414th Ftr Gp SE are promoted and/or appointed to grades indicated off 1 Aug 45.
 Auth: AR 615-5.

TO BE FIRST SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

T Sgt Michael Ward 35023320 AC

TO BE MASTER SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

T Sgt Warren E Drury 31095367 AC

TO BE TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

S Sgt Charles G Brown 34132490 AC S/Sgt Philip W Lenhardt
 S Sgt George M Sudar 19004439 AC 12035466 AC

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Sgt Gordon W Pailey 19171828 AC Sgt Jeremiah Craven 16019700 AC
 Sgt Elmer L Kocher 34200411 ORD Sgt Thomas W Shelley 32670804 ORD

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Cpl Paul R Bolerjack 19104680 AC Cpl Frederick E Graveline
 Cpl Edmund C Hamilton 35650901 AC 31291173 AC
 Cpl John A Johnson 36657912 AC Cpl Wesley P Petersen 36481110 MD
 Cpl Henry A Pope 34199756 AC Cpl Howard R Smithers 35567644 AC

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMPORARY)

Pfc Maurie J Caseketta Pfc Preston V Eade 32140709 AC
 36637812 AC Pfc Bruce W Covett 20830357 AC
 Pfc Jack G Henderson 14125344 AC Pfc Warren A Holminger
 Pfc John R Troth 17905980 AC 36276757 AC
 Pfc Bud V Wheat 19199781 AC Pfc Salvatore Zanca 32460354 AC

BY ORDER OF COLONEL THORNT:

F. G. TAYLOR
 Captain, AC
 Adjutant

ORIGINAL: *49 1/2*

F. G. TAYLOR
 Captain, AC
 Adjutant

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
414TH FIGHTER GROUP SE
APO 36

D-3

SPECIAL ORDERS)

15 August 1945

NUMBER

113)

E X T R A C T

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3. The fol named EM 413th Ftr Sq SE 414th Ftr Gp SE are promoted and/or appointed to grades indicated eff 15 Aug 45.
Auth: AR 615-5.

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Sgt James F Ballard	36757550 AC	Sgt Robert L Davis	36663255 AC
Sgt Thomas O Davis	20368477 AC	Sgt Robert E DeHart	35425361 AC
Sgt Franklin L Gazzo	12203670 AC	Sgt James S Gibbs	34772730 AC
Sgt Robert R Hagens	36816563 AC	Sgt Henry J Heming	36815605 AC
Sgt Thurman R Henson	39697238 AC	Sgt Albert F Horminghaus	19137448 AC
Sgt Joseph J J Hill	32604574 AC	Sgt David W. Moore	20826370 AC
Sgt Robert S McArthur	32765839 AC	Sgt Mike Pavlina	35514375 AC
Sgt Louis Moroosse	15016838 AC	Sgt Harold J Rice	12158892 AC
Sgt Herbert J Reed	12173968 AC	Sgt James E Sanford	34445527 AC
Sgt Harry W Rowser	33255524 AC	Sgt Mac H Varner	39610216 AC
Sgt Calvin W Smith	11101396 AC	Sgt Charles A Wood	31111524 AC
Sgt Ted J Watkins	39238925 AC		

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMPORARY)

Cpl Preston V Eade	32140709 AC	Cpl Robert M Graham	14153773 AC
Cpl Jack C Henderson	14125344 AC	Cpl Harvey P Hoffman	35307549 AC
Cpl Rex B Holcomb	39389871 AC	Cpl Robert L Hudson	37472692 AC
Cpl Michele R Impollonia	32875105 AC	Cpl Francis C Powers	39073289 AC
Cpl Marion Seigler	19176156 AC	Cpl Edwin G Sears	39326620 AC

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMPORARY)

Pfc Hugh M Barton	34779641 AC	Pfc James B Griffin	37215116 AC
Pfc James F Griffin	38426795 ORD	Pfc Stephen A Hadinger	35232024 AC
Pfc James C Hoffman	35558450 AC	Pfc William W Jubb	13144344
Pfc Edward W Holyat	32828226 AC	Pfc Nicholas A Sapanaro	32773452 ORD
Pfc Walter Juga	16134316 AC		
Pfc Morris Schwab	32310274 AC		
Pfc Stanley L Smith	35533096 AC		

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMPORARY)

Pvt James L Boan	34998352 MD	Pvt Dale S Brewer	18199314 ORD
Pvt Angelo V Ferrari	32352540 AC	Pvt Bernard P Gavin	12140694 AC
Pvt John P Kowalski	32306041 ORD	Pvt Chester Lewis	32760561 ORD
Pvt Walter J Skinner	15074192 ORD	Pvt John White	35456508 AC
Pvt Harry W Woessner	12164831 CWS		

*

*

*

R E S T R I C T E D

RECEIVED

-2-

F. G. TAYLOR
Captain, AC
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

F. G. TAYLOR
Captain, AC
Adjutant

BY ORDER OF COLONEL THORNE:

Par 3 SO 113 cs Hq 414th Htr Gp SE APO 86 dtd 15 Aug 45, cont.

RECEIVED