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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
A.P.O. # 244

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY
SUPPLEMENT NUMBER FOUR

1 JULY 1944 -- 31 JULY 1944

1. ORGANIZATION:

NEGATIVE.

2. STRENGTH:

FIFTY (50) OFFICERS
TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE (231) ENLISTED MEN

3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED
IN THIS THEATER:

NEGATIVE.

4. LOSSES:

PVT LEOPOLD A. DUHAMEL -- KILLED IN ACTION, 8 JULY
1944.

5. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

ON 12 JULY LT. CANTWELL, S/SGT MADSEN AND CPL
MORRISSETTE RECEIVED THE PURPLE HEART MEDALS. NO
ORDERS HAVE AS YET BEEN RECEIVED.

P.R.C.

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~~SECRET~~ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, A.F.NARRATIVE

The Squadron truly came into its own in the month of July. All the months and even years of training culminated in a blaze of activity and glory, with more flying than the Squadron had ever previously known or even anticipated -- flying which was at all times of the utmost significance, encompassing air support for the conquests of Saipan and Tinian, neutralizing the airfields on Rota and Guam, and at the same time patrolling the sky against the ever present possibility of day-time enemy air attack.

There is such a tremendous story in the Squadron flying that it is probably best to let the Mission Reports and the statistics speak for themselves. There were 80 tactical missions flown, ranging from 4 ship to 24 ship flights. These included dive-bombing, skip-bombing, rocket-firing, strafing and what later became known as "fire-bombing". Many of the targets were airfields proper and their environs, many were special targets such as gun positions, radio or radar stations or devastation of buildings, and still others were close in ground support for front line troops, bombing and/or strafing enemy concentrations in carefully controlled guns to pave the way for immediate and important advances of our ground troops. The Mission Reports for July may be found in Appendix 3; because the statistics so well sum up the story, however, they are incorporated into the narrative as follows:

Tactical Missions: 80

Individual Sorties: 736

Saipan: 7
 Tinian: 61
 Rota : 7
 Pagan : 4
 Aguijan: 1

Saipan : 28
 Tinian : 603
 Rota : 53
 Pagan : 48
 Aguijan : 4

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

Total flying time: 2336:25

Expenditures for July:

Caliber .50 ammunition	457,759 rounds
Rockets	152
Fire bombs	38
Demo bombs, 500 lb.	769
Fuse, tail, .025 sec. delay.	513
Fuse, nose, instantaneous	500
Fuse, tail, 4 to 5 sec delay	131

A word of explanation concerning the "fire-bombs". These were self-igniting gas tanks, sometimes 100 gallons belly tanks but more frequently two 165 gallon wing tanks. For the first few experiments they were filled with 1/3 gasoline and 2/3 Diesel oil, with an M-3 detonator on a white phosphorous grenade; later a gelatinous compound of Napalm and gasoline was used. Only experienced Pilots were used for these missions. The technique was to dive from about 2,000 feet to 50 feet and skip bomb. With a few exceptions, this would result in a huge sheet of flame, covering a sizeable area and searing anything within that area. As they were usually employed on enemy troop concentrations in heavily wooded areas, results were impossible to observe. See Appendix #1 for a Group Commendation.

Most missions were directed by a controller and targets were not assigned until just prior to order to attack. Whereas the grid coordinate system enabled the Pilots to locate the position in general, they feel that the lack of preliminary briefing was a definite hindrance both in lack of detailed information re target and lack of opportunity to plan method of attack. During one period, however, while we were softening up Tinian prior to J-Day, targets were assigned

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

well in advance of take-off and this was a great help. Pictures of the target area were made available, sometimes even in stereo pairs, and this enabled each Pilot to familiarize himself with his objective. The latter of pictures, incidentally, was a sore spot; it was common knowledge that photographic coverage was at all times available to any naval command which desired it, but for the most part the Army Fighter Squadrons lacked even an ordinary aerial view (or map) of most of the enemy air fields. There was a slight improvement in this situation after the P-5s were operating, and the big moment came (well along in the campaign) when a mosaic of Tinian was made available.

There was a great deal more dive-bombing than rocket firing. The bombing on the whole was accurate, but very often the target was little more than a pinpoint -- i.e. a revetted gun position or guns in caves in the sides of cliffs. In such instances hits were difficult to secure. High bombing of idleness, however, was achieved -- the objective was destruction of buildings (in Tinian town or small villages) or the neutralization of airfields.

Strafing, of course, was our most accurate means of attack. By the nature of the terrain, it was frequently impossible to see through the heavy foliage and many Pilots actually never saw a single Japanese soldier from the air, though there is reason to believe that large numbers of them must have perished from our fire on ground support missions. On other strikes, due to the local Japanese tendency (and a rather wise one) to dig in by day and operate only at night, most of our damage was on materiel rather than personnel.

A rather ingenious method of fighter direction was used during the Tinian campaign. Ground Control would turn the missions over to a Controller ("Torchy") flying a TBF. This Pilot, after bringing the P-4's in close behind him, would dip a wing or even fire a short burst (or a rocket) at the target as he described

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

it by radio. The Pilots had high praise for the efficiency of this system.

As stated above, the Pilots frequently had no way of determining the damage they had wrought, though they could often derive reasonable satisfaction from watching buildings blow up or fires start. However, there were times when they received direct work testifying to the efficiency of their performances. Sometimes this was merely a spoken word of congratulations from the controller. On one occasion a ground support flight consisting of Captain TOWNY, and Lts. CLARK, HARBOUR and O'HARE received a written message from a ground force commander which read: "Thank P-47 pilots who made strafing attack. Attack excellently executed. Troops have driven ahead 200 yards as result." Captain O'HARE, with Lts. COMPTON, THOMPSON, and GRAHAM had the honor of conducting the last ground support mission on Saipan. With rocket and strafing runs they helped clear the northern tip of the island, and orbited above the scene while the soldiers swarmed across Marpi Point Airfield and the Stars and Stripes were sent fluttering in the breeze.

The only element lacking in the south's combat flying was the one thing a Fighter Pilot most desires -- an opportunity to engage the enemy in aerial combat. However, the element of danger was always present in the form of enemy anti-aircraft fire. As the month went by the intensity of this eased off considerably over Tinian and Rota; Pagan, however was another story. This field, more than 200 statute miles away, was hemmed in by mountains on both sides, and within the valley from all sides came heavy and light A/A. That our planes sustained only minor damage from this fire was a tribute to our speed and evasive action, and indication of poor Jap gunnery or, a token of good fortune -- or all three combined. (See Appendix #2).

The Pilots themselves continued to withstand the accelerated pace with continued eagerness and no ill effects. Be it parenthetically noted that the above

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued.)

discussion deals only with combat flying and has made no mention of C.A.P.

(Combat Air Patrol) which accounts for so large a percentage of the month's flying time. This required eight planes airborne at dawn and eight at dusk, with four planes up during the intervening hours, every other day, until late in the month when the arrival of the 333rd Fighter changed this schedule to every third day. Nor does it include the any hours of alert status (the schedule requirements of which changed constantly) which tied up both Pilots and planes so much of the time.

There was, however, one very sour note in the psychological welfare of the Pilots. Under a veneer of constant banter and pseudo-cynicism there is a very natural interest on their parts concerning the recognition of their exploits and an anticipation of receiving the medals which the Army has seen fit to bestow. A very clear directive had long since set forth the definition of a sortie -- 10 sorties qualifying for an Air Medal, 20 for an Oak Leaf Cluster and 30 for the Distinguished Flying Cross. During the most wearing of the phases of these intensive July flying days there was always the knowledge that they were running up high sortie totals in an amazingly short period of time, under great pressure, there were to be some material compensations for same. It was a great blow, therefore, when at the time when most of the Pilots had passed or were just reaching the coveted total of 10 sorties, a new ruling appeared -- all missions over Saipan or Tinian were to be scored as "half sorties". The reason, presumably, was the close proximity of target to base. It evidently mattered not at all that the same hazards applied equally well there as elsewhere, that it was definitely and actively enemy territory (although in this latter respect the 73rd's good luck was continuing). It may be understood, then, that without exception the Pilots went through (and are in at this writing) a mood of indignation and semi-

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF Continued)

rebelliousness.

Maintenance of aircraft was excellent or even remarkable. At no time were more than three or four planes out of commission -- even allowing for the four of the original 37 which were demolished by the month's end, there were always 30 planes on flying status. A special night maintenance section had been set up to achieve this high standard. Careful flying and constant care by the crew chiefs were the other contributing factors. It was also frequently necessary for the Armament section to work at night in order to have bombs or rockets on the planes for early morning take-offs.

The long training grind becket Oahu stood the Squadron in good stead. Flying coordination within flights and between flights went smoothly at all times. Technical difficulties, such as some trouble in getting bomb to release properly, were gradually ironed out. Other troubles, however, were not so easily disposed of. The excellent maintenance results mentioned earlier were achieved despite an acute shortage of manpower. To begin with -- and this is a point which should be considered at all times -- the Squadron has been operating on the old T.O. which was based on 25 airplanes (we having 37). From the available strength then must be subtracted the men absent due to sickness, wounds or being on special detail -- the latter a necessity in setting up a new area. Also there should be mentioned the crowded and limiting conditions of Isely Field -- the short and extremely rough runway, and the cramped space allotted which not only ruled out proper dispersal for security purposes but also required parking planes too closely for ordinary line efficiency. Air traffic became terrific; take-off was frequently delayed and landing was a matter of simply waiting for a lull. It seemed that practically every type of Army and Navy plane -- fighter, bomber, transport and reconnaissance -- was utilizing the facilities of the Field.

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(Organisational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

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On the ground it was a month of consolidation and settling down to the new life. The last of the equipment was unpacked and the area was put into semi-smooth running shape -- only the knowledge that a move to another field was pending prevented entering into the finer aspects of a well-settled establishment. Some of the essential comforts of living, however, helped greatly when made available. These included setting up and moving into pyramidal tents on 3 July and at the same time being able to sleep on canvas cots (six to a tent in Enlisted Men quarters, four in Officers'); small screened-in mess halls for both Enlisted Men and Officers, screened-in latrines, more water available so that laundering could at least be attempted. As tents and a few buildings went up, the open camp area really began to take shape.

Generally speaking, it was a much calmer month than the end of June had been. The first few days still saw plenty of excitement, however. Nightly bombings, or at least air raid alerts, were still much in evidence. One night a single plane flew across the area strafing -- and was shot down immediately afterwards, to the enthusiastic joy of all concerned. The climax of Japanese nocturnal activity, however, was on the night of 6 July. There had been two separate air raid alerts; just after midnight a sleepy Squadron crawled out of its many fox-holes and into bed after the second "all clear". Then, quite suddenly, came something new -- and totally unexpected. Enemy shells from eight inch guns (firing from northern Tinian) began to burst throughout the Squadron quarters area. Instinctively everyone hit the dirt, trying to dissolve into the ground as the shrapnel flew. Some few made for their fox-holes, but movement other than belly-

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

crawling was not advisable. Our own guns had opened up in reply; the noise was great, the confusion likewise. It was, perhaps, the most terrifying few minutes for the entire Squadron since the entire unit had reassembled. Actually the whole episode lasted only a very short time, but the shells had not been wasted by the Japs.

Ugly shrapnel lay all about. Several tents had large rents in them. Most important, four men had been hit. Two of these, S/Sgt MADSEN with a hip wound and Cpl MORISSETTE with a wounded hand, were able to rejoin the Squadron some days later. Lt. CANTWELL received only a minor injury. It was Pvt DEOPOLD A. DUBANEL, however, who was most severely injured. Hit in the head, chest and leg, he was immediately given a blood transfusion (plasma) by members of the Squadron dispensary staff and soon after was taken to a field hospital. He lingered for one day, passing away on the morning of 8 July. Services for Pvt DUBANEL as well as Sgt SHIDLER, killed in June, were held in the mess hall on 14 July. On 12 July Lt. CANTWELL, S/Sgt MADSEN and Cpl MORISSETTE received Purple Heart medals at a ceremony with Lt. General JARMAN, Island Commander, officiating.

Typically, the day after the shelling saw many men frantically building covers for their hitherto open fox-holes, to guard against flying shrapnel. Actually, although this was not realized until later, the worst was over. For some reason the Japs never shelled across the channel again -- though for a long time strained nerves caused men to jump when our own nearby guns fired, or when the much too frequent blasting (new runway construction) took place. Air Raids suddenly ceased; this was, of course, chiefly due to the rendering inoperational

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, A.F., Continued)

and harassment of most enemy airfields within range, yet everyone fully expected the return of the night bombers when the moon once more approached fullness.

A word here about the weather. The Squadron had been fortunate in having a long series of sunny days during all the early stages of moving in and setting up. For the Pilots, flying weather too was good. Generally, days were not too hot and nights were comfortable. But the rainy season, already behind schedule, was bound to set in. The first heavy storm was on 14 July, and after that it became increasingly apparent that the good weather was fast fading. By the end of the month rain and mud became the rule rather than the exception.

Guard duty changed radically during the month. At first there was retained the string of dug in outposts around the camp. These were cut down some as other outfits moved in on our flanks and there finally came a time when there were other units on all sides of us. By Group order (so as to alleviate the manpower shortage by day) a guard was mounted every evening but was merely on call, did not man any posts. However, it was deemed advisable to have two men at a time walking through the area all night long. The Jap sniper activity was by no means at an end; although "all organized resistance" had ceased on Saipan on 9 July, more than 100 Japs were being killed or captured daily right up to the end of the month. Early on the morning of 23 July, just after pre-dawn preflighting a Jap sniper firing from somewhere off the east end of the field, hit the canopy of a plane in which Sgt D. D. ROBERTS was sitting. Fortunately, no great harm was done.

A bright moment in the month -- and at the same time evidence that things were settling down as the battle line receded -- was the showing of a movie

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, I.F., Continued).

(outdoors) on the evening of 12 July. After that films were shown once or twice weekly, successfully despite such obstacles as weak or noisy generators. Special Service also was in effect -- radios and victrolas were made available, free cigarettes, candy, soap etc. given out. Mail came in fairly regularly. From a personal viewpoint, bathing and laundering were the two chief problems.

On the morning of 12 July Lt. General RICHARDSON visited the Squadron, examining in particular the large hole in the rear fuselage of Lt. BARNHILL's plane, received the day before from A/A over Pagan. On the same evening Brig. General DOUGLAS and Col. MOORE (7th Air Force and 7th Fighter Command Commanding Officers respectively) had supper with the Squadron Officers. Other visitors were not uncommon -- Army, Navy and Marine, press correspondents etc. On the subject of the Marines, a sizeable detachment were encamped near us after they had completed their front line fighting. Nominally on "rest leave" they were sadly lacking in any of even the minor comforts and frequently shared in our music, movies etc. Our S-2 section prepared extra copies of type-written daily news summaries for the Marines to post on their bulletin boards as well. From time to time, outsiders (10 Navy men, 10 men from a S/L battalion etc.) were attached to us for rations and even quarters.

There were no promotions during the month. Squadron Orders detailed Lt. BIRD as Administrative Supply Officer (add. duty), Lt. CANTWELL as Technical Supply Officer (add. duty), and Lt. EHLERT as Voting Officer (add. duty) the latter being in connection with the coming national presidential election.

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Continued)

Health during the month continued fairly good. Lacking satisfactory local conditions, it was necessary to send 10 men to the hospital for treatment or rest. Ironically, the first July hospital patient from the Squadron was Captain STEWART, Flight Surgeon.

During the last few days of the month preparations were being made to move the Squadron to the newly constructed fighter field on Kaguan Point. A detail of 12 men, supervised by Lt. BIRD, were sent ahead to prepare the new area as much as possible, while the remainder of the Squadron began to disassemble and pack the same material which recently had been unpacked and assembled.

It was, perhaps, fitting that the last day of the month should have been marked by one of the largest and most historic of the Squadron's flights. This was the "X-Ray Day" on Tinian -- the final aerial attack on the remaining Japanese Troops on the south end of the island. By the next day, organized resistance on that much battered island ended. Wave after wave of fighter planes, each bearing two 500 pound bombs, dove in to deal their final blow. Three fighter squadrons participated, followed by TBF's and then B-25's. Over 138 planes took part in what was in effect a grand show, aerially. Leading them all were the 24 planes from the 73rd Fighter, and again quite fittingly, leading his men in the first flight was the Squadron C.O., Major HUSKEY.

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APPENDIX # 1

HEADQUARTERS
318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF
A.P.O. # 244

23 July 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : "Fireball Pilots".

1. The undersigned desires to commend all pilots who participated in the fire bomb missions against fortified positions and landing beaches on Tinian Island at 1500 and 1700, 23 July 1944.

2. Each pilot is to be commended for the accuracy with which assigned targets were fired.

3. Due to the good results obtained it is highly probable that these bombs will be used in direct support of troops during the next few days. This is in itself an expression of confidence from the Commanders concerned.

4. It is requested that this letter be posted in all Ready Rooms.

/s/ Chas. E. Taylor
/t/ CHAS. E. TAYLOR,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Deputy Commander.

A TRUE COPY:

ALAN B. SINAUER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

~~SECRET~~ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAFAPPENDIX # 2DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>MISSION</u>	<u>CAUSE AND DAMAGE</u>
7/3/44	2nd Lt. SABICK	Scramble Escort	Undershot field and veered off to left crashing into parked P-61. Total loss to both planes. Pilot uninjured.
7/4/44	1st Lt. SPENCER	Tinian Strike	Received probable .30 Caliber hole in plane. Landed safely.
7/4/44	Major HUSSEY	Rota Strike	Received holes in elevator and rudder presumably shrapnel from land mine. Landed safely.
7/4/44	2nd Lt. BABCOCK	Rota Strike	Received hit through left wing flap, presumably shrapnel from land mine. Landed safely.
7/7/44	2nd Lt. FURGE	C.A.P.	Taxi-accident -- collision with parked airplane. Minor damage. Pilot uninjured.
7/11/44	2nd Lt. BARNHILL	Pagan Strike	Hit by 20 or 40MM. Large hole toward extreme rear of fuselage. Landed safely.
7/24/44	2nd Lt. GRAHAM	Tinian Strike	Received hit from probable .50 caliber in left wing. Landed safely.
7/25/44	2nd Lt. SABICK	Tinian Strike	Hit by enemy A/A. Made dead stick landing on Base. Pilot and plane landed safely.
7/25/44	Capt. O'HARE	Pagan Strike	Upon completion of roll after landing was forced to turn sharply to right running into parked compressor. Left wing damaged.
7/27/44	Major HUSSEY	Tinian Strike	Hit by Probable shrapnel in horizontal stabilizer and in aileron. Landed safely.

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(Organizational History, 73rd Fighter Squadron, AAF, Appendix #2, Continued.)

DATE	PILOT	MISSION	CAUSE AND DAMAGE
7/27/44	2nd Lt. FURGE	Tinian Strike	Hit by 1 probable shrapnel in right aileron. Landed safely.
7/27/44	2nd Lt. RESER	Tinian Strike	Hit by probable shrapnel in stabilizer. Landed safely.
7/27/44	2nd Lt. GORMIER	Tinian Strike	Hit by probable shrapnel in turbo. Landed safely.
7/28/44	2nd Lt. BYERS	C.A.P.	Plane stalled in and landed short of runway. Pilot uninjured. Minor damage.
7/29/44	2nd Lt. FURGE	Tinian Strike	Engine malfunction while on mission necessitating belly landing. Pilot uninjured.
7/30/44	1st Lt. THOMPSON	Tinian Strike	Small jagged nick in leading edge of right wing. No A/A observed. May have been caused by collision of two of our own incendiaries.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

SUPPLEMENT NUMBER FOUR

1 JULY 1944 -- 31 JULY 1944

APPENDIX # 3

SQUADRON MISSION REPORTS FOR JULY

TARGETS

1. SAIPAN
2. TINIAN
3. ROTA
4. PAGAN
5. AGUIJAN

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

31 JULY 1944
0900 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-203
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-80

1. A. TWENTY-THREE P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN IN SUPPORT OF GROUND ACTION.
4. MEMBERS MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. FIETZ, SPENCER, SMITH. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. GRAHAM, THOMPSON, STEVENS. (BLUEGRASS 15)
MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. SHEPARD, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, WILSON, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 16)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. BABCOCK, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. GALT, CAPT. TOUHEY, ET. (BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE-OFF: 0620

LANDING: 0730

THIS MISSION WAS THE AIRCRAFT CONTRIBUTION TO "X-RAY DAY" ON TINIAN, PAVING A WAY FOR THE FINAL GROUND TROOP DRIVE. IN ADDITION TO THREE FIGHTER SQUADRONS, BOMBS WERE ALSO DROPPED ON THE LAST ENEMY HELD TERRITORY BY TBF'S AND B-25'S.

OUR SQUADRON WAS THE FIRST TO ATTACK, THE PLAN OF ATTACK BEING AS SPECIFIED. STARTED RUN 10 MILES TO THE NORTH-WEST, COMING IN ON VECTOR 110. THE FIRST FLIGHT WAS OVER THE TARGET AREA AT 0715, THE LAST FLIGHT AT 0719. THE SPECIFIC AREA ASSIGNED THIS SQUADRON WAS 523, 516, 515, AND 524-A, B, C, D. BOMBS WERE RELEASED AT 3,000 FEET, ALL PLANES DROPPING TWO BOMBS EACH AND ALL EFFECTING HITS IN THE ASSIGNED AREA, NAMELY IN WOODED AREA (RIDGE OR DIRECTLY ABOVE). FLIGHTS FLEW IN A LATERALLY SPREAD FORMATION AND EACH FLIGHT COVERED AN AREA SLIGHTLY TO ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER FROM THE FLIGHT AHEAD IN ORDER TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF HITS.

ONLY ABOUT HALF OF THE PLANES STRAFED. THIS WAS DUE TO THE CONCENTRATION REQUIRED IN LINING UP PROPER TARGET FOR BOMBING, HAVING TO MAINTAIN 2000 FEET MINIMUM ALTITUDE AND THE REQUIRED STRAIGHT APPROACH, THE LATTER CAUSING LACK OF FORWARD VISIBILITY PLANES CONTINUED STRAIGHT OUT FOR 5 MILES BEYOND TARGET BEFORE REFORMING. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-80

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 BETWEEN 2,000 AND 6,000 FEET.
B. CLEAR. CHEROKEE AND TORCHY 1 WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 2,035 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 40 X 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 3,450 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

30 JULY 1944
1300 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER ~~XXXXXXXX~~ GROUP MISSION #7-203
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-79

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN IN SUPPORT OF GROUND ACTION.
4. CAPT. MC COWN, LT. MILLER, CAPT. TOUHEY, LT. SHENEMAN.
(BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPSTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. SPILLMAN, MARTIN, RESER. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1105

LANDING: 1205

ORBITED EASY UNTIL 1125, WHEN ASSIGNED AS ~~TARGET~~ TARGET A WOODED AREA CONTAINING TROOPS REPORTEDLY, IN AREA 524-C, D, E, J, AND I. FOUR STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH, BY ALL PLANES.

ON THE FIRST STRAFING RUN BLUEGRASS 15-3 WHILE AT ABOUT 1500 FEET, OBSERVED A BURST OF WHITE SMOKE DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF HIS PLANE. ON LANDING A SMALL JAGGED NICK WAS FOUND ON THE LEADING EDGE OF HIS RIGHT WING. NO A/A WAS OBSERVED. MAY POSSIBLY BE DUE TO COLLISION OF TWO OF OUR OWN INCENDIARIES.

A WELL-CAMOUFLAGED CEMENT BLOCK HOUSE IN 524-S, AT THE END OF A DIRT TRAIL WAS OBSERVED. NO ACTIVITY WAS NOTED.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS ONLY.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 15,200 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 1550 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

30 JULY 1944
1030 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-XB201
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-78

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING IN SUPPORT OF GROUND ACTION ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. RILEY, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
LTS. SPENCER, CORMIER, GALT, FIETZ. (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 0800

LANDING: 0930 (TEN PLANES)
0905 (TWO PLANES)

*CAPT. MC COWN, LT. RILEY RETURNED TO BASE EARLY, DUE TO GAS
SIPHONING OUT.

ORBITED SOUTH TIP OF TINIAN UNTIL 0910 WHEN ORDERED TO ATTACK
BEACH ALONG NORTHERN PART OF TINIAN TOWN, IN 526-L, M, S AND Y.
TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE IN STRING OF ELEMENTS FROM THE NORTH-
WEST. NEXT STRAFING PASS WAS OVER 527-A, B AND G; FURTHER TO THE
SOUTH AS DIRECTED. FOURTH PASS WAS 200 YARDS SOUTH OF THE THIRD.
NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CAVN
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 14,865 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 2400 GALLONS OF GAS CON-
SUMED.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

30 JULY 1944
0900 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-200
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-77

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.

2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.

3. STRAFING OF TARGETS ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 0520

LANDING: 0710

ORBITED EASY UNTIL 0605 WHEN BLUEGRASS 11 WAS GIVEN AS A TARGET AREA 549-D, I AND N; IN WHICH THERE WAS A LINE OF TREES WITH MORTAR INSTALLATIONS. FOUR STRAFING PASSES WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH. 549-O AND T WAS STRAFED ALSO, FROM THE WEST, DRAWING MEAGER AND INACCURATE FIRE FROM SMALL ARMS OR M/G'S.

THEN, AT 0620, BLUEGRASS 14 AND 18 WERE ASSIGNED AS TARGETS 539-R, W, AND 531-C, H, G, F AND AREA SOUTH. TARGET WAS LOCATED IN A WOODED AREA ON RIDGE. FOUR STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH IN STRING OF ELEMENTS, ENCOUNTERING NO A/A.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE AND TORCHY 1 WERE CONTROLS.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 15,705 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 2400 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. IF NO ATTACK IS TO BE MADE FOR THREE-QUARTERS OF AN HOUR AFTER TAKE-OFF, PERHAPS TAKE-OFF MIGHT BE DELAYED.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

29 JULY 1944
1700 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-199
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-76

1. A. TWENTY-EIGHT P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. DIVE-BOMBING, SKIP-BOMBING, STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPT. O'HARE, FURGE, MARTIN, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 15)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. SPILLMAN, SNELL, RESER. (BLUEGRASS 16)
CAPT. TOUNEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)
LTS. SPENCER, CORMIER, FIETZ, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 0330

LANDING: 1545

ORBITED UNTIL 1500 WHEN ALL PLANES WERE DIRECTED TO GENERAL AREA OF 506 WHICH WAS REPORTED TO CONTAIN, AMONG OTHER THINGS, AMMUNITION DUMPS HIDDEN IN THE TREES. BLUEGRASS 12, 15, AND 20 WERE CARRYING BOMBS; THE REST OF THE SHIPS CARRIED .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION ONLY.

BLUEGRASS 14, 15, 17, AND 18 STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-WEST. A SECOND RUN WAS MADE FROM THE SAME DIRECTION, BUT A LITTLE MORE TO THE SOUTH, AS DIRECTED. BLUEGRASS 15 THEN SKIP-BOMBED, HAVING DELAYED FUSES ON ~~THEIR~~ THEIR BOMBS. SIX BOMBS HIT IN THE AREA, AND TWO WERE 200 YARDS TO THE SOUTH. BLUEGRASS 12, WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES ON THEIR BOMBS, DIVE-BOMBED, RELEASING AT 2,500 FEET AND DROPPING ALL BOMBS INTO THE GENERAL AREA. BLUEGRASS 20, ALSO WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES ON THEIR BOMBS, DIV-BOMBED A LITTLE TO THE NORTH OF THE AREA OF THE PREVIOUS ATTACK. ALL BOMBS HIT IN GENERAL AREA.

WHILE ORBITING AT 4,000 FT., BLUEGRASS 14 RECEIVED TWO INACCURATE A/A BURSTS, ONE AT 3,000 FT. AND THE OTHER AT 5,000 FEET, FROM A PROBABLE 40 OR 75MM IN ~~THE~~ TINIAN TOWN. THEN ALL FLIGHTS, EXCEPT BLUEGRASS 15, MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS FROM THE NORTH-WEST AND THE WEST. BEFORE THE ATTACK, BLUEGRASS 15-2'S ENGINE BEGAN CUTTING OUT INTERMITTENTLY AND SMOKED AND FLAMED. WENT TO 2,000 FEET AND HEADED FOR THE NEAREST FRIENDLY TINIAN FIELD, WEST FIELD. ENGINE CONTINUED TO FUNCTION, SO PROCEEDED TO NORTH FIELD TINIAN. ENGINE WAS STILL HOLDING UP, SO DROPPED HIS BELLY TANK AND CAME IN TO ISELY FIELD, MAKING A BEL Y LANDING JUST BEYOND THE RUNWAY. UPON EXAMINATION IT WAS FOUND THAT THE INTAKE VALVE HAD STUCK

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-78

4. (CONT'D)

AND THE HEAD BROKE OFF THE STEM OF IT.

5. A. GAVU

B. FAIR TORCHY 1 WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 18,020 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT 500 LB. BOMBS WITH ELEVEN SECOND DELAY FUSES, SIXTEEN 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 7,000 GAL ONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

29 JULY 1944
1000 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-193
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-75

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. SPILLMAN, WILSON, RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. MC COWN, LT. THOMAS, CAPT. TOUHEY, LT HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPSTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: ~~XXXX~~ 0750

LANDING: ~~XXXX~~ 0850

ORBITED EASY AT 5,000 FEET UNTIL 0815 WHEN ASSIGNED SMALL SETTLEMENT IN 548-H AND ROWS OF TREES 300 YARDS TO THE EAST, IN BOTH OF WHICH AREAS ENEMY TROOPS WERE REPORTED. FOUR STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH BY ALL PLANES. A FIRE WAS STARTED IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF VILLAGE, AND ALSO IN THE ROW OF TREES. THE HOUSES WERE SHOT UP. NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS AT 2,000 FEET.
B. FAIR. TORCH 1 WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 18,425 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

28 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-188
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-74

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE
B. NONE.

3. SKIP-BOMBING AND STRAFING ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. MARTIN, CLARK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1350

LANDING: 1515

ORBITED NORTH OF TINIAN ISLAND UNTIL ALL THREE FLIGHTS WERE SENT TO ATTACK TWO GUNS AT THE BASE OF A CLIFF IN 510-H. BEFORE THE THREE FLIGHTS MADE THEIR SKIP-BOMBING RUNS, THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON STRAFED. THEN, IN ORDER, THE THREE FLIGHTS MADE TWO RUNS FLYING IN STRING. ALL OF THE BOMBS HIT ON THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF BUT NONE OF THEM HIT DIRECTLY ON THE SMALL CAVE OPENINGS WHERE THE GUNS WERE SITUATED. THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MADE ANOTHER STRAFING RUN.

LATER ALL PLANES ATTACKED TRUCKS AND AN AMMUNITION DEPOT ALONG THE ROAD IN 510-F. STRAFED IN STRING OF ELEMENTS, CAUSING AN EXPLOSION FOLLOWED BY A LARGE FIRE, IN THE TARGET AREA; SEVERAL SMALL FIRES; AND SETTING AFIRE A TRUCK IN APPARENTLY GOOD CONDITION ON THE ROAD.

NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 1500 FEET.
B. CLEAR. TORCH 38 WAS CONTROL.

6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4 ABOVE.

7. 9,000 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, TWENTY-FOUR (24) 500 LB. BOMBS. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

28 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-184
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-73

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. CLARK, HARBOUR, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1110

LANDING: 1240

ORBITED EASY UNTIL 1150 WHEN GIVEN A TARGET IN 523-W. TARGET WAS THREE GUN POSITIONS AND A CP. A GUN OF ABOUT 3 INCHES WAS OBSERVED IN EACH POSITION IN A SHALLOW TRENCH IN A PERMANENT MOUNT. ONE DRY RUN AND THREE STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH-WEST. A FIRE WAS STARTED IN THE BACK END OF THE GUN IN ONE POSITION. THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON THEN DIVE-BOMBED. THREE MORE STRAFING RUNS WERE THEN MADE. NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 1500 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 11,260 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 1520 GALLONS OF GAS.
B. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

28 JULY 1944
1230 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-183
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-72

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.

2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.

3. STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR WIL IAMS, LTS. SPILLMAN, SPENCER, DE VONA. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. MC CONN, LTS. THOMAS, SHENEMAN, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 13)

TAKE-OFF: 0935

LANDING: 1115

ORBITED WILLIAM UNTIL 1005 WHEN SENT TO ATTACK RADIO TOWERS AREA (BURNED OUT BUILDING AND TRENCHES IN 559-E.) TWO STRAFING PASSES WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH. THEN THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON DIVE-BOMBED. ORBITED X-RAY. AT 1050 WERE SENT TO 572-D, I, N; WHICH WAS A GROVE OF TREES CONTAINING TROOPS. MADE TWO DUMMY R RUNS FROM THE NORTH, AND TWO FIRING RUNS, ALSO FROM THE NORTH. TWO RUNS WERE MADE 300 YARDS TO THE LEFT OF THE PREVIOUS TARGET, OVER 572J, O, T.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 6/10 AT 1500 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 10865 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 1600 GALLONS OF GAS.

8. MISSION WAS CONDUCTED VERY SMOOTHLY.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
ABO # 244

28 JULY 1944
0930 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-180
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-71

1. A. TEN (10) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. DIVE-BOMBING, FIRE-BOMBING, AND STRAFING ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LT. MARTIN, (WITH FIRE-BOMBS), LTS. GALT, SHENEMAN.
(WITH 500 LB. BOMBS) (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
LTS. WILSON, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 0530

LANDING: 0700

ORBITED POINT WILLIAM AT 4,500 FEET, BLUEGRASS 11-1 AND 11-2 WITH FIRE-BOMBS, BLUEGRASS 11-3 AND 11-4 WITH BOMBS, AND THE REST WITH .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION ONLY. BLUEGRASS 11-1, 11-2, AND 18 WERE ASSIGNED A CURVED ROAD THROUGH A WOOD IN AREA 559-C AND D AS A TARGET AT 0600. PLANES MADE A DRY RUN FOR OBSERVATION FROM THE NORTH, THEN BLUEGRASS 18 STRAFED AND BLUEGRASS 11-1 AND 11-2 DROPPED THEIR TANKS. ALL FIRE-BOMBS LANDED IN THE AREA, BETWEEN 50 XXXXX NORTH AND 200 FEET SOUTH, STARTING 4 GOOD FIRES. THEN ALL PLANES ORBITED UNTILL 0625 WHEN GIVEN A SMALL VILLAGE IN 579-P AND V TO ATTACK. BLUEGRASS 11-3 AND 4 ATTACKED FR ST FROM THE NORTH, RELEASING THEIR BOMBS AT 2,000 FEET. TWO BOMBS HIT IN THE SOUTH PART OF TOWN, THE OTHER TWO IN THE CENTRAL PART. BLUEGRASS 15 MADE ONE STRAFING RUN. A 20MM AT THE SOUTH-EAST END OF THE TOWN WAS REPORTED BUT NOT VERIFIED. TWO XXXXXXX FIRE-BOMBERS FROM ANOTHER SQUADRON MADE AN ATTACK AT THIS TIME. THEN ALL PLANES OF OUR SQUADRON ON THIS MISSION MADE THREE STRAFING RUNS. TOWN WAS SHOT UP, AND LEFT BURNING.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 3,000 FEET.
B. CHEROKEE CONTROL WAS GOOD, TORCHY 1 WAS FAIR.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 11,120 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER, FOUR 165 WING TANKS FILLED WITH GASOLINE AND NAPALM, FOUR 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 4-5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

27 JULY 1944
1900 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-176
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-70

1. A. THIRTEEN (13) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. DIVE-BOMBING, FIRE-BOMBING, AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. ~~XXXXX~~ MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. MC CONN, (LT. SPILLMAN)† CAPT. O'HARE, LT. SABICK.
(BLUEGRASS 13)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)
MAJOR HUSSEY, CAPTAIN NELSON. (BLUEGRASS 11 & 14)

†(LT. SPILLMAN DID NOT TAKE OFF DUE TO TACHOMETER TROUBLE)

TAKE-OFF: 1705

LANDING: 1835

ALL FLIGHTS ORBITED X-RAY AT 5,000 FEET. AT 1735 BLUEGRASS 12, CARRYING BOMBS, WAS ASSIGNED A TARGET IN 507 - SUPPLIES. THE BOMBING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE WEST, SCORING FIVE HITS IN 507-B WHICH WAS CAVES NEAR THE TOP OF THE CLIFF. ONE HIT WAS MADE ON A BUILDING AREA IN 507-E AND TWO IN 510-X WHICH WAS AN OPEN AREA. THE BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN TWO RUNS. AT 1810 THE AREA WAS STRAFED FROM THE WEST, SETTING A BUILDING IN 507-B AFIRE.

AT 1745 BLUEGRASS 13 WAS GIVEN AS A TARGET A CONCRETE WATER CISTERN, POSSIBLE OP, IN APPROXIMATELY 531-Q. TWO BOMBING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH-WEST. ALL BOMBS HIT WITHIN 100 YARDS. TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE THEN MADE.

AT 1750 BLUEGRASS 19 WAS ASSIGNED A LONG BUILDING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE WEST END OF SOUTH FIELD RUNWAY, SET BACK ABOUT 200 YARDS AS A TARGET. BUILDING WAS A PROBABLE STOREHOUSE. TWO BOMBING RUNS WERE MADE, SCORING THREE NEAR MISSES AND ALL THE BEST FALLING WITHIN 150 YARDS. NO STRAFING WAS DONE. BOMBS WERE RELEASED FROM 2,000 FEET.

BLUEGRASS 11 ELEMENT CARRYING 100 GALLON BELLY TANK FIRE-BOMBS ORBITED UNTIL 1815, WHEN GIVEN A RAILROAD RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH FORKING IN 521-I. ONE FIRE-BOMB HIT ON TWO SMALL DUG-OUTS STRADDLING THE TRACK AT THE FORK. A GOOD FIRE WAS STARTED. THE OTHER FIRE-BOMB HIT IN THE NEARBY WOODS NORTH OF THE FORK. IT DID NOT IGNITE UNTIL STRAFED, WHEN IT STARTED A SMALLER FIRE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-70

4. (CONT'D)

THE FIRE-BOMB HAD NOT BEEN ARMED WHEN DROPPED. ALSO STRAFED BUILDING WHICH HAD BEEN THE TARGET OF BLUEGRASS 19.

NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS.

B. CONTROL WAS CHEROKEE AND TORCHY 4, BOTH CLEAR BUT WEAK.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. TWO 100 GALLON BELLY TANKS FILLED WITH GASOLINE AND NAPALM, 22 X 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES, 4240 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 2200 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

27 JULY 1944
1630 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-175
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-88

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON, (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELLY RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. MILLER, STEVENS, SPILLMAN. (BLUEGRASS 16)
CAPT. TOUHEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 1350

LANDING: 1535

ORBITED WILLIAM AT 5,000 FEET UNTIL 1420 WHEN ASSIGNED LARGETARGET 584 AND 585, A WOODED AREA. A HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF TROOPS WAS REPORTED ON BOTH THE SLOPE AND THE PLATEAU. TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH IN STRING OF FLIGHTS. THEN THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON DIVE-BOMBED. THREE MORE STRAFING RUNS FROM THE NORTH WERE THEN MADE BY US. MOVEMENT AND ACTIVITY; MEN IN HOLES, BENEATH TREES, BY LITTLE SHACKS, WERE OBSERVED. DURING STRAFING POSSIBLE 20MM WAS SEEN ON WEST SIDE OF SOUTHERN PLATEAU IN 584-Y OR 527-E. RETURNED TO BASE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 1500 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE AND TORCHY 3 WERE CONTROLS.
6. MANY MEN ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED, SINCE A NUMBER OF MEN WERE VISIBLE ON THE GROUND DURING STRAFING RUNS.
7. 25,440 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 3200 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO #244

27 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-173
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-88

1. A. TWENTY-EIGHT (28) P-47D11's
B. NONE.

2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.

3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING XXX TARGETS ON TINIAN IN SUPPORT OF GROUND ACTION.

4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. FURGE, NESER, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMSTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELL, RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. FLYNN,* LTS. MILLER, STEVENS, SPILLMAN. (BLUEGRASS 16)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)
LTS. SPENCER, CORMIER, FIETZ, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 20)

*CAPTAIN FLYNN RETURNED TO BASE EARLY DUE TO GENERATOR TROUBLE.

TAKE-OFF: 0740

LANDING: 0815 (ONE PLANE)
0925 (TWELVE)
0950 (SEVEN)
1005 (EIGHT)

BLUEGRASS 11, 15 AND 20 CARRIED BOMBS, THE OTHERS ONLY STRAFING. PLANES TOOK OFF FROM NEW SOUTH-WEST-NORTH-EAST RUNWAY AND ORBITED POINT WILLIAM (TINIAN) AT 5,000 FEET. (LATER ORBITS WERE AT DIFFERENT POINTS AROUND THE ISLAND AND AT VARYING ALTITUDES.) AT 0810 BLUEGRASS 11 WAS GIVEN A TARGET IN 510-A, TWO COAST GUNS EACH IN A CAVE ABOUT 100 YARDS APART ON THE SIDE OF A CLIFF. THE BARRELS OF THE GUNS COULD BE SEEN PROTRUDING FROM THE CAVES. AFTER A DRY RUN FOR OBSERVATION PURPOSES, MADE TWO GLIDE-BOMBING RUNS FROM THE WEST. ALL BOMBS HIT IN THE TARGET AREA, BUT NONE ON GUNS. RETURNED TO BASE.

BLUEGRASS 15 THEN FOLLOWED THE SAME PROCEDURE, LIKEWISE GETTING ALL HITS IN THE GENERAL AREA BUT NONE ON THE GUNS. ALSO MADE A STRAFING RUN. BLUEGRASS 20 THEN ALSO MADE TWO GLIDE-BOMBING RUNS, ALL HITS BEING IN THE GENERAL AREA WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE DIRECT HIT IN THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE BLOWING UP ONE GUN. RETURNED TO BASE, FOUR PLANES SUSTAINED DAMAGE IN THE GLIDE-BOMBING ATTACK. BLUEGRASS 11-1 RECEIVED A HOLE IN THE RIGHT HORIZONTAL STABILIZER, PROBABLY FROM ROCKS, AND TWO HOLES IN THE RIGHT AILERON. BLUEGRASS 11-2 RECEIVED ONE HOLE IN THE LEFT ELEVATOR. BLUEGRASS 11-3 RECEIVED A SMALL HOLE IN THE STABILIZER, PROBABLY CAUSED BY ROCKS. BLUEGRASS 20-2 RECEIVED A HOLE

OR SHRAPNEL

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-68

4. (CONT'D)

NEAR THE RIGHT FLAP, A LARGE HOLE IN THE BOTTOM OF THE FUSELAGE FORWARD OF THE TURBO. THE LATTER HOLE WENT UP THROUGH BOTH WIRES OF THE TURBO AIR DUCT. (SEE REMARKS).

AT 0825 BLUEGRASS 16 (THREE PLANES) AND 18 WERE SENT TO ATTACK TRUCKS IN 601-O AND GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN 602-K. COULD NOT SPOT EITHER DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS. OBSERVED SOME RAILROAD FLAT CARS WITH GAS DRUMS, BUT WERE TOLD NOT TO STRAFE THEM. STRAFED THE VILLAGE BETWEEN 602-P AND R AND OTHER HOUSES IN 602-W. FOUR PASSES WERE MADE FROM ALL FOUR DIRECTIONS. A TRUCK WAS HIT AND DESTROYED. AT 0900 THESE TWO FLIGHTS STRAFED INTO TREES ALONG THE SIDE OF THE ROAD BETWEEN 714-F AND 605-U (THE LATTER AREA ALSO CONTAINING RADIO STATION). MADE THREE DRY PASSES AND TWO FIRING RUNS. DESTROYED A TRUCK BY A FARMHOUSE RETURNED TO BASE.

BLUEGRASS 13 AND 19 ORBITED AT DIFFERENT POINTS UNTIL 0910. FIRST TARGET WAS ABOVE-MENTIONED ROAD BETWEEN 614-F AND 605-U, MAKING THREE DRY RUNS AND FOUR FIRING RUNS. THEN ATTACKED 593-E A CONTINUATION OF THE SAME ROAD ON WHICH THREE RUNS WERE MADE. TORCHY 1 STATED THAT A/A FIRE WAS COMING FROM 604-R AND W AND THESE AREAS WERE STRAFED. RETURNED TO BASE.

NO A/A WAS OBSERVED BY PILOTS.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 8/10 FROM 3500 FEET UP, BUT WITH FREQUENT SQUALLS BELOW.
B. CHEROKEE WAS GOOD, TORCHY 1 WEAK.
6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4 ABOVE.
7. 26,010 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, TWENTY-FOUR (24) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 5808 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. BELIEVE BOMBS SHOULD HAVE DELAYED FUSES FOR TYPE OF ATTACK WE ARE BEING ASKED TO MAKE, SUCH AS THE ABOVE LOW-LEVEL RUNS AT CLIFF HEIGHT. PART OF ABOVE DAMAGE WAS DUE TO THIS LACK OF DELAYED FUSES. ALSO, WHEN WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE BAD, SUGGEST FLIGHTS BE PERMITTED TO PICK THEIR OWN ORBIT POINTS AS CONTROL FREQUENTLY ASSIGNED ORBIT AREA WHICH WERE IN THICK CLOUDS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

26 JULY 1944
1900 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-187
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-87

1. A. TWENTY SEVEN (27) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.

3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELL AND RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPTAIN NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPTAIN TOWNEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LTS. STEVENS, RESER, SPILLMAN. (BLUEGRASS 16)
(LTS. WILSON)*, SABICK, SMITH, BREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)
LTS. SPENCER, GORMIER, FIETZ**, BYERS.** (BLUEGRASS 20)

*LT. WILSON DID NOT TAKE-OFF DUE TO HIS PROP GOING OUT
**LTS. FIETZ AND BYERS RETURNED TO BASE EARLY DUE TO THE
PROP GOING OUT IN LT. BYERS' PLANE.

TAKE-OFF: 1640

LANDING: 1755 (2 PLANES)
1815 (25 PLANES)

ORBITED TARE UNTIL 1755 WHEN ASSIGNED TARGET, WHICH WAS VILLAGE
AREA IN 602-P AND R AND JAP TANKS IN SAME AREA. FOURTEEN PLANES
MADE THE FIRST STRAFING RUN FROM THE NORTH IN STRING OF FLIGHTS.
THEN 11 PLANES MADE A BOMBING RUN FROM THE NORTH AND NORTH-EAST.
FOUR BOMBS HIT IN THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN. THEN WERE TOLD TO AIM
FOR EAST SIDE, AND ALL THE REST FELL FROM THE CENTER TO THE
EAST. TWO FIRE-BOMBERS FROM THE 33RD FIGHTER SQUADRON THEN
MADE AN ATTACK. THEN TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE BY EVERY
PLANE, STARTING SEVERAL SMALL FIRES, AND ENCOUNTERING MEAGER
AND INACCURATE A/A FROM THE WEST SHORE LINE. BLUEGRASS 13, 16
AND 20 CARRIED BOMBS WHILE THE OTHER PLANES ONLY STRAFED.

5. A. CAVM
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 21,460 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. TWENTY-TWO (22) 500
LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 5400 GAL ONS OF GAS.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

26 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-164
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-66

1. A. FIFTEEN (15) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. STRAFING OF TARGETS ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. FURGE, RESER, FIETZ. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPTAIN MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPTAIN O'HARE, LTS. CUMPTONE, THOMPSON. (BLUEGRASS 15)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1040

LANDING: 1215 (ONE PLANE)*
1230 (FOURTEEN PLANES)

*(BLUEGRASS 15-3 LANDED EARLY DUE TO RUNAWAY GUNS)

ORBITED WILLIAM UNTIL 1130 WHEN BLUEGRASS 15 WAS ORDERED TO 503-T, WHERE WAS AN OPEN TRUCK ON THE EDGE OF THE ROAD WAS STRAFED. THREE PASSES IN STRING WERE MADE, SHOOTING IT UP. THEN ATTACKED A CAMOUFLAGED TRENCH WITH A TRUCK, CONCEALED BY FOLIAGE IN ABOUT 510-K OR L. FOUR PASSES WERE MADE, ON THE SECOND OF WHICH IT BURST INTO FLAME. THEN ORBITED. AT THIS POINT BLUEGRASS 15-3 RETURNED TO BASE.

BLUEGRASS 11, 13, 19 AND THE TWO PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 15 WERE DIRECTED OVER THE MOTOR DISPERSAL AREA JUST NORTH-EAST OF TINIAN TOWN AT ABOUT 527-C AND H. IT APPEARED TO BE MOSTLY WRECKED VEHICLES AND/OR JUNK. THREE PASSES WERE MADE, STARTING A COUPLE OF SMALL FIRES. NO A/A RECEIVED.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE AND TORCHY 1

6. UNDETERMINED

7. 17,680 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 3,000 GALLONS OF GAS
B. TOO MANY PLANES STRAFING SAME TARGET.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON

APO # 244 AAF

25 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-159
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-651. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.

TINIAN

3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING ON RANXAN AIRFIELD.

4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. SPILLMAN, WILSON, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPTAIN NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LTS. BYERS, STEVENS, SABICK. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1645

LANDING: 1810

AT 1710 THE FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 14 ATTACKED THE TARGET. ASSIGNED THEM, THREE SUPPOSED A/A GUNS IN 555-B, FROM THE NORTH-WEST. EACH PLANE DROPPED ONE BOMB, RELEASING FROM 3,000 FEET. ONE BOMB HIT 10 YARDS NORTH OF THE TARGET AREA, AND THE OTHER 150 YARDS TO THE SOUTH-EAST. NO GUNS WERE OBSERVED IN THE PITS. THEN LEFT AREA BECAUSE STRAFERS FROM THE 333RD FIGHTER SQUADRON CAME IN. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 14 WAS ASSIGNED TRUCKS BETWEEN ROWS OF TREES IN 535-W AND 527-C AS A TARGET. THEY ATTACKED AT 1710, MAKING TWO RUNS FROM THE EAST, AND SCORING TWO HITS IN THE GENERAL AREA AND TWO FIFTY YARDS TO THE WEST. AFTER ORBITING, THE FIRST ELEMENT WAS GIVEN THE SAME TARGET THAT THE SECOND ELEMENT HAD HIT. AT 1745 ONE BOMB WAS DROPPED 10 YARDS FROM THE TARGET AREA AND THE OTHER IN A CLEARED AREA 50 YARDS TO THE EAST. THE WHOLE FLIGHT OF BLUEGRASS 14 THEN MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS ON THE SAME TARGET. AREA WAS SMOKING WHEN LEFT. ALSO STRAFED SOME HOUSES.

AT 1715 BLUEGRASS 16 WAS ASSIGNED A CEMENT PILLBOX SURROUNDED BY .50 CALIBER M/G'S IN 509-G. TWO RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH. ON THE FIRST RUN ONE BOMB FELL 25 YARDS LONG TO THE SOUTH, ONE 25 YARDS SHORT TO THE NORTH, ONE IN THE WATER AND ONE ON THE BEACH. ON THE SECOND RUN ONE BOMB FELL 15 YARDS LONG TO THE SOUTH, ONE WAS A DIRECT HIT, ONE WAS VERY CLOSE BY, AND ONE FELL IN THE WOODS 50 YARDS TO THE NORTH. TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH ON THE SAME TARGET. TARGET APPEARED DEMOLISHED AND X THERE WERE BURNING CANE-FIELDS NEAR IT. ON SECOND RUN AN EXPLOSION UNDER BLUEGRASS 16-4 CAUSED 4 HOLES IN HIS PLANE: TWO IN THE BOTTOM OF THE ENGINE COWLING, CUTTING THE OIL LINE; ONE IN THE LEFT FLAP; AND ONE IN THE LEFT WING. THE HOLES WERE MADE BY SHRAPNEL. BLUEGRASS 16-4 CLIMBED FROM THE ALTITUDE OF 400 FEET, AT WHICH HE HAD BEEN STRAFING AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION, TO 5,000 FEET AND JETTISONED HIS TORN BELLY TANK. HE THEN FLEW

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-65

4. (CONT'D)

TO BASE AND IN APPROACH TO FIELD HIS ENGINE FROZE. HE MADE A SUCCESSFUL DEAD-STICK LANDING.

BLUEGRASS 12 CIRCLED UNTIL 1730, WHEN ASSIGNED AS TARGET AN OBSERVATION TOWER WITH SURROUNDING BUILDINGS IN 517-R. ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-EAST, DROPPING ONE BOMB IN THE AREA, ONE SHORT TO THE NORTH-EAST 20 YARDS, THREE 50 YARDS LONG TO THE SOUTH-WEST, ONE MOMENTARILY HUNG UP AND DROPPED LONG TO THE SOUTH-WEST, AND TWO DROPPED FAR TO THE SOUTH. BLUEGRASS 12-4 COULD ONLY TRY TO FOLLOW HIS LEADER'S RUN, DUE TO HIS RADIO RECEIVER BEING OUT OF COMMISSION.

NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 BETWEEN 2000 AND 5000 FEET.
B. GOOD. TORCH 2 WAS CONTROL. THERE WAS TOO MUCH RADIO CHATTER FROM THE NAVY, BREAKING RIGHT IN.
6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4 ABOVE.
7. 7105 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, TWENTY-FOUR (24) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1840 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. THERE WERE TOO MANY PLANES, BOTH ARMY AND NAVY, ATTACKING THE SAME AREA SIMULTANEOUSLY. IN ONE CASE, ONE OF OUR FLIGHTS WAS ORDERED TO BOMB AT THE SAME TIME ANOTHER SQUADRON WAS ORDERED TO STRAFE THE SAME TARGET. FEWER PLANES WOULD HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MORE. TORCHY WAS SEEKING TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR DELAYS UNTIL SOMETHING WAS LOCATED FOR US.

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 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
 APO # 244

25 JULY 1944
 1530 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-155
 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-54

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
 B. NONE.
 2. A. NONE.
 B. NONE
 3. ESCORT TO, AND STRAFING OF, PAGAN AIRFIELD.
 4. CAPTAIN MC GOWN, LT. MILLER, CAPTAIN TOUHEY, LT. HOWARD.
 (BLUEGRASS 13)
 CAPTAIN O'HARE, LTs. CUMSTONE, SNELL, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
- TAKE-OFF: 1135 LANDING: 1405

ON VECTOR TO PAGAN, FLYING HIGH COVER FOR THE 333RD FIGHTER SQ. AT 11,000 FEET. OVER TARGET AT 1250. WE WENT IN FIRST, FROM THE NORTH-WEST AND MAKING RUNS IN ELEMENTS, FLIGHTS ABREAST, AND COVERING BOTH THE WEST AND EAST ENDS, AT ABOUT 100 FEET. BLUEGRASS 13 COVERED THE GENERAL AREA OF THE EAST END. MODERATE AND INACCURATE FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM A PROBABLE 20MM AT THE FOOT OF THE CLIFF SOUTH OF THE EAST END OF THE FIELD. BLUEGRASS 15 STRAFED THE WEST END, STARTING WITH THE BARRACKS AREA OR VILLAGE TO THE NORTH-WEST. ALSO HIT A HOUSE RIGHT ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF THE RUNWAY, AND GUNS AT FOOT OF CLIFF SOUTH RB OF WEST SIDE OF RUNWAY. A/F FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE POSITIONS ATTACKED, EITHER 20 OR 40MM. DIVE-BOMBERS MADE THEIR RUN IMMEDIATELY BEHIND US AND ALL REFORMED OVER ALAMAGAN ISLAND. PAGAN RUNWAY WAS POCK-MARKED UPON ARRIVAL, BUT CANNOT SAY WHETHER OPERATIONAL OR NOT. NO AIRCRAFT WERE OBSERVED ON THE GROUND.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 3,000 FEET.
 B. GOOD. NO CONTROLLER INVOLVED IN MISSION.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 3,000 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 2160 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

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 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
 APO 3 244

25 JULY 1944
 1400 LOCAL

316TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-154
 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-63

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D-11'S
 B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
 B. NONE.
3. FIRE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN
4. MAJOR CHAPIN, LTS. FURGE, BABCOCK, CORMIER. (BLUEGRASS 95)
 MAJOR HUSKEY, LTS. THOMPSON, MARTIN, GALT. (BLUEGRASS 11)
 MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, RESE, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
 CAPTAIN NELSON, LT. SNYDER, SPENCER, SMITH. (BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE-OFF: 1045

LANDING: 1240

AT 1110 BLUEGRASS 14-3 AND 14-4 FIRE-BOMBED ON THE TARGET, WHICH WAS A ROAD AND GROVE OF TREES, NEAR A SHORE, IN 62B-U, V, AND W. THE ATTACK WAS FROM THE EAST, SCORING TWO HITS AND TWO FALLING SHORT. ALL FOUR IGNITED ON IMPACT. BLUEGRASS 14-3 AND 14-4 THEN STRAFED THE AREA. BLUEGRASS 14-1 THEN ATTACKED, DROPPING TWO FIRE-BOMBS ON THE TARGET, BOTH OF THEM IGNITING. THE AREA WAS WELL BURNED UP.

BLUEGRASS 12 AND 95 STRAFED THEIR TARGET WHICH WAS TROOPS DISPERSED ALONG A ROAD IN 534-U TO 627-D. KEPT TO SOUTH OF ROAD, AND ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-WEST. MADE A SECOND STRAFING RUN. THERE WAS NO ALTITUDE RESTRICTION ON THIS TARGET. WERE UNABLE TO DETECT TROOPS.

BLUEGRASS 11-2 AND 14-2 ATTACKED COAST DEFENSE GUN IN CAVE IN 542-G FROM THE SOUTH. BLUEGRASS 14-2 DROPPED TWO FIRE BOMBS ABOVE AND OVER THE CLIFF. BLUEGRASS 11-2 HIT A DISABLED GUN IN A HOLE TO THE LEFT OF THE TARGET, BUT FIRE-BOMBS FAILED TO IGNITE SO HE STRAFED THEM AND SET THEM AFIRE. BLUEGRASS 11-1 SCORED A HIT JUST ABOVE THE TARGET GUN, AND THE FIRE WENT RIGHT DOWN INTO THE CAVE AND DESTROYED THE POSITION. BLUEGRASS 11-1 AND 11-2 STRAFED THE AREA.

BLUEGRASS 12 AND 95 WERE ASSIGNED TARGETS IN 539-R AND W, BUT BEFORE ANY ATTACK WAS MADE THIS WAS CHANGED TO BIVOUAC AREAS IN A LARGE VILLAGE IN 602-C, R, AND S; AND 579-P, Q, U, AND V. BLUEGRASS 12, JOINED BY BLUEGRASS 14, STRAFED 602-C, R, AND S TWICE, STARTING A LARGE FIRE WHICH GAVE OFF BLACK SMOKE IN ONE BARRACKS. BLUEGRASS 95 STRAFED 579-P, Q, R, U AND V TWICE, STARTING SMALL FIRES AMONG BUILDINGS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION 47-863

4. (CONT'D)

BLUEGRASS 11-3 AND 11-4 DROPPED TWO FIRE-BOMBS EACH ON 602-Q, R, AND S. ALL WER HITS, AND ALL IGNITED. SEVERAL FIRES, LARGE, WERE STARTED. BLUEGRASS 11-1 AND 11-2 STRAFED THE AREA. REFORMED AND RETURNED TO BASE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 2/10 BETWEEN 3,000 AND 7,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE, TURNED OVER TO TORCHY 2.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 17,685 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER, SIXTEEN 165 GALLON WING TANKS FILLED WITH GASOLINE AND NAPALM. 4100 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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APO # 24425 JULY 1944
0800 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #150
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-621. A. THREE (3) P-47D-11's
B. NONE.2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. STRAFING TARGET ON TINIAN.

4. LTS. THOMPSON, MILLER, REGER, (BLUEGRASS 17) (FOURTH MAN HAD
RETURNED TO BASE WHILE STILL IN C.A.P.)

TAKE-OFF: 0645

LANDING: 0830

AT 0805 CAME OFF C.A.P. AND WERE ORDERED TO ATTACK TARGET WHICH WAS A WINDING ROAD WITH JAP TROOPS DISPERSED IN TREES IN CO-ORDINATES 315-J, 316-A AND F. MADE A STRAFING RUN FROM THE EAST. A FLIGHT OF THE 33RD FIGHTER SQUADRON THEN MADE A DIVE-BOMBING ATTACK ON THE AREA. ANOTHER STRAFING RUN WAS MADE, FROM WEST TO EAST. NO MEN AND NO EQUIPMENT WERE SEEN. MEAGER AND INACCURATE A/A FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM ONE PROBABLE 20MM LOCATED BETWEEN THE TARGET AND THE EAST COAST IN AREA OF HEAVY FOLIAGE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 1500 FEET OVER TARGET.
B. GOOD. CONTROL WAS CHEROKEE AND LATER TORCHY 1.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 2440 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 675 GALLONS OF GAS CON-SUMED.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

24 JULY 1944
1400 COCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-147
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-61

1. A. NONE (9) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING ON ROTA AIRFIELD, AND ESCORT OF FIGHTER-BOMBERS.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, (LT. O'HARA)*, LT FIETZ, LT. MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LTS. RESER, GALT, (LT. SPILLMAN)*. (BLUEGRASS 16)
(LT. WILSON)*, LT GREEK**, LT. BABCOCK, LT SABICK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

(* LT. WILSON DID NOT TAKE OFF DUE TO ENGINE TROUBLE, LT. SPILLMAN DID NOT TAKE OFF DUE TO MAGNETO TROUBLE. LT. O'HARA BLEW A TIRE AND COULD NOT TAKE OFF.)

(**LT GREEK RETURNED TO BASE EARLY DUE TO ENGINE TROUBLE)

TAKE-OFF: 1100

LANDING: 1115 (ONE PLANE)
1220 (EIGHT PLANES)

ON VECTOR TO ROTA, FORMING INTO TWO FLIGHTS AT 11,000 FEET, AS HIGH COVER TO THE 333RD FIGHTER SQUADRON WHICH CARRIED BOMBS. OVER TARGET AT 1120. BLUEGRASS 11 DROVE TO 2,000 FEET TO OBSERVE THE CONDITION OF THE RUNWAY, WHICH WAS FOUND TO BE EXCELLENT. ALSO NOTED A SMALL RAILROAD TRACK AND CARS ALONG THE SOUTH EDGE OF THE RUNWAY, WITH THE CARS PARKED IN THE CENTER PART, WHICH MIGHT BE WORTH-WHILE TARGETS. INFORMATION CALLED IN TO THE 333RD LEADER. THE 333RD THEN MADE A DIVE-BOMBING RUN. BLUEGRASS 11 THEN STRAFED FROM THE EAST. THE 333RD MADE A SECOND DIVE-BOMBING RUN. BLUEGRASS 11 STRAFED BUILDING AREA TO SOUTH OF FIELD. BLUEGRASS 16 ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-WEST STRAFING A BUILDING AREA AND DESTROYING A SMALL TOWER. BLUEGRASS 11 MADE ANOTHER STRAFING RUN AND BLUEGRASS 16 ALSO STRAFED. NO AIRCRAFT OTHER THAN DESTROYED ONES SEEN BEFORE WERE OBSERVED. NO A/A WAS RECEIVED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 AT 1500 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 5565 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 1600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
 APO # 244

24 JULY 1944
 0930 L0 AL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-144
 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-60

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D-11'S
 B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
 B. NONE
3. GROUND SUPPORT ON TINIAN INVASION.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, HARBOUR, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 12)
 CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 13)
 CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. FURGE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
 EXX LT. SPENCER, CORMIER, FIETZ, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 0710

LANDING: 0820 (TWO PLANES)*
 0835 (FOURTEEN
 PLANES)

*(LTS. THOMPSON AND GRAHAM RETURNED EARLY, DUE TO A/A DAMAGE
 TO LT. GRAHAM'S PLANE)

ON STATION AT MIKE AT 0730 AT 5,000 FEET, THEN PROCEEDING TO
 X-RAY WHERE ORBITED UNTIL 0905. THEN TO ASSIGNED TARGET,
 WHICH WAS GUNS APPARENTLY BEING FIRED FROM CAVES IN THE SIDES
 OF THE CLIFFS AT 515-V, B AND N. GUNS WERE FIRING ON SHIPS
 AT SEA. MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS AT 1,000 FEET FROM WEST TO
 EAST IN STRING OF FLIGHTS, AS PER INSTRUCTIONS. THEN THE
 333RD FIGHTER SQUADRON DIVE-BOMBED. ANOTHER STRAFING RUN WAS
 MADE FROM THE NORTH. THE HOLES IN WHICH THE GUNS WERE SIT-
 UATED WERE JUST VISIBLE AGAINST THE GREEN BACKGROUND. A/A
 WAS RECEIVED FROM THE TOP OF THE CLIFF. LT. GRAHAM (BLUEGRASS
 15-4) RECEIVED A HIT FROM A PROBABLE .50 CALIBER IN THE
 LEFT WING, HITTING PART OF THE AMMUNITION BOX. LT. GRAHAM
 AND LT. THOMPSON (BLUEGRASS 15-3) RETURNED TO BASE EARLY.
 A/A FIRE FROM M/G'S AND A/W'S WAS MODERATE AND NOT TOO ACCU-
 RATE, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE HIT.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 AT 1500 FEET.
 B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 12,270 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 2800 GAL ONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

23 JULY 1944
1930 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-143
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-59

1. A. SIX (6) P-47D-8
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. FIRE-BOMBING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. LT. COL. TAYLOR (BLUEGRASS 32)
MAJOR MENG (BLUEGRASS 33)
MAJOR HUSSEY (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPTAIN MC COWN (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPTAIN TOUHEY (BLUEGRASS 17)
LT. MARTIN (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1710

LANDING: 1745 (ONE PLANE)*
1810 (THREE PLANES)
1830 (TWO PLANES)

*(LT. MARTIN RETURNED TO BASE EARLY, DUE TO HAVING NO AIR SPEED INDICATOR)

THIS WAS A SPECIAL MISSION, SKIP-BOMBING WITH IGNITABLE WING TANKS. TARGET WAS WOODED AREA AROUND WHITE BEACH #1, WITH EACH PLANE HAVING A SPECIFIC SECTION ABOUT 40 YARDS APART. OVER TARGET AT 1730, (IN PLANES OF THE 333RD FIGHTER SQUADRON).

LT. COL. TAYLOR, MAJOR MENG, AND LT. MARTIN, IN A FLIGHT OF THREE PLANES MADE TWO RUNS FROM THE SOUTH, DROPPING FROM 2,000 FEET TO FIFTY FEET. FIVE TANKS HIT IN THE AREA, IGNITING UPON IMPACT. MAJOR MENG'S SECOND TANK WAS LATER JETTISONED ON RUNWAY OF THE NORTH FIELD, TINIAN, AND STARTED BURNING. THE TARGET AREA CONTAINED SEVERAL BURNED OUT TRUCKS. NO A/A FIRE WAS RECEIVED.

MAJOR HUSSEY, CAPTAIN MC COWN, AND CAPTAIN TOUHEY MADE TWO RUNS FROM THE SOUTH-WEST. FIVE OF THE TANKS IGNITED ON IMPACT, AND ONE WAS A DUD. TARGET ^{hit} INCLUDED ASSIGNED TRENCHES NORTH OF, AND BACK FROM THE BEACH. THE TRENCHES APPEARED EMPTY. NO A/A FIRE WAS RECEIVED.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. THERE WAS NO CONTROLLER.
6. UNDETERMINED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-59

7. TWELVE, (12) WING TANKS, 100 GALLON, FILLED WITH NAPALM AND GASOLINE. 560 GALLONS OF GAS.

8. DIFFICULT TO AIM AT EXACT TARGET AFTER FIRES FROM PREVIOUS HITS START HEAVY SMOKE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO #244

23 JULY 1944
1700 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-135
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-58

1. A. SIX (6) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. FIRE-BOMBING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. NELSON (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPT. TOUHEY (BLUEGRASS 17)
LT. SPENCER (BLUEGRASS 20)
CAPT. MCCOWN (BLUEGRASS 13)
LT. MARTIN (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1500 (FOUR PLANES)
1510 (TWO PLANES)

LANDING: 1530 (FOUR)
1540 (TWO)

THIS MISSION WAS SKIN-BOMBING WITH IGNITABLE BB WING TANKS. MAJOR HUSSEY, CAPTAIN NELSON, CAPTAIN TOUHEY AND LT. SPENCER ATTACKED TARGET 3-B (IN 636 AND 637) WHICH WAS A WOODED AREA STARTING AT THE SHORE LINE UP THE SIDE OF THE CLIFF AND OVER THE TOP. PLANES CAME IN FROM EAST, DROPPING FROM 1500 TO 50 FEET AT 250 MPH TO DROP THE BOMBS IN TRAIL. ALL BOMBS FIRE BOMBS FELL IN THE ASSIGNED AREA. FIVE IGNITED ON IMPACT, GIVING OFF A LARGE FLAME AND BLACK SMOKE. ONE OTHER WAS STARTED BURNING BY THE NEXT MAN'S FIRST BOMB, WHICH FELL NEAR IT. THE OTHER TWO WERE STRAFED BY CAPTAIN NELSON, STARTING SMALLER FIRES. THEN ALL PLANES MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS FROM THE EAST. LITTLE OF SIGNIFICANCE WXX COULD BE OBSERVED. THE FIRES WERE STILL SMOULDERING WHEN THE FLIGHT LEFT. THE COAST DEFENSE BOMX POSITIONS WERE STRAFED IN 615-V ON THE WAY OUT. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

CAPTAIN MCCOWN AND LT. MARTIN ATTACKED TARGET 2-A, WHICH WAS TRENCH POSITIONS IN AN OPEN AREA IN 623 AND WOODED AREA IN 624. COULD NOT LOCATE TRENCH POSITIONS, SO DROPPED ALL FOUR OF THE FIRE BOMBS IN ONE PASS FROM THE SOUTH-WEST IN SOUTH-WESTERN HALF OF THE WOODED AREA. ALL IGNITED ON IMPACT AND FIRE RESULTED IN THE WOODS. NO STRAFING WAS DONE. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. NO SIGNS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY WERE OBSERVED.

5. A. CAVU
B. NO CONTROLLER.
6. UNDETERMINED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-58.

7. TWELVE (12) 165 GALLON WING TANKS 1/3 FILLED WITH GASOLINE
AND 2/3 FILLED WITH DIESEL OIL. 5355 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER.
360 ~~ROUNDS~~ GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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APO # 24423 JULY 1944
1400 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-134
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-57

1. A. TWENTY-FOUR (24) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. FURGE, BABCOCK, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
LTS. THOMPSON, MILLER, FIETZ, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)
MAJOR CHAPIN, THOMAS, SNELL, SPILLMAN. (BLUEGRASS 95)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1145

LANDING: 1255

ORBITED POINT WILLIAM AT 1200 AT 8,000 FEET. THEN TO TARGET GIVEN AS 3 OR 4 D/P GUNS IN 520-G AND H, ON THE BEACH. AT 1215 BLUEGRASS 15 DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE NORTH-WEST FROM 8,000 FEET, RELEASING THE BOMBS AT 3,000 FEET. FOUR HITS WERE SCORED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA; TWO BACK IN THE TOWN, (520-B OR C); ONE JUST SHORT TO THE NORTH-WEST; AND ONE BOMB WAS USED ON ANOTHER TARGET. BLUEGRASS 12 THEN STRAFED ONCE FROM THE NORTH-WEST. BLUEGRASS 95 DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, DROPPING 8 BOMBS. THREE BOMBS HIT IN THE AREA, FOUR 200 TO 300 YARDS SHORT TO THE SOUTH-EAST, AND ONE IN THE WATER. BLUEGRASS 14 STRAFED THE TARGET FROM THE SOUTH-EAST. ONE GUN WAS OBSERVED 50 YARDS NORTH-EAST OF THE END OF THE PIER IN A CEMENT EMPLACEMENT. A/A WAS RECEIVED FROM THE TREE AREA BACK OF THE BEACH IN ABOUT 520-C FROM ABOUT 8 M/G'S. FIRE WAS MEAGER AND INACCURATE.

AT 1230 OVER TARGET IN 516-X AND Y, GIVEN AS A BUILDING AREA. THERE WERE ABOUT EIGHT BUILDINGS IN THE AREA. BLUEGRASS 15 DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE NORTH-EAST, DROPPING EIGHT BOMBS. BLUEGRASS 15-4 ALSO DROPPED ONE BOMB. THREE HITS WERE SCORED ON THE BUILDINGS WHICH WERE BLOWN UP; FIVE WERE 50 YARDS LONG TO THE SOUTH-WEST; AND ONE WAS 250 YARDS SHORT TO THE NORTH-EAST. BLUEGRASS 18 THEN STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-WEST. THEN ALL FLIGHTS, IN ORDER, MADE A COORDINATED STRAFING PASS FROM ALL DIRECTIONS BY FLIGHTS. A FEW BURSTS OF A/A MAY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, BUT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN OUR OWN TRACERS FROM OTHER FLIGHTS. DEBRIS AND SMOKE FROM 2 OR 3 BUILDINGS WHICH WERE BLOWN UP OBSCURED THE AREA.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-57

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4 ABOVE.

7. 9760 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 24 X 500 LB. BOMBS WITH
1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 3000 GALLONS OF GAS.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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APO # 24422 JULY 1944
1830 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-56

1. A. THREE (3) P-47-D'S (BELONGING TO THE 19TH FIGHTER SQDN.)
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. "FIRE-BOMBING " ON TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. LT. COL. TAYLOR (BLUEGRASS 32)
CAPTAIN NELSON (BLUEGRASS 14)
LT. SPENCER (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 1645

LANDING: 1720

A SPECIAL MISSION, SKIP-BOMBING WITH IGNITABLE BELLY TANKS. OVER TARGET AT 1700. BLUEGRASS 32 ATTACKED SLIT TRENCHES SURROUNDED BY UNDERBRUSH IN 603-M, (TARGET 5-A). STARTED FIRE IN TRENCHES AND IN THE UNDERBRUSH NEAR THEM. BLUEGRASS 14 AND 20 ATTACKED MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ON RIDGE FROM 613-B TO 612-Y, (TARGET 5-B), COMING IN FROM THE SOUTH. BLUEGRASS 14 WAS UNABLE TO RELEASE HIS BELLY TANK AND LATER DROPPED IT IN THE OCEAN. BLUEGRASS 20 HIT ALONG THE RIDGE, STARTING A SMALL FIRE. PLANES DROPPED DOWN TO 50 FEET FROM 500 FEET TO DROP THE BELLY TANKS. THERE WAS NO STRAFING AND NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CAVU
B. THERE WAS NO CONTROLLER.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. THREE 100-GALLON BELLY TANKS, ONE-THIRD FILLED WITH GASOLINE, AND TWO-THIRDS FILLED WITH DIESEL OIL. 270 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 24422 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-13/
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-551/ A. TWO (2) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. ATTACKING TARGET ON TINIAN WITH IGNITABLE WING TANKS.

4. MAJOR HUSSEY, MAJOR MENG.

TAKE-OFF: 1145

LANDING: 1245

THIS WAS A SPECIAL MISSION, SKIP-BOMBING WITH TWO WING TANKS (EACH) FILLED WITH 2/3 DIESEL OIL AND 1/3 GASOLINE AND HAVING A SPECIAL DETONATOR, AND THEN STRAFING. TARGET WAS AREAS 515, 516, AND 523. WERE OVER TARGET AT 1210. ALL RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE WEST.

MAJOR HUSSEY ATTACKED FIRST. ON FIRST RUN CAME DOWN FROM 2,000 FEET, INDICATING 260 MPH, AND RELEASED AT ABOUT 50 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. HIT THE BRINK OF THE HILL, STREWING THE GUN POSITION WITH GAS BUT GAS DID NOT IGNITE. ON SECOND RUN CAME DOWN FROM 1,000, HITTING TO LEFT OF AREA ON HILLSIDE. THERE WAS A BLACK PUFF OF SMOKE, BUT NO FIRE. MAJOR MENG THEN STRAFED THE AREA.

ON MAJOR MENG'S FIRST RUN HIS LEFT WING TANK WOULD NOT RELEASE. ON SECOND RUN, FROM 1,500 FEET AND INDICATING 250MPH, DROPPED THE OTHER TANK RIGHT IN LINE WITH THE GUN POSITIONS. THERE WAS NO DETONATION. MAJOR HUSSEY STRAFED THE AREA, STARTING A FIRE FROM SIDE OF THE HILL TO THE OTHER SIDE. MAJOR MENG MADE SEVERAL MORE RUNS TRYING TO RELEASE LEFT TANK; LATER DROPPED IT FROM 4,000 FEET OVER THE WATER, STARTING A GOODLY FIRE IN THE OCEAN.

THE GUNS WERE COVERED WITH BRUSH AND SCRAP LUMBER. THEY SEEMED TO BE THREE EMPLACEMENTS, ALL APPEARING INTACT.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 3,000 FEET.
B. DID NOT REACH CONTROLLER.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. FOUR (4) 165 GALLON WING TANKS, 720 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 300 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE

HUSSEY

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

22 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-123
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-34

1. A. TWELVE P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. DORMIER, SNELL, RESER. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS THOMAS, THOMPSON, SABICK. (BLUEGRASS 15)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, FURGE. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1030

LANDING: 1130

TARGET ASSIGNED WAS GUN POSITIONS IN 553-N, N, AND S. OVER TARGET AT 1100. TWO DIVE-BOMBING RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE NORTH-EAST RELEASING BOMBS AT 4,000 FEET. TWELVE HITS WERE SCORED IN THE TARGET AREA, HITTING THE GP POSITIONS BUT NOT THE GUN EMPLACEMENTS. ONE BOMB HIT A BUILDING 100 YARDS SOUTH-EAST OF THE TARGET AND THE REST OF THE BOMBS FELL WITHIN A 100 YARD SEMI-CIRCLE TO THE WEST. THERE ARE LARGE GUNS, OR DUMMIES, IN ALL THREE EMPLACEMENTS. ONE STRAFING RUN ONLY WAS MADE. MEAGER AND ACCURATE AAA FIRE FROM A PROBABLE 20MM FROM ABOUT 150 YARDS NORTH-WEST OF THE TARGET IN A WRECKED BUILDING POSSIBLY IN NORTH 553-N WAS ENCOUNTERED ON THE STRAFING RUN. THERE SEEMED TO BE NOTHING IN THE SMALL PITS TO THE SOUTH.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 8/10 AT 1500 FEET
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. TWENTY-FOUR (24) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES, 1020 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 1800 GALLONS OF GAS
8. NONE

HUSBEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

21 JULY 1944
1600 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-119
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-53

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING VILLAGE ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR CHAPIN, LTS. WATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 95)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. HOWARD, STEVENS, FURGE. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 1410

LANDING: 1455

TARGET WAS A VILLAGE IN 548-B, G, C, H; WITH EMPHASIS ON SUPPOSED GUN POSITIONS IN WESTERN SECTION. OVER TARGET AT 1425. ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, DIVE-BOMBING DOWN TO 4,000 FEET. TWO RUNS WERE MADE, EACH PLANE RELEASING ONE BOMB ON EACH RUN. TWENTY HITS WERE SCORED IN THE TARGET AREA, TWO 1/4 OF A MILE SOUTH, ONE BY SOME HOUSES 200 YARDS EAST, AND ONE BOMB WAS SHAKEN OFF IN THE WATER. ALL PLANES MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS, ONE FROM THE NORTH-EAST AND ONE FROM THE WEST, FIRST BY ELEMENTS AND THEN BY FLIGHTS ABREAST, THROUGH THE TOWN. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. A FIRE WHICH GAVE OFF WHITE SMOKE WAS STARTED IN A PIT COVERED WITH BRUSH 100 YARDS DUE WEST OF A ROW OF TREES WHICH ARE 100 YARDS WEST OF THE EDGE OF THE TARGET AREA. NO MILITARY ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED. THE NORTHERN BUILDINGS WERE LARGE ENOUGH TO BE WAREHOUSES.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 2500 FEET TO 5,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL
6. A BUILDING WITH A TIN ROOF IN THE SUPPOSED CAMOUFLAGED AREA, IN THE CENTRAL WESTERN AREA TARGET AREA WAS DESTROYED BY A DIRECT HIT. SHRINE TO THE SOUTH WAS HIT. BOMB HITS WERE MADE IN ROWS OF SMALL BUILDINGS IN EASTERN SECTION, CAUSING TWO FIRES; ONE OF WHICH GAVE OFF WHITE, AND THE OTHER BLACK, SMOKE. THE ENTIRE AREA WAS DEVASTATED.
7. 8700 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 24 BOMBS, 500 LB., WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1440 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

21 JULY 1944
1300 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-118
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-52

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47-D11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. CORMIER, SPENCER, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. MC COWH, LTS. GRAHAM, WILSON, MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. TOUHEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 1025

LANDING: 1115

ASSIGNED TARGET WAS SUPPOSED LARGE AREA OF MILITARY ACTIVITY OF
MX ON WOODED RIDGE IN 620-Q AND V AND 613-B, PLUS A SMALLER
ACTIVE AREA IN 619-S AND T. OVER TARGET AT 1045.

BLUEGRASS 11 ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, DIVE-BOMBING, AND
RELEASING BOMBS AT 4,000 FEET. ALL BOMBS WERE HITS IN THE TARGET
AREA. A STRAFING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE NORTH-EAST OVER THE MAIN-
TARGET AREA (WOODED RIDGE), AND A SECOND STRAFING RUN WAS MADE
FROM THE EAST OVER THE SAME AREA AND INCLUDING THE SMALLER TARGET
(619-S AND T). MEAGER SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE
WOODED RIDGE TO THEIR EAST.

BLUEGRASS 17 DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, DROPPING SIX BOMBS
IN THE TARGET, ONE VERY NEAR AND ONE FAR OFF TO THE EAST. THEN
MADE A STRAFING RUN FROM THE EAST OVER THE TARGET AREA. ON A
SECOND STRAFING RUN OVER THE SAME AREA, MEAGER 20MM FIRE WAS
ENCOUNTERED FROM NORTH-EAST PART OF AREA AMONG TREES. ANOTHER
PASS WAS MADE, STRAFING AREA FROM WHICH HAD COME THE GUN FIRE.

THE FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 13 DIVE-BOMBED THE MAIN TARGET,
SCORING THREE HITS IN THE TARGET AREA. ONE BOMB LATER FELL OFF
INTO THE WATER. THEN STRAFED TARGET AREA FROM THE EAST, ENCOUN-
TERING A/A FIRE FROM A 20 OR 40MM IN THE NORTH-EAST PART OF THE
TARGET AREA AND SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE TARGET AREA. FIRE WAS
MEAGER AND INACCURATE. ON SECOND STRAFING RUN POINTS OF A/A
FIRE AND BUILDINGS JUST OUTSIDE OF THE SOUTH PART OF THE AREA
WERE HIT.

OBSERVED A FEW SMALL BUILDINGS IN THE AREA. THERE WERE MANY HOLES
WHICH WERE EITHER SHELL HOLES OR PITS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. THERE
WERE PROBABLE RADAR POSITIONS ON TOP OF THE CLIFF TOWARD THE
CENTRAL EASTERN SIDE OF THE RIDGE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-52

4. CONT'D

THE AREA HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN MUCH HIT PREVIOUSLY.

THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 13 ATTACKED 819-S AND T. DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, SCORING TWO HITS 100 FEET SOUTH-WEST OF THE SMALL WOODED AREA AND ONE ON THE NORTH EDGE OF THE SAME AREA. FOURTH BOMB WAS LATER SHAKEN OFF AND DROPPED ON THE RIDGE. THE ELEMENT LEADER MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS, ONE FROM THE SOUTH-WEST OVER THE TARGET AREA AND ONE FROM THE EAST OVER THE TARGET AREA AND THE ABOVE-MENTIONED A/A. OBSERVED NEITHER GUNS OR ANY SORT OF MILITARY ACTIVITY.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 2/10 AT 4,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL. A LOT OF OUTSIDE CHATTER WAS HEARD ON OUR "D" BAND.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 8535 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 24 X 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 OF A SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1320 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

21 JULY 1944
1100 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-115
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON #7-51

1. A. ELEVEN (11) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN EMPLACEMENTS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LT. RESER, MAJOR CHAPIN, LT FIETZ. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. GUMPSTONE, (THOMPSON)*, SHOEMAKER. (BLUEGRASS 13)
LTS. MARTIN, SABICK, GALT, THOMAS. (BLUEGRASS 19)

*(LT. THOMPSON DID NOT TAKE-OFF DUE TO CARBURETOR TROUBLE)

TAKE-OFF: 0935

LANDING: 1030

TARGET ASSIGNED WAS GUN EMPLACEMENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN 613-J AND 614-F, AND M/G POSITIONS, IN A WOODED AREA JUST TO THE SOUTH-WEST. OVER TARGET AT 0955, FLEW OVER TARGET TWICE AT 8,000 AND 10,000 FEET, AND THEN MADE A DIVE-BOMBING RUN FROM THE NORTH-WEST RELEASING ONE BOMB A PIECE AT 4,000 FEET, COMING THROUGH THE CLOUDS. A SECOND PASS WAS MADE FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, RELEASING REMAINDER OF BOMBS. HITS WERE SCORED AS FOLLOWS: EIGHT IN THE AREA OF THE SUPPOSED GUN EMPLACEMENTS, ONE IN THE SUPPOSED M/G AREA TO THE SOUTH-WEST, AND THE REMAINDER IN A 100 YARD SEMI-CIRCLE JUST TO THE WEST OF THE GUN EMPLACEMENT AREA. ONE OF THE HITS IN THE AREA WAS DIRECTLY BY A PIT. A STRAFING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE WEST, CONCENTRATING ON THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES, THE GUN EMPLACEMENTS. NOTHING WAS SEEN IN THE M/G AREA WHICH IS IN AN UNUSUALLY HEAVILY WOODED AREA. NO GUNS OR SIGNS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY WERE OBSERVED. THE TWO HOUSES ARE JUST FRAMEWORK HUTS WITH TIN ROOFS. LOW CLOUD COVERAGE MADE X OBSERVATION DIFFICULT. SMOKE AND DUST OBSCURED THE AREA. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 6/10 BETWEEN 2,000 AND 7,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 2880 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. TWENTY-TWO (22) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1650 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

19 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

316TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-111
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-50

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. STRAFING AND ROCKET FIRING ON TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPT. NELSON, LTS. FURGE, SHEPARD, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1440

LANDING: 1520 (ONE PLANE)*
1555 (ELEVEN PLANES)

*LT. GALT, NUMBER 3 MAN OF BLUEGRASS 19 MADE THE FIRST ROCKET RUN WITH THE FLIGHT, FIRING TWO ROCKETS. ON THE SECOND RUN HE FIRED A THIRD ROCKET AND BLEW OFF HALF OF HIS ROCKET TUBE. HIS PLANE ALSO BLEW AN OIL LINE IN THE ENGINE CAUSING OIL ON HIS WINDSHIELD AND A CONSEQUENT LOSS OF FORWARD VISIBILITY. RETURNED TO BASE.

AT 1500 BLUEGRASS 14 MADE AN OBSERVATION RUN OVER SUPPOSED GUN POSITIONS IN 534-V; SAW NO EMPLACEMENTS. ON SECOND RUN 12 ROCKETS WERE FIRED, FIVE INTO SMALL BUILDINGS IN LOWER 534-V, SIX INTO LARGE BUILDINGS IN NORTH-WESTERN 534-V; AND ONE INTO SOUTHERN 534-Q, HITTING A CONCRETE PIT. ON THIRD RUN ONE ROCKET HIT IN LOWER 534-V AND TWO IN A HOUSE EAST OF THE TARGET AREA. STRAFED LARGE GUNS IN SOUTH CORNER OF 525-A, (AT LEAST THREE GUNS WELL-CONCEALED IN PITS) AND SURROUNDING SHACKS; ALSO HOUSES IN SOUTHERN 534-V.

BLUEGRASS 18 MADE AN OBSERVATION RUN OVER THEIR TARGET (534-G AND L) SEEING NO GUNS OR POSITIONS. THE SECOND PASS WAS FROM THE EAST. ELEVEN ROCKETS WERE FIRED; SCORING SIX HITS AROUND RAILROAD IN THE CENTER OF 534-L, WHERE THERE ARE ALSO SHANTIES; THREE IN NORTH-EASTERN 534-G WHICH IS A WOODED AREA AND TWO NEAR AN EMPTY GUN EMPLACEMENT IN 534-H. ON THE NEXT RUN, FROM THE EAST, ONE ROCKET HIT IN HOUSES IN 534-H. ALL SHIPS IN FLIGHT THEN STRAFED THAT AREA. LARGE FIRE WAS STARTED IN ONE HOUSE IN TARGET AREA. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 18 MADE A

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-50

4. (CONT'D)

SECOND STRAFING RUN OVER THE EMPTY GUN EMPLACEMENT MENTIONED ABOVE AND HOUSES IN 534-H. THIS FLIGHT BROUGHT TWO ROCKETS BACK TO THE FIELD AND TWO WERE DEFECTIVELY DISCHARGED.

BLUEGRASS 19 ATTACKED 555-P FROM THE EAST AND NORTH-EAST. FOUR ROCKETS WERE FIRED, ONE IN AND THREE CLOSE BY TWO PITS WHICH WERE POSSIBLY EMPTY GUN EMPLACEMENTS. ON THE SECOND RUN SEVEN ROCKETS WERE FIRED INTO THE GENERAL AREA. THE REMAINDER OF THE 40 ROCKETS WOULD NOT FIRE AND WERE BROUGHT BACK TO THE FIELD. A STRAFING RUN WAS MADE BY THE FLIGHT LEADER CONCENTRATING ON THE EMPTY PITS. THERE IS ONE LARGE AND ONE SMALL MOUND OF CORAL IN THE AREA. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED BY ANY OF THE FLIGHTS.

5. A. CAVU

B. GOOD, EXCEPT THAT TOO MUCH RADIO CHATTER FROM SHIP-TO-SHORE ON SAME BAND INTERFERED WITH CONTACT WITH CONTROL, WHICH WAS CHEROKEE.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 2150 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 40 ROCKETS. 2100 GALLONS OF GAS.

8. WHERE THERE ARE NEARBY YET QUITE SEPARATE TARGETS, IT WOULD BE WELL TO STAGGER FLIGHTS' TAKE-OFFS BY 15 MINUTES OR SO, AS THEY MUST EACH WAIT FOR EACH OTHER TO AVOID POSSIBLE CROSSING ON BREAKAWAY.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 24419 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-109
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-491. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN.

4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. MILLER, SPENCER, CORMIER. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, SHOEMAKER. (BLUEGRASS 16)
CAPT. TOUHEY, LTS. RILEY, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 0935

LANDING: 1000 (ONE SHIP)*
1030 (ELEVEN SHIPS)

*CAPTAIN FLYNN'S ELECTRICAL SYSTEM WENT OUT SHORTLY AFTER TAKE-OFF, AND HE LEFT HIS FLIGHT OVER NORTH TINIAN. NOT HAVING ANY RADIO CONTACT, HE WAS UNABLE TO CALL CHEROKEE CONTROL FOR BOMBING INSTRUCTIONS. DROPPED BOTH BOMBS ON THE NORTH STRIP OF NORTH FIELD, TINIAN, HITTING ALONG THE NORTH EDGE OF THE RUNWAY. THEN RETURNED TO BASE.

TARGET WAS BUILDING AREAS IN 527-V, W, AND X. AT 0955 BLUEGRASS 11 DOVE FROM THE NORTH-EAST, RELEASING SIX BOMBS AT 4,000 FEET. FOUR BOMBS STRUCK IN THE TARGET AREA, THREE OF THEM BEING IN 527-X AND ONE IN 527-W. ONE BOMB FELL SHORT, HITTING THE LARGE BUILDINGS IN 527-S. ONE BOMB WAS LONG, FALLING IN AN OPEN AREA IN 527-W. TWO BOMBS HUNG UP, ONE OF WHICH WAS JETTISONED IN THE WATER AND THE OTHER BEING SAFETIED AND BROUGHT BACK TO THE FIELD.

BLUEGRASS 16, COMPOSED OF THREE PLANES ONLY, ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-EAST. ONE BOMB FELL SHORT BUT STARTED A LARGE OIL FIRE IN 527-S IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PART. FIVE BOMBS HIT IN THE TARGET AREA. THEN TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE BY THE FLIGHT, ONE FROM THE EAST AND ONE FROM THE NORTH-EAST, HITTING BIG BUILDINGS IN 527-S AND THROUGH THE TARGET AREA, INCLUDING ONE BUILDING MUCH BIGGER THAN THE OTHERS.

BLUEGRASS 17 CAME IN FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, DROPPING THREE BOMBS IN 527-U, WHICH WAS A BUILDING AREA NEAR THE DOCKS; FOUR BOMBS IN THE TARGET AREA; AND ONE BOMB HANGING UP, LATER JETTISONED DROPPED NEAR THE SUGAR MILL. THE SECOND ELEMENT STRAFED 527-S AND ACROSS THE TARGET AREA. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-49

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 8/10 BETWEEN 2,000 FEET AND 7,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 2880 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 23 X 500 LB. BOMBS WITH
1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1435 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

18 JULY 1944
1900 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-108
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-48

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11's
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING ON PAGAN ISLAND.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. RILEY, SNYDER, MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPT. TOUHEY, LTS. O'HARA, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 1610

LANDING: 1835

PROCEEDED ON VECTOR TO PAGAN, WITH BLUEGRASS 14 WITH BOMBS AT 10,000 FEET AND THE OTHER FLIGHTS AT 12,000 AND 15,000 FEET. AT 1720 BLUEGRASS 14 ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH, DIVING FROM 10,000 FEET AND RELEASING BOMBS AT 5,000. ONE HIT WAS SCORED BY CINDER CONE GUN POSITION 800 YARDS NORTH OF THE WEST END OF THE FIELD; TWO BETWEEN THE CINDER CONE AND THE RUNWAY, ONE BEING IN A BUILDING AREA; TWO ON THE RUNWAY, ONE BEING NEAR A PLANE ON THE NORTH SIDE; ONE AT THE BASE OF THE CLIFF TO THE SOUTH; ONE OFF THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY; AND ONE ALONG THE SOUTH-EAST SIDE OF THE RUNWAY.

BLUEGRASS 12 LET DOWN TO 8,000 FEET AND CAME IN FROM THE EAST DOWN THE RUNWAY, STRAFING TWO PLANES ON THE GROUND WHICH HAD NOT BEEN THERE ON THE PREVIOUS MISSION. ONE WAS ON THE PARKING AREA AT THE CENTER OF THE NORTH SIDE; DESCRIBED AS BEING A LARGE TWIN-ENGINE PLANE WITH A SINGLE TAIL. THE OTHER PLANE WAS OFF THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY, ON THE SOUTH PARKING AREA AND WAS A LARGE, SINGLE-ENGINE PLANE WITH A SINGLE TAIL. BOTH SHIPS WERE PAINTED DARK GREEN. ALSO STRAFED WERE TWO A/W POSITIONS OFF THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY ON THE SOUTH SIDE, JUST OFF THE RUNWAY. POSITIONS CEASED FIRING.

BLUEGRASS 17 CIRCLED DOWN TO 10,000, AND ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH. BOTH PLANES MENTIONED ABOVE WERE STRAFED AND ALSO THE SAME GUN POSITION.

BLUEGRASS 14 ALSO MADE A STRAFING RUN CONCENTRATING ON THE TWIN-ENGINE PLANE AND ON A TIN-ROOFED BUILDING OFF THE NORTH-WEST CORNER.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-48

4. (CONT'D)

A/A ENCOUNTERED WAS MODERATE AND FAIRLY ACCURATE FROM BOTH A/W'S AND M/G'S. NO FIRE WAS RECEIVED OVER 3,000 FEET. M/G FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM NORTH OF THE FIELD, 100 TO 200 YARDS FROM FIELD. A PROBABLE 20MM ALONG THE WEST COAST QUITE FAR SOUTH OF THE FIELD WAS FIRING. TWO A/A POSITIONS JUST OFF THE RUNWAY ON THE WEST END OF THE SOUTH SIDE STOPPED FIRING ON BEING STRAFED. FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM A POSITION ON THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE RUNWAY.

NOTHING WAS SEEN IN THE HARBOR. THE FIELD WAS BADLY POCK-MARKED, BUT A STRETCH ALONG THE NORTH SIDE, ABOUT 2,000 FEET LONG, MIGHT BE SERVICEABLE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 BETWEEN 2,000 AND 5,000 FEET. AN OVERCAST AT 20,000 FEET. NO FRONTS ENCOUNTERED.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. TWO OPERATIONAL PLANES PROBABLY DESTROYED.
7. 5830 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND FUSES. 3300 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO # 244

16 JULY 1944.
1400 LOCAL

316TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-106
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-47

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. ROCKETS AND STRAFING ON TARGETS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. THOMAS, SPENCER, SHOEMAKER. (BLUEGRASS 11)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMSTONE, FIETZ, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE OFF: 1130

LANDING: 1215 (4 PLANES)
1220 (8 PLANES)

BLUEGRASS 11 AND 19, ARMED WITH 4 ROCKETS EACH (NOT ALL OF WHICH DISCHARGED) WERE ASSIGNED THE POSITIONS OF HEAVY AND LIGHT GUNS IN 556-M, N, AND S. BLUEGRASS 15, STRAFING ONLY, HAD THE M/G TARGET IN 534-X.

BLUEGRASS 11 AND 19, AT 1145, DOVE FROM THE NORTHEAST FROM 5,000 FEET FIRING A TOTAL OF 9 ROCKETS. SEVEN HIT IN AREA, ONE BEING A PROBABLE HIT ON C.P. DUGOUT. ON THEIR SECOND RUN, 14 ROCKETS WERE FIRED. THREE WERE DIRECT HITS ON 2 GUN EMPLACEMENTS - THE WEST AND CENTER ONES. SIX MORE LANDED IN AREA AND THE OTHER FIVE WERE MISSES. BLUEGRASS 11, #4 MAN HAD ONE OF HIS ROCKET LAUNCHERS EXPLODE IN FLIGHT CAUSING LOSS OF LAUNCHER AND 2 ROCKETS. THERE WAS ALSO SOME STRAFING ON THAT RUN. A STRAFING RUN WAS THEN MADE FROM THE NORTHEAST, CONCENTRATING FIRE INTO THE GUN POSITIONS. ANOTHER WAS MADE FROM THE SOUTHWEST, WITH ONE FLIGHT TAKING THE SUPPOSED M/G POSITIONS WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE ONLY EMPTY HOLES. BLUEGRASS 11 LEAD ELEMENT MADE ONE MORE RUN FROM THE NORTH. THERE WERE DEFINITELY GUNS IN EACH OF THE THREE PITS -- PROBABLE D.P., 4.7 INCHES, PAINTED GREEN. FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM ONE SMALL M/G IN HEAVY GUN POSITION AREA. THIS WAS STRAFED WITH ONE BURST AND SILENCED.

BLUEGRASS 15, AT 1145, MADE STRAFING RUN FROM THE SOUTHEAST AND EAST. TARGET APPEARED TO BE A SMALL, EMPTY CONCRETE BUILDING FOUNDATION OR PIT. TWO RUNS WERE MADE ON THAT AND ON THIRD RUN ALSO STRAFED SMALL BUILDING EAST OF EASTERN ROAD. THEY THEN STRAFED ACROSS NORTHERN END OF TOWN OUT TOWARD THE WATER. NO A/A RECEIVED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-47

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. FEARLESS WAS CONTROL
6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4, ABOVE.
7. 6,546 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 25 ROCKETS, 1360 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. GUN POSITIONS IN 526-B, ALONG SHORE ON TOP OF RISE, WHICH APPEARED EMPTY ON A RECENT MISSION (DIRECTED AT 526-G) NOW DEFINITELY HAS A GUN IN A SQUARED OFF REVETMENT AND ANOTHER EMPLACEMENT HAS A CAMOUFLAGED COVER. THE SUGGESTION IS MADE THAT THE ENEMY MAY BE MOVING GUNS FROM ONE POSITION TO ANOTHER.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

17 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-103
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-48

1. A. ELEVEN (11) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS ON TINIAN
4. (MAJOR HUSSEY)*, LTS CUMPTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM (BLUEGRASS 11).
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SWELL, HOWARD (BLUEGRASS 13).
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, SHOEMAKER (BLUEGRASS 16).
*(MAJOR HUSSEY DID NOT TAKE-OFF DUE TO A FLAT TIRE)

TAKE-OFF: 1600

LANDING: 1650 (7 PLANES)
1705 (4 PLANES)

BLUEGRASS 11 AND 16 ATTACKED TARGET IN 506-C, REPORTED TO BE THREE 150 MM GUNS IN CLIFFS UNDER COVER OF TREES. DIVE-BOMBING RUN WAS MADE AT 1620 FROM THE NORTH-EAST, RELEASING BOMBS AT 3,500 FEET. 7 BOMBS HIT IN THE IMMEDIATE TARGET AREA, SIX JUST OUTSIDE THE IMMEDIATE AREA, AND ONE WAS JETTISONED IN THE WATER. THREE STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE ON THE AREA AND BUILDINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THREE CANE-FIELD FIRES WERE STARTED. THE BOMBS KNOCKED DOWN MOST OF THE TREES IN THE TARGET AREA, REVEALING NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER OF GUN POSITIONS. THE V-SHAPED ROAD IS MERELY A SWITCH-BACK, OR A SINGLE ROAD WINDING UP THE CLIFF. IT IS SUSPECTED THAT THERE COULD BE GUNS IN A CONCEALED SHELVE ABOUT HALF-WAY DOWN THE CLIFF, BELOW THE WHITE ROAD WHERE THE PICTURE SHOWS VAGUE TRACK ACTIVITY LEADING INTO A SLIGHTLY LESS HEAVY FOLIAGE. THIS COULD BE ATTACKED WITH ROCKETS. A/A WAS MEAGER M/G FIRE FROM UNDETERMINED SOURCES EAST AND WEST OF TARGET.

BLUEGRASS 13 ATTACKED SUPPOSED M/G POSITIONS IN 542-C AND D. FIRST ATTACK WAS FROM THE WEST, RELEASING THE BOMBS AT 4,500 FEET. TWO HITS WERE SCORED IN THE TARGET AREA AND ONE ON THE WEST EDGE OF SAME. ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND WAS JETTISONED IN THE WATER. ON SECOND RUN TWO BOMBS FELL IN THE AREA BY THE ROAD AND TWO 20 TO 30 YARDS NORTH OF THE ROAD. THE FIRST STRAFING RUN WAS FROM THE EAST CONCENTRATING ON WOODED AREA. SECOND STRAFING RUN WAS FROM THE NORTH AND SHOT UP THE TWO FARM BUILDINGS NORTH OF THE ROAD. THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF GUNS OR ACTIVITY UNDER THE TREES IN THE TARGET AREA. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-46

5. A. LIGHT SCATTERED CLOUDS AT 2,000 FEET.
B. GODD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4, ABOVE.
7. 12,420 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. TWENTY TWO (22)
500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1475 GALLONS OF
GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

16 JULY 1944
1730 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-99
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-45

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING TARGETS IN TINIAN TOWN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 11)
LTS. WILSON, CLARK, SHEPARD, DE VONA. (BLUEGRASS 18)
LTS. SPENCER, CORMIER, FIETZ, BYERS (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 1455

LANDING: 1540 (10 PLANES) 11

1620 (2 PLANES) 22

TARGET SELECTED FOR ALL THREE FLIGHTS WAS 526-G, A STRONG POINT CLOSE TO THE BEACH IN NORTH TINIAN TOWN WITH FOURTEEN OR MORE GUNS. ALL FLIGHTS MADE A BOMBING RUN IN ECHELON OF FLIGHTS FROM NORTH-EAST TO SOUTH-WEST RELEASING THEIR BOMBS IN STRING FROM 4,000 FEET.

BLUEGRASS 11 SCORED FOUR HITS IN 526-G (TWO BEING ON TOP OF THE CLIFF IN LOWER 526-G); TWO IN BUILDING AREA IN 526-H; AND TWO IN THE WATER. BLUEGRASS 18 DROPPED ONE BOMB IN 526-L ABOUT 25 YARDS FROM A POSSIBLE MACHINE GUN POSITION; TWO IN 526-G, TWO IN BUILDING AREA OF 526-G, AND TWO IN THE WATER. ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND WAS LATER JETTISONED IN THE WATER. BLUEGRASS 20 DROPPED SIX BOMBS IN 526-G; ONE LANDING DIRECTLY ON TOP OF THE CLIFF ON EDGE OF SHORE. ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND WAS LATER JETTISONED IN THE WATER. NUMBER 4 MAN STILL HAD ONE BOMB HUNG UP UPON RETURN TO FIELD, AND THIS FELL JUST OFF FAR END OF RUNWAY AS HE PEELED OFF. NO DAMAGE WAS DONE.

WITH REFERENCE TO THE HANGING BOMBS (AND THE TWO DELAYED LANDINGS) -- AFTER THE INITIAL ATTACK BLUEGRASS 20 LEADER AND BLUEGRASS 18 ELEMENT LEADER REMAINED AND MADE 2 DIVE-BOMBING RUNS ON THE TARGET AREA IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO DROP THESE HUNG UP BOMBS. THE TWO HANGING BOMBS WERE LATER DROPPED IN THE WATER, ONLY BY DIRT OF VIOLENT MANEUVERING.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-45

5. A. CAYU
B. GODD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. TWENTY FOUR (24) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1320 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. BOMBING WAS VERY ACCURATE. ON LATER OBSERVATION BOMB HITS WERE CLEARLY VISIBLE; NO INDICATION OF MAJOR GUN INSTALLATIONS WAS VISIBLE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

16 JUNE 1944
1230 LOCAL

31STH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-98
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-44

1. A. ELEVEN (11) P-47D-11's
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF TINIAN TOWN.
4. MAJOR HUSLEY, LT. FURGE, CAPT. TOUHEY, LT. HARBOUR. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. BABCOCK, MARTIN, GALT. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, SABICK. (BLUEGRASS 16)
*(BLUEGRASS 11 LEADER DID NOT TAKE OFF DUE TO FUEL PUMP
TROUBLE)

TAKE-OFF: 1025

LANDING: 1125

WAITED UNTIL ELEVEN O'CLOCK FOR SQUALL TO BLOW OVER, THEN MADE AN OBSERVATION RUN FROM THE NORTH-WEST AT 5,000 FEET TO PICK OUT LIKELY TARGETS. CLIMBED TO 7,000 FEET FOR START OF DIVES. BOMBS WERE RELEASED AT 4,000 FEET.

BLUEGRASS 14 CAME IN FROM THE NORTH, RELEASING ALL BOMBS. TWO BOMBS HIT IN THE CENTRAL WESTERN PART OF 527-W, PROBABLY HITTING A LARGE TWO STORY BUILDING WITH A SHINY METAL ROOF, PARTLY HIDDEN BY TREES. TWO BOMBS DID NOT IMMEDIATELY RELEASE, AND LANDED IN THE WATER. TWO BOMBS FELL IN THE LOWER CENTER OF 520-E AND DEMOLISHED THREE SMALL BUILDINGS. ONE BOMB HIT A BUILDING WITH A RED CROSS ON THE ROOF, IN 527-V, AND ONE BOMB HIT A MEDIUM SIZED BUILDING NORTH-EAST, IN FRONT OF, THE MARKED BUILDING. IT WAS DEMOLISHED. BLUEGRASS 14 STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-EAST THROUGH BUILDINGS IN 521-Q WHICH SEEM TO BE OPEN BARRACKS BUT ARE UNINHABITABLE. BUILDINGS TO THE NORTH-WEST WERE STRAFED, AND ALSO THE LOWER CENTER OF 528 AND 527.

BLUEGRASS 16 ATTACKED FROM THE WEST. ONE BOMB HIT IN THE SOUTH EAST CORNER OF 527-V AMONG SOME BUILDINGS. ONE FELL IN SOUTH-WEST OF 527-W AND BLEW THE ROOF OFF A RED-ROOFED SHACK. TWO BOMBS HIT IN THE MIDDLE PART OF 520-B AND DEMOLISHED TWO SMALL BUILDINGS. TWO FELL IN THE SOUTH-WEST PART OF 520-D AND TWO IN 527-S, 50 YARDS NORTH-WEST OF BUILDINGS. A STRAFING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE NORTH-WEST HITTING BUTTED BUILDINGS IN 527-S AND ALSO ON TOWARD THE BEACH. THE LARGEST BUILDINGS WERE IN 520-B. MADE A SECOND RUN FROM THE NORTH ATTACKING BUILDINGS IN 521-Q AND STARTING A SIZEABLE FIRE WHICH WAS STILL GOING WHEN MISSION WAS COMPLETED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-44

4. (CONT'D)

BLUEGRASS 11 ATTACKED FROM THE EAST. TWO BOMBS FELL IN NORTH-EAST CORNER OF 520-D, HITTING SMALL BUILDINGS. ONE HIT IN THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF 520-I IN A BUILDING AREA. ONE BOMB FELL IN SOUTHWESTERN 520-E, A BUILDING AREA; ONE IN THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF 527-S. JUST MISSING SOME LARGE BUILDINGS; ONE IN 527-X IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SECTION, IN A BUILDING AREA. STRAFED FROM THE EAST CONCENTRATING ON A BIG BARRACKS IN SOUTHWESTERN 520-E AND STRAFING THROUGH THE CENTER OF TOWN.

NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. THE TOWN IS BADLY DEMOLISHED.

5. A. COMPLETE OVERCAST AT 1500 WHEN WE ARRIVED OVER THE TARGET, AFTER 11 O'CLOCK CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 2,000.

B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4, ABOVE.

7. 5265 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. TWENTY TWO (22) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1650 GALLONS OF GAS.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, RAF
 APO # 244

16 JULY 1944
 1100 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-07
 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-43

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-1113
 B. NONE
2. A. NONE
 B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING ON TINIAN TOWN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. SHOEMAKER, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 12)
 CAPT. MC CORM, LTS. MILLER, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
 CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. RILEY, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE-OFF: 0815

LANDING: 0915

BLUEGRASS 12 ATTACKED BUILDINGS IN 521-Q AT 0835 FROM THE NORTH EAST, RELEASING ONE BOMB EACH FROM 4,500 FEET. ONE BOMB HIT 50 YARDS TO THE NORTHWEST OF THE TARGET, ONE 50 YARDS TO THE SOUTH-EAST, AND TWO 75 YARDS TO THE WEST. A SECOND RUN WAS MADE FROM THE NORTH-EAST, WITH ONE BOMB FALLING IN A CROSSROADS 50 YARDS NORTH OF THE TARGET, ONE DIRECTLY ON THE TARGET, ONE ON THE NORTH EDGE OF THE BUILDINGS AND ONE IN SMALL BUILDINGS NORTH-WEST OF THE TARGET. BUILDINGS APPEARED TO BE IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE.

BLUEGRASS 13 ATTACKED THE SUGAR MILL AT 526-M AND N FROM THE NORTH-EAST, DROPPING FIVE BOMBS. THREE BOMBS FELL 20 YARDS OFF SHORE IN THE WATER, ONE HUNG UP AND LATER FELL IN THE WATER, AND ONE FELL IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE MILL AS A POSSIBLE HIT. ON A SECOND RUN BLUEGRASS 13 DROPPED ONE BOMB AT THE WATER'S EDGE, ONE 30 YARDS TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF THE MILL HITTING AND BLOWING UP TWO OR THREE SMALL BUILDINGS ON THE NORTH EAST SIDE OF THE MAIN ROAD, AND ONE ON THE SHORE LINE.

BLUEGRASS 15 ATTACKED A LARGE BUILDING INSTALLATION IN 527-S. ON THE FIRST PASS, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, THREE BOMBS WERE DROPPED. ONE BOMB FELL IN A FIELD 50 YARDS NORTH OF THE TARGET, ONE 25 YARDS EAST OF THE TARGET, AND ONE 20 YARDS WEST, AMONG SMALL BUILDINGS. ON THE SECOND RUN FIVE BOMBS WERE DROPPED. ONE BOMB FELL 50 FEET SOUTH-EAST OF THE BUILDINGS, TWO 20 YARDS SOUTH-WEST OF THE TARGET AMONG SMALL BUILDINGS, ONE JUST OFF NORTH-WEST END OF THE WEST BUILDING AND ONE WAS PROBABLY A DUD. THE BUILDINGS GENERALLY ARE FULL OF HOLES, EVEN IN THE LOWER HALF. WOULD NOT CONSIDER THEM AS PRIORITY TARGETS.

NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. NO STRAFING WAS DONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-43

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 3,000 FEET.

B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL

6. SEE PARAGRAPH #4 ABOVE.

7. TWENTY FOUR (24) 500 LB BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1800 GALLONS OR OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

15 JULY 1944
1430 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION # 93
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-42

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D-11's.
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS IN FINIAN TOWN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. SABICK, WILSON, MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1255

LANDING: 1355

BLUEGRASS 11 ATTACKED A LARGE BUILDING INSTALLATION IN 521-G. THESE BUILDINGS HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY PARTLY DEMOLISHED ALTHOUGH AT LEAST TWO OR THREE SEEMED TO BE RELATIVELY INTACT. DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE EAST RELEASING THE BOMBS AT 5,000 FEET. NO DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED ON THE BUILDINGS. THREE BOMBS LANDED ON THE EAST SIDE, TWO ON THE WEST SIDE, ALL WITHIN 100 YARDS. ONE LANDED IN THE WATER. ONE BOMB TEMPORARILY HUNG UP AND WAS LATER DROPPED AT THE FOOT OF NORTH PIER. ONE BOMB ON THE FLIGHT LEADERS PLANE FELL OFF AT START OF TAKE-OFF.

BLUEGRASS 19 BOMBED A LARGE BUILDING INSTALLATION IN 527-S COMING IN FROM THE SOUTH-EAST. THREE DIRECT HITS WERE MADE ON THE NORTH-WEST END OF BUILDINGS. REMAINDER OF BOMBS HIT JUST OFF THE NORTH CORNER, STRADDLING A ROAD. BLUEGRASS 14 CAME IN FROM THE NORTH EAST, DROPPING FIVE BOMBS ON THE NORTH-WEST END OF THE SAME BUILDINGS IN 527-S ALL OF WHICH WERE HITS. ONE BOMB STRUCK 150 YARDS NORTH OF A BEACH GUN POSITION IN 520-H. TWO BOMBS DROPPED JUST WEST OF BUILDING INSTALLATION IN 521-G, ON THE ROAD. BLUEGRASS 11 THEN MADE A DRY RUN FROM THE EAST OVER THEIR TARGET (527-S) AND NOTED A/A FROM THE LARGE SUGAR MILL (526-M AND N). BLUEGRASS 14 THEN CROSSED FROM EAST TO WEST, WENT TO THE NORTH, ALSO DRAWING FIRE FROM THE SUGAR MILL AND STRAFING SAME. BLUEGRASS 11 AND 19 THEN MADE STRAFING RUNS FROM THE NORTH-WEST AND WEST RESPECTIVELY ATTACKING THE SUGAR MILL. THE A/A WAS FROM A PROBABLE 20MM GUN LOCATED AT THE SOUTH END OF THE MILL. A FEW A/A BURSTS WERE OBSERVED COMING FROM THE EAST PART OF BUILDINGS IN 527-S.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 BETWEEN 2,000 AND 4,000, TO NORTH.
CAVU OVER TARGET AND TO THE SOUTH.
B. GOOD. FEARLESS WAS CONTROL.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-41

6. THE TWO OUTSIDE BUILDINGS IN 521-S ARE NOW BADLY DAMAGED AT THE NORTH-WEST ENDS. IN LOWER HALF, WALLS SEEM BULGING.
7. 2950 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER, 23 X 500 LB. BOMS WITH 4 - 5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

15 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-92
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-41

1. A. 12 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TARGETS IN TINAAN TOWN.
4. MAJOR MENG, LTS. CORMIER, SPENCER, BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 33)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE-OFF: 1110

LANDING: 1210

THE BOMBING TARGETS SELECTED WERE AS FOLLOWS: BLUEGRASS 33, TWO BUILDINGS IN LOWER 527-W; BLUEGRASS 13, GUN POSITION (THREE EMPLACEMENTS, FIRE CONTROL STATION, AND A C.P.) IN NORTH-EASTERN 527-Q; BLUEGRASS 15, LARGE BUILDING INSTALLATION IN NORTH-EASTERN 527-S. APPROACHED FROM THE NORTHWEST AND MADE THE RUN FROM THE NORTH-EAST, ONE FLIGHT AT A TIME. BOMBS WERE RELEASED BETWEEN 4,500 FEET AND 3,000 FEET.

BUILDINGS WERE STANDING IN GOOD CONDITION IN THE TARGET AREA OF BLUEGRASS 33 BEFORE THE ATTACK. SIX HITS WERE SCORED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA BY BLUEGRASS 33. ONE BOMB LANDED VERY SHORT IN AN OPEN FIELD, AND ONE WAS HUNG UP AND LATER JETTISONED IN THE WATER. OBSERVED LATER FROM 5,000 FEET AND THE BUILDINGS ARE NOW COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED.

BLUEGRASS 13 MADE TWO DIRECT HITS IN THE GUN AREA, THE REST OF THE BOMBS LANDINGS AS NEAR MISSES IN THE SURROUNDING AREA. SMOKE AND DUST MADE OBSERVATION DIFFICULT.

BLUEGRASS 15 SCORED NO HITS ON THE BUILDINGS PROPER. ONE BOMB HIT ON THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF THE AREA, ONE ON THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF THE AREA, AND THE REST SHORT OF THE TARGET WITHIN A 100 YARD SEMI-CIRCLE ON THE NORTH SIDE.

THEN ALL PLANES STRAFED FROM THE NORTH IN STRING OF ELEMENTS, FREE-LANCING AT TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY. BLUEGRASS 33 DREW MEAGER FIRE FROM M/G'S IN A POSSIBLE WAREHOUSE IN 526-N AND STRAFED SAME, AS WELL AS THE END OF THE NORTH PIER WHICH HAS A BUILDING ON IT. BLUEGRASS 15 STRAFED THE ORIGINAL TARGET AT 527-S AND RECEIVED M/G FIRE FROM WITHIN THAT AREA, AS WELL A M/G FIRE FROM A ROW OF CONCRETE BLOCKS IMMEDIATELY WEST OF THE ORIGINAL TARGET. STRAFED SMALL BUILDINGS JUST SOUTH OF

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-41

4. (CONT'D)
TARGET. ALSO STRAFED GUN POSITION IN 520-H BY THE SOUTH PIER
POSITION APPEARED TO BE BURNED OUT. STRAFED NORTH PIER, WHERE
THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RECENT ACTIVITY.
5. A. CLEAR AND VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. FEARLESS WAS CONTROL.
6. SEE PARAGRAPH 4, ABOVE.
7. 6,600 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 24 X 500 LB. BOMBS W/
4 - 5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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APO # 24414 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-91
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-401. A. EIGHT (5) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. ROCKETS AND STRAFING OF RADAR INSTALLATION ON SOUTHERN TINIAN

4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. TOUHEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 0945

LANDING: 1035

TARGET WAS A RADAR POSITION IN S10-N AND S. CIRCLED FIRST AT 5,000 FEET TO LOCATE TARGET WHICH WAS WELL CAMOUFLAGED BUT EASY TO SPOT AFTER BRIEFING. BLUEGRASS 12 MADE THE FIRST ATTACK FROM THE NORTH-EAST, FIRING TWO ROCKETS APIECE. FOUR ROCKETS STRUCK IN THE AREA, TWO WERE LONG, AND TWO WERE SHORT WIDE. BLUEGRASS 17 MADE A DRY RUN FROM THE EAST. THEN BLUEGRASS 17 MADE A RUN FROM THE NORTH-EAST, FIRING NINE ROCKETS WHICH HIT IN OR NEAR THE AREA. BLUEGRASS 12 THEN CAME IN FROM THE NORTH-EAST FIRING REMAINDER OF THIS ROCKETS, ALL OF WHICH WERE IN THE AREA AND TWO OF WHICH WERE SURE HITS ON THE TOWER. STRAFED DURING RUN. AT THE SAME TIME BLUEGRASS 17 MADE A COORDINATED STRAFING RUN FROM THE EAST. A FIRE WAS STARTED BY BLUEGRASS 17 FIFTY FEET SOUTH OF THE TOWER. ON THE NEXT ATTACK BLUEGRASS 12 STRAFED FROM THE EAST WHILE BLUEGRASS 17 STRAFED FROM THE WEST. THE TOWER ITSELF STARTED BURNING, FLAMES 20 FEET HIGH APPEARING FROM THE BASE. DURING THE LAST ROCKET RUN A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM SEVERAL GUNS WITHIN THE GROVE. FIRE WAS WEAGRE AND BRIEF.

5. A. CLEAR AND VISIBILITY UNHAIITED.
B. GOOD. FEARLESS WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 4770 ROUNDS OF .50 CAL., 25 ROCKETS, 960 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUME

8. NONE

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APO # 24413 JULY 1944
1500 LOCAL73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION 77-39
310TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION 77-39

1. A. SIX (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. SKIP-BOMBING AND STRAFING UNDERGROUND INSTALLATIONS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LT. SABICK. (ELEMENT ONLY) (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPTAIN O'HARE, LT. CUMPTONE, CAPTAIN FLYNN, LT. GRAHAM.
(BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE-OFF: 1400

LANDING: 1445

BLUEGRASS 11 ELEMENT STRAFED GENERAL AREA OF TARGET; WHICH WAS TWO UNDERGROUND STORAGE DOORS IN B4B-A, B, F, AND G; FROM SOUTH TO NORTH IN FRONT OF THE FIRST BOMBING ELEMENT. A GAS FIRE WAS STARTED, WITH AN EXPLOSION FOLLOWED BY A LARGE FLAME, FROM A GROUP OF DRUMS AT A CORNER OF THE CLEARING IN FRONT OF THE UNDERGROUND INSTALLATION TO WEST OF TARGETS. THE FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 THEN CAME IN FROM THE WEST SKIP-BOMBING AND RELEASING ONE BOMB EACH. BOTH BOMBS BOUNCED OVER THE TARGET AND WENT OFF IN OR NEAR THE DISPERSAL LOOP 1/2 MILE BEYOND. BLUEGRASS 11 STRAFED AGAIN IN FRONT OF THE NEXT ELEMENT, HITTING GUN POSITIONS AND THE RAMP. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 THEN ATTACKED THE OTHER DOOR FROM THE WEST, THE BOMBS BOUNCING IN FRONT OF THE DOOR BUT FAILING TO GO OFF. BLUEGRASS 11 THEN STRAFED FROM THE SOUTH, FOLLOWED BY THE FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 STRAFING AND SKIP-BOMBING THE REMAINING BOMBS IN FRONT OF THE DOOR. THE BOMBS DID NOT EXPLODE. BLUEGRASS 11 STRAFED FROM THE WEST, CONCENTRATING ON GUN POSITIONS, BOTH THE HEAVY GUNS BEYOND THE TARGET AND THE LIGHT GUNS AT THE SIDES. OBSERVED RETENTMENTS OF EMPLACEMENTS BUT GUNS WERE NOT VISIBLE. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 SKIP-BOMBED ITS REMAINING BOMBS, ONE OF WHICH DID NOT GO OFF AND THE OTHER EXPLODING IN A FIELD AFTER BOUNCING OFF TARGET. ON EACH PASS ALL FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 15 STRAFED ON WAY IN. TO END MISSION FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 MADE AN ADDITIONAL STRAFING RUN FROM THE WEST, CONCENTRATING ON ONE PLANE BY GUTTED HANGAR WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DEEMED POSSIBLY OPERATIONAL. PLANE WAS SHOT UP BADLY BY STRAFING RUN. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-39

5. A. SOLID OVERCAST AT 2,000 FEET. RAINING TO WEST OF TARGET.
B. GOOD. FEARLESS WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 5140 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH EIGHT TO ELEVEN SECOND DELAY FUSES. 900 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. BELIEVE BOMBS DID NOT TRAVEL FAR ENOUGH THROUGH THE AIR TO ARM THEMSELVES (FOR VANE TO COME OFF FRONT). THIS MAY ACCOUNT FOR LOW PERCENTAGE OF EXPLOSIONS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

12 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-85
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-38

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING GUN POSITION ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR MENG, LTS. BYERS, WILSON, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 33)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LTS. GREEK, STEVENS, MILLER. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1000

LANDING: 1055

TARGET WAS GUN POSITION ON 505-K AND P. BLUEGRASS 33 WENT IN FIRST FROM THE SOUTH-EAST THROUGH A HOLE IN THE CLOUDS, RELEASING BOMBS AT 5,000 FEET. SEVEN HITS WERE SCORED WITHIN THE TAXI LOOP AROUND THE POSITION, FIVE OF THEM BEING IN THE GUN EMPLACEMENT AREA PROPER. ONE BOMB WAS LATER JETTISONED ON RETURN TO FIELD.

BLUEGRASS 16 ALSO CAME IN FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, SCORING HITS IN AND AROUND AREA BUT SMOKE, DUST AND CLOUDS OBSCURED EXACT LOCATION OF BOMB EXPLOSIONS. LATER WENT OVER TARGET AREA AT 7,000 FEET AND BELIEVE WE SAW CRATERS BY AMMUNITION BUILDING. ONE CRATER WAS BY EDGE OF RUNWAY. LOW CLOUD COVERAGE MADE DIVING ATTACK DIFFICULT. BOTH RUNWAYS ON WEST FIELD, TINIAN, WERE INOPERATIONAL. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 8/10 AT 2,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. LONDON 1 WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. SIXTEEN (16) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1200 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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APO # 24411 JULY 1944
2000 LOCAL318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #7-83
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-37

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF PAGAN AIRFIELD.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. RILEY, SHENEMAN, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 11)
CAPTAIN NELSON, LTS. CUMPTONE, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LTS. RESER, STEVENS, FURGE. (BLUEGRASS 16)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 1630

LANDING: 1850

FLEW ON VECTOR WITH BLUEGRASS 11 AND 16 AT 10,000 FEET AND WITH BLUEGRASS 14 AND 19 AT 12,000. OVER TARGET AT 1740. BLUEGRASS 14 CAME IN FIRST DIVING FROM 12,000 FROM THE SOUTH. CROSSED THE FIELD AT 2500 FEET ON PRELIMINARY OBSERVATION RUN. SAW FOUR TO FIVE BURNED-OUT BARGES ON THE BEACH ON THE WEST SHORE SOMEWHAT SOUTH OF LOWER HARBOR AND ONE SAMPAN IN THE SOUTH HARBOR. THERE WERE NO PLANES ON THE FIELD. RUNWAYS AND TAXIWAYS WERE ALL WELL POCK-MARKED. THEN PULLED UP TO 5,000 FEET TO WATCH FOR A/A. AS THE SECOND DIVE-BOMBING FLIGHT, (BLUEGRASS 16), MADE ITS ATTACK, BLUEGRASS 14 CAME IN FROM THE WEST TO STRAFE. FIRST ELEMENT STRAFED A HEAVY A/A POSITION, (90 MM OR LARGER), WHICH WAS FIRING, LOCATED AT BASE OF CINDER CONE ABOUT 600 YARDS NORTH OF THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY. THE SECOND ELEMENT TOOK A PROBABLE 40 MM POSITION, WHICH WAS FIRING HEAVILY AT THE FIRST ELEMENT, LOCATED 100 YARDS OR MORE TO THE EAST OF THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF THE STRIP. THIS WAS SILENCED AND REMAINED SO. NUMBER 4 MAN, LT. BARNHILL, WAS CROSSING OVER THAT POSITION AT 1500' WHEN HIS PLANE WAS HIT BY PROBABLE 20 OR 40 MM FIRE COMING FROM THE SIDE OF THE HILL TO THE FAR NORTH-EAST. RESULT OF HIT WAS ONE LARGE HOLE (12 INCHES OR MORE ACROSS) TOWARD THE EXTREME REAR OF THE FUSELAGE AND APPROXIMATELY 40 SMALL SHRAPNEL HOLES THROUGH THE LEFT HORIZONTAL STABILIZER. ALSO STRAFED SEVERAL M/GS IN AN EMPLACEMENT OF COCONUT LOGS AND SANDBAGS ABOUT 20 FEET DOWN FROM THE CREST OF THE 200 FOOT CANYON WALL WHICH IS LOCATED ABOUT 300 YARDS SOUTH OF THE RUNWAY. THIS POSITION, ON A LITTLE FLAT SPOT, IS SOUTH-EAST OF THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE RUNWAY. RENDEZVOUSED OFF ALAMAGAN ISLAND.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-37

4. (CONT'D)

BLUEGRASS 11, CARRYING 2 BOMBS EACH, DOVE FROM THE NORTH-EAST THROUGH A/A BARRAGES BELIEVED TO BE SET BETWEEN 4,000 AND 5,000 FEET. THREE BOMBS HIT ON THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY, (ONE BEING ON THE SOUTH SIDE); ONE JUST BELOW THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY AND TWO IN THE SEMI-CIRCLE OFF THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY. TWO BOMBS HUNG UP AND WERE LATER JETTISONED. PULLED OUT TO 5,000 FEET AND STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, HITTING THE PROBABLE 90MM AT THE ABOVE MENTIONED CINDER CONE, AND THEN 40MM AND 20 MM POSITIONS ON THE SOUTH RIDGE (SOUTH OF THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY) WHICH WERE FIRING FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF. THE NUMBER FOUR MAN STRAFED A/WS 200 YARDS NORTH OF WEST END OF THE RUNWAY WHICH WERE FIRING AT THE FIRST ELEMENT. RENDEZVOUSED OVER NEXT ISLAND SOUTH.

BLUEGRASS 16, ALSO WITH TWO BOMBS EACH, DOVE FROM THE NORTH-EAST IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING BLUEGRASS 11 AND BOMBED GUN POSITIONS. FOUR DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED IN THE CINDER CONE POSITION. THERE SEEMED TO BE ABOUT 6 GUNS IN TWO OR THREE EMPLACEMENTS. ALL BUT 2 GUNS CEASED FIRING. THREE THREE BOMBS HIT ALONG A BUILDING SOUTH OF THE CENTER OF THE RUNWAY AND ONE WAS JETTISONED ON THE SHORELINE. THE FIRST ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 16 THEN STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-EAST OVER THE GUN POSITIONS BOMBED ON THE PREVIOUS PASS. THE SECOND ELEMENT CAME IN FROM THE NORTH STRAFING THE SAME POSITION AND ALSO ON GUNS AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF THE RIDGE. HEAVY FIRE WAS ALSO OBSERVED FROM THE POSITION NORTH OF THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY.

BLUEGRASS 18 FLEW HIGH COVER AT 13,000 FEET WHILE THE FIRST THREE PASSES WERE MADE. NOTED A FIRE WITH SMOKE RISING TO 4,000 FEET ON THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY. MADE A STRAFING RUN FROM THE NORTH-EAST AND WERE FIRED ON BY PROBABLE 20MM JUST OFF THE EXTREME NORTH-EAST CORNER OF THE RUNWAY. STRAFED A SIMILAR POSITION JUST OFF THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER, WHICH WAS SILENCED. STRAFED A GRAY CONCRETE BUILDING AT THE END OF A RAMP 100 YARDS LONG, OFF THE CENTER OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RUNWAY. BARRAGE FIRE WAS ALSO RECEIVED FROM THE BIG GUNS. CLIMBED TO 6,500 FEET OVER THE BAY AND RESUMED HIGH COVER.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 FROM 1,500 TO 13,000
B. GOOD. HAWSER WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 7065 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, SIXTEEN (16) 500 POUND BOMBS WITH 1/10 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 4800 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. BY FAR THE HEAVIEST AND MOST CONCENTRATED A/A WE HAVE RECEIVED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, KAF
APO # 244

11 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL

318TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION 7-82
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION NO. 7-36

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND ROCKETS ON A GUN POSITION ON TINIAN.
4. CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. THOMAS, SNELL, RILEY. (BLUEGRASS 13)
LTS. SPENCER, CORMIER, FIETZ, SHOEMAKER. (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 1105

LANDING: 1225

THE TARGET WAS AN A/A POSITION IN 527-R AND R; 3 GUN PITS, A FIRE CONTROL BUILDING AND A CP. BLUEGRASS 20, CARRYING 8 ROCKETS EACH, MADE THE FIRST ATTACK AT 1135 FROM THE NORTH GUN OF THE SUN. NINE HITS WERE MADE IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA, AND TWO NEARBY. ON THIS FIRST PASS THE #4 MAN OF BLUEGRASS 20 ENCOUNTERED PROBABLE 20MM FIRE, MODERATE AND ACCURATE, FROM THE BEACH AREA IN APPROXIMATELY 527-U. ONE ROCKET LAUNCHER ON THE LEFT WING WAS HIT AND BROKEN IN HALF. THE REAR HALF FELL OFF. ONE HIT WAS MADE IN THE FUSELAGE AT THE ROOT OF THE TRAILING EDGE OF THE RIGHT LEFT WING. THE LEFT WING FLAP WAS ALSO HIT AND THE ANTENNA WAS TORN OFF THE LEFT WING. THIS CAUSED HIM TO TURN OUT TO SEA TO INSPECT THE DAMAGE, LATER REJOINING THE FLIGHT IN TIME FOR THE SECOND PASS.

BLUEGRASS 13, CARRYING TWO BOMBS EACH, THEN MADE THEIR FIRST RUN FROM THE NORTH, DROPPING ONE BOMB APiece. ONE BOMB HIT 20 YARDS TO THE WEST OF THE TARGET, ONE 50 YARDS TO THE SOUTH-WEST, ONE 50 YARDS TO THE WEST AND ONE IN THE SEA.

BLUEGRASS 20 MADE A SECOND ROCKET RUN FROM THE NORTH, DISCHARGING ROCKETS ACCURATELY BUT DUST AND SMOKE OBSCURING THE RESULTS. THREE ROCKETS DID NOT RELEASE. NUMBER 4 MAN AFTER THIS RUN STRAFED BEACH AREA FROM WHICH DAMAGING FIRE HAD COME.

BLUEGRASS 13 MADE A SECOND BOMBING ATTACK FROM THE NORTH, GETTING ONE HIT 50 YARDS TO THE NORTH-WEST OF THE TARGET WHICH STARTED A FIRE ACCOMPANIED BY BLACK SMOKE, ONE 100 YARDS SOUTH OF THE TARGET, WITH OTHER TWO HIT NOT OBSERVED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-36

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 2,000. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 100 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS
WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES AND 21 ROCKETS. 1600 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

10 JULY 1944
1530 LOCAL

316TH FIGHTER GROUP MISSION #80
73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-35

1. A. TEN (10) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. ATTACKING ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERY ON TINIAN.
4. (CAPTAIN FLYNN, ABORTIVE*), (LT. MILLER**), LT. STEVENS, LT. REBER. (BLUEGRASS 16)
LT. MARTIN, LT. FURGE, LT. GALT, LT. SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)
LT. WILSON, LT. SABICK, LT. SMITH, LT. GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

(* CAPTAIN FLYNN FORCED TO RETURN DUE TO LANDING GEAR DIFFICULTY,
LANDED 1410)

(** LT. MILLER DID NOT TAKE-OFF. TIRE BLEW OUT)

TAKE-OFF: 1400

LANDING: 1445

PROCEEDED DIRECT TO WEST FIELD TINIAN. TARGET WAS 555-A, B, F, G; A BATTERY OF HEAVY A/A GUNS. SAW THREE HEAVY GUN EMPLACEMENTS ALL OF WHICH LATER APPEARED TO BE EMPTY. NO LIGHT GUNS WERE OBSERVED. THERE WERE ALSO THREE SMALL CONCRETE STRUCTURES IN THIS POSITION. BLUEGRASS 18 WENT IN FIRST FROM THE NORTH-EAST TO STRAFE AND TO DRAW FIRE, IF ANY. THE ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 18 THEN ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-EAST AND FIRED THEIR ROCKETS, GETTING FIVE DEFINITE HITS IN THE EMPLACEMENTS. TWO ROCKETS WERE NOT FIRED. BLUEGRASS 19 CAME IN FROM THE NORTH AND FIRED ROCKETS, 2 STRIKING IN NORTHERNMOST GUN EMPLACEMENT AND BLOWING IT UP. ALL OTHERS HIT IN THE GENERAL IMMEDIATE AREA. NO WIDE MISSES WERE MADE. ROCKETS WERE RELEASED AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 2,500 FEET. THEN ALL PLANES CAME IN FROM THE NORTH-EAST BY ELEMENTS AND MADE A LOW STRAFING RUN SCORING DEFINITE HITS IN THE OTHER TWO EMPLACEMENTS. THE NORTH-EAST BLOCKHOUSE OR DUG-OUT RECEIVED CONCENTRATED FIRE. ALL POSITIONS WERE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE RAILROAD TRACK, WHERE THE TRACK LOOPS. BUILDINGS ON WAY OUT TO SOUTH-WEST OF TARGET WERE ALSO STRAFED. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. BOTH FIELDS APPEARED UNSERVICEABLE. ONLY PLANES SEEN WERE THE FOUR USUAL ONES, AND ARE DEFINITELY WRECKS.

5. A. GAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 5000 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 20 ROCKETS. 1300 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-35

B. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

9 JULY 1944
1430 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-34

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. STRAFING OF ENEMY TROOPS ON NORTHERN SAIPAN, AND ROCKET FIRING
4. CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMPSTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE-OFF: 1200

LANDING: 1330

PROCEEDED TO NORTHERN SAIPAN, WHERE ORDERED TO OBSERVE FROM 292-L TO 291-D AND E. AREA PROVED TO BE A SHEER CLIFF RISING FROM THE WATER AND NOT A WOODED AREA AS ADVISED. REPORTED OBSERVATION TO CONTROL AND WERE ORDERED TO OBSERVE FROM 292-Q TO 291-N. TWO DRY RUNS WERE MADE FROM THE SOUTH-EAST OVER THIS AREA WHICH WAS HEAVILY WOODED, THE SECOND A LITTLE TO THE SOUTH. ON NEXT RUN FIRED THREE ROCKETS EACH AND STRAFED THE SAME AREA FROM THE SAME DIRECTION. NOTHING COULD BE OBSERVED UNDER THE TREES. ANOTHER ROCKET RUN WAS MADE, AGAIN FROM THE SOUTH-EAST OVER THE SAME AREA, WITH CONCENTRATED STRAFING. FLASHES OF FIRE FROM M/GS AND SMALL ARMS WERE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE AREA. ORBITED WHILE THE STARS AND STRIPES WENT UP OVER MARPI AIRFIELD, THEN RETURNED TO BASE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 2,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 23 ROCKETS, 3975 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, 900 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2449 JULY 1944
1130 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-33

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. STRAFING ENEMY TROOPS ON NORTHERN SAIPAN
4. CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, AND BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE-OFF: 0800

LANDING: 1010

WHILE ON C.A.P. ONE ELEMENT OF FLIGHT WAS ORDERED TO OBSERVE AREA 281 AND 283 FOR ACTIVITY. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF THE FLIGHT WENT DOWN AT 0925 AND SAW OUR TROOPS IN THAT AREA. POOR TRANSMISSION PREVENTED INFORMING CHEROKEE CONTROL, SO PULLED UP TO BETTER COMMUNICATION ALTITUDE AND WERE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE A RUN ON 288-E. A DUMMY RUN WAS MADE DURING WHICH COMMUNICATIONS OF ELEMENT LEADER CEASED AND WING MAN TOOK OVER. TWO STRAFING PASSES WERE MADE SLIGHTLY MORE TO THE NORTH OVER A WOODED AREA ALONG THE BEACH AT 289-W, Q, K, F, AND 288-E. ON SECOND STRAFING PASS BLUEGRASS 14, FIRST ELEMENT, JOINED THE SECOND ELEMENT AND STRAFED THE SAME AREA. TWO MORE STRAFING RUNS BY ALL FOUR PLANES WERE FROM 284-F NORTH-EAST ALONG THE COAST UP TO 292-Y. ON LAST TWO PASSES INSTRUCTIONS OF CHEROKEE CONTROL WERE FORWARDED TO US BY LONDON CONTROL, AS CHEROKEE'S TRANSMITTER WENT OUT. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED NO ACTIVITY WAS NOTED UNDER HEAVILY WOODED AREAS.

5. A. CAVU
B. SEE PARAGRAPH 4 FOR DESCRIPTION OF COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3820 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 960 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

8 JULY 1944
2000 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-32

1. A. 12 P-47D-11's
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. ESCORT TO AND STRAFING OF PAGAN ISLAND.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. CORMIER, SPENCER, FIETZ. (BLUEGRASS 11)
MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPTAIN NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE-OFF: 1830

LANDING: 1845

PROCEEDED ON VECTOR TO PAGAN AS HIGH COVER FOR THE 19TH FIRON. THEY WERE FLYING AT 12,000 FEET, CARRYING TWO 500 LB. BOMBS EACH; WE FLEW WITH BLUEGRASS 11 AND 12 AT 14,000, SLOWLY SCISSORING, WITH BLUEGRASS 14 UP AT 18,000. OVER TARGET AT 1750. THE FIRST FLIGHT OF THE 19TH FIRON DOVE FROM THE NORTH-EAST, AND BLUEGRASS 11 FOLLOWED DOWN DIRECTLY BEHIND THEM TO ABOUT 7,000 FEET. RECEIVED HEAVY A/A BARRAGES FROM AT LEAST TWO POSITIONS, TEMPORARILY UNLOCATED, SO AS HIS OTHER THREE MEN PULLED OUT STRAIGHT AHEAD, FLIGHT LEADER TURNED BACK IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION TO SPOT THIS FIRE. ONE BATTERY OF ABOUT FOUR HEAVY GUNS WAS LOCATED AT THE BASE OF A CINDER KNOLL ABOUT 150 OR 200 YARDS NORTHERLY OF EAST END OF THE FIELD, AND ANOTHER, ALSO WITH FOUR HEAVIES, MORE TO THE EAST. WAS ALSO FIRED ON BY A PROBABLE 40 MM., AS HE CONTINUED EASTWARD, WHICH HE COULD NOT LOCATE. DID NO STRAFING.

BLUEGRASS 12 DOVE DOWN BEHIND SECOND 19TH FLIGHT, MAKING A 360 DEGREE LET-DOWN AND COMING IN FROM THE NORTH-EAST. ALSO RECEIVED HEAVY A/A AND ATTACKED THE FIRST OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED POSITIONS. THE POSITION WAS SILENCED. WE WERE AT ABOUT 2,000 FEET WHILE STRAFING. FURTHER DESCRIBE POSITION AS BEING IN HEAVY FOLIAGE, IN A DARK HOLE BLENDING WITH THE FOLIAGE, IN FRONT OF A CINDER CONE. NUMBER 4 MAN OBSERVED M/G FLASHES SOUTH OF THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY, AND STRAFED THAT AREA AS WELL.

BLUEGRASS 14 REMAINED AS HIGH COVER, CIRCLING FROM 18,000 TO 10,000 FEET, THEN PICKING UP OTHER PLANES AS THEY REFORMED. WE AGAIN FLEW HIGH COVER ON RETURN TO BASE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-32

5. A. 3/10 CLOUD COVERAGE FROM 3,500 TO 6,000. NO FRONT ENCOUNTERED.
VISIBILITY GOOD.

B. GOOD. HAWSER WAS CONTROL

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 2240 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 3,000 GALLONS OF GAS
CONSUMED.

8. RUNWAY WAS WELL POCK-MARKED, AND THE 19TH ADDED 22 CRATERS WITH
VERY ACCURATE BOMBING. TWO WRECKED PLANES WERE SEEN ON NORTH-
EAST END OF RUNWAY. FIELD IS WELL CAMOUFLAGED; EVEN THE RUNWAY
IS DIFFICULT TO SPOT FROM HIGH ABOVE, HAVING A GREENISH COLOR.
SAW NOTHING IN BAY EXCEPT TWO SMALL BARGES.

SAW WHAT SEEMED TO BE SMALL SHELLS SPLASHING INTO WATER OFF EAST
SIDE OF ISLAND, INDICATING PROBABLE HEAVY FIRE FROM WEST TOWARD
EAST. ONE PILOT ALSO OBSERVED FOUR SMALL PARACHUTES DESCENDING
OVER FIELD BETWEEN 4,000 AND 6,000 FEET WHEN SEEN, WITH A LITTLE
WHITE OBJECT HANGING UNDERNEATH.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

8 JULY 1944
1830 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-31

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING OF WEST FIELD (TINIAN).
4. CAPT. TOMHEY, LTS. O'HARA, HARBOUR, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)
LTS. WILSON, SABICK, SMITH, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 1650

LANDING: 1740

WERE INSTRUCTED TO OBSERVE THE TINIAN AIRFIELDS AND TO DIVE-BOMB THE ONE APPEARING MOST OPERATIONAL. ALL FIELDS WERE OBSERVED AND WEST FIELD WAS SELECTED. BLUEGRASS 17 AT 1715 ATTACKED THE EAST-WEST RUNWAY, DIVE-BOMBING DOWN TO 4,500 FEET. FOUR DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED ON THE CENTER OF THE RUNWAY, TWO IN THE REVETMENT AREA IN 565-X, ONE ON EXTREME EAST END OF RUNWAY, AND ONE FAR OUT IN A FIELD. THE STRIP HAD A FEW HOLES AND APPEARED FAIRLY RAGGED. ATTACK WAS MADE FROM SOUTH-EAST.

BLUEGRASS 18 ATTACKED THE NORTH-SOUTH RUNWAY AT 1717 FROM THE SOUTH, DIVE-BOMBING DOWN TO 4,500 FEET. THE NUMBER 2 MAN HAD TO MAKE A SECOND PASS TO DROP HIS SECOND BOMB. FIVE HITS WERE MADE IN THE CENTER OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE RUNWAY, TWO IN THE REVETMENT AREA IN 566-K AND F, AND ONE IN A REVETMENT AT 566-U.

FOUR AIRCRAFT WERE OBSERVED ALONG THE LOOP SOUTH OF THE EAST-WEST STRIP, BEING THE SAME ONES SEEN MANY TIMES BEFORE. NO OTHERS WERE SEEN. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. SIXTEEN (16) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 4-5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 400 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2448 JULY 1944
2000 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-30

1. A. SEVEN (7) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING SOUTH FIELD (TINIAN).
4. CAPT. MC COWN (ABORTIVE), LTS. THOMAS, SNELL, HOWARD.
(BLUEGRASS 13)
LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1640

LANDING: 1910 (CAPT. MC COWN
FORCED TO RETURN DUE TO OIL LEAK;
JETTISONED BOMBS IN WATER AND LANDED
AT 1850)

INSTRUCTED TO DIVE-BOMB A FIELD OF OUR CHOICE ON TINIAN. SOUTH FIELD WAS CHOSEN, THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE STRIP APPEARING ~~BRERX~~ ~~XXIXNXX~~ SERVICEABLE. ATTACKED AT 1855, FLYING FOUR SHIP AND THREE SHIP AND BOMBING IN STRING. DOVE FROM 10,000 FROM THE SOUTH-EAST TO 5,000 FEET. TEN HITS WERE SCORED ON THE WESTERN AND CENTER SECTIONS OF THE RUNWAY; ONE BLEW UP A GROUP OF THREE BUILDINGS ON THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF THE FIELD; ONE BOMB FELL ALONG THE SOUTH EDGE OF THE RUNWAY, 1/3 OF THE WAY FROM THE WEST END; TWO JUST ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF THE RUNWAY ABOUT 1/3 OF THE WAY FROM THE WESTERN END. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. NO PLANES WERE SEEN. WENT ON C.A.P. AT 1700.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. CRATERS MADE IN RUNWAY, GROUP OF THREE BUILDINGS ON NORTH-WEST CORNER OF FIELD DESTROYED BY EXPLOSION.
7. SIXTEEN (16) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 4-5 SECOND DELAY FUSES.
1680 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2446 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-29

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING TWO UNDERGROUND POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN O'HARE, LT. THOMPSON, LT. COL. TAYLOR, LT. FURGE.
(BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE-OFF: 1515

LANDING: 1705. (NUMBER
2 MAN RETURNED EARLY DUE TO GAS
LEAK, LANDED 1645)

ATTACKED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, SKIP-BOMBING BY ELEMENTS, EACH ELEMENT TAKING ONE UNDERGROUND DOOR, ABOUT ONE MINUTE APART. ON THE FIRST RUN ONE BOMB EACH WAS RELEASED AT AN ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 20 FEET. THE SECOND RUN WAS MADE FROM THE WEST. MEAGRE A/A FROM M/GS IN 648-H OR 1 WAS ENCOUNTERED ON THIS RUN. STRAFED DURING BOTH RUNS AND MADE A STRAFING RUN FROM THE WEST AFTER COMPLETING THE BOMBING RUNS. THREE OF THE BOMBS HIT THE RAMP IN FRONT OF THE DOOR AND BOUNCED OVER, ONE HIT THE VERY TOP OF A DOOR AND BOUNCED OVER AND AWAY, THREE WERE DUDS, AND ONE BOMB WAS JETTISONED CAUSING A LARGE HOLE IN ROAD AT 633-A. THEN WENT ON C.A.P.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 3,000. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. EIGHT BOMBS, 500 POUNDS, WITH 8 TO 11 SECOND DELAY FUSES, 3525 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 1020 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED
8. WOULD LIKE TO TRY AGAIN TOMORROW; NOW KNOW HOW TO ADJUST SKIP-BOMBING FOR MORE ACCURACY.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

6 JULY 1944
1730 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-28

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING INSTALLATIONS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN MC COWN, LT. THOMAS, LT. MARTIN, LT. HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)

TAKE-OFF: 1540

LANDING: 1640

ARRIVED OVER TARGET AREA AT 1555. THE RADIO TOWERS AT 559-D WERE THE FIRST TARGET. DIVE-BOMBED FROM 10,000 TO 4,000 FEET FROM THE WEST IN STRING. FIVE HITS WERE SCORED WITHIN THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF THE DIAMOND PATTERN OF THE FOUR OUTLYING TOWERS, WHICH SURROUND ONE TOWER IN THE MIDDLE. NO DIRECT HITS WERE MADE. OF THE OTHER THREE BOMBS, ONE LANDED 400 YARDS TO THE EAST, ONE 100 YARDS TO THE WEST AND ONE WAS JETTISONED IN THE WATER. NO A/A WAS OBSERVED.

AT 1615 WENT TO WEST FIELD, TINIAN, EAST-WEST STRIP. THE FIRST STRAFING RUN WAS FROM THE NORTH-WEST, HITTING 554-G AND H. FIVE BURNED OUT AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN IN REVETMENTS IN THIS SOUTH DISPERSAL LOOP, ALL BEING PROBABLE TWIN-ENGINE CRAFT. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED ON THIS ATTACK. THE SECOND RUN WAS FROM THE NORTH-WEST, HITTING TAXI-STRIP SOUTH OF THE MAIN STRIP, INTO A REVETMENT IN 554-B. A BURNED OUT PLANE WAS OBSERVED ON THE GROUND. A/A WAS RECEIVED FROM A/W S OF PROBABLE 20 MM CALIBER IN APPROXIMATE AREA OF 553-G. THE FIRE WAS MEAGRE AND INACURATE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 3,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3445 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. EIGHT 500 LB BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2448 JULY 1944
1630 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-27

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF INSTALLATIONS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR MUSSEY, LT. RILEY, LT. FIETZ, LT. BYERS. (BLUEGRASS 11)

TAKE-OFF: 1415

LANDING: 1545

TARGET ASSIGNED WAS A BLOCKHOUSE IN 654-V. AT 1435 DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE WEST DOWN TO 3,000 FEET DROPPING ONE BOMB EACH. TWO HITS WERE MADE IN 654-V, ONE IN 649-B, AND ONE IN 653-X, WHICH WAS AN OPEN AREA. THE SECOND DIVE-BOMBING RUN WAS FROM THE WEST, AND HITS WERE SCORED IN 649-C (TWO BOMBS), IN 649-B (ONE BOMB), AND IN 649-F (ONE BOMB), LATTER HIT BEING IN AN OPEN AREA. BLOCKHOUSES ARE BELIEVED TO BE ACTUALLY IN 649-C WHERE ONE BIG CONCRETE BUILDING WAS OBSERVED IN SOUTH PART OF THE AREA AND ONE SMALL BUILDING IN MIDDLE PART OF THE AREA. THESE BUILDINGS HAVE BLACK TOPS. THE BUILDINGS ARE WITHIN 100 YARDS EAST OF THE RAILROAD. THERE IS TRACK ACTIVITY ^{from} THE RAILROAD, LEADING IN.

AT 1520 MADE STRAFING RUNS TO CLEAR AREA AROUND 648-A AND G, WHERE UNDERGROUND STORAGE WAS BEING DIVE-BOMBED BY BLUEGRASS 15. FIRST ELEMENT STRAFED FROM THE SOUTH AHEAD OF THE FIRST BOMBING ELEMENT. THE SECOND ELEMENT STRAFED FROM THE WEST AHEAD OF THE SECOND BOMBING ELEMENT AND THE FIRST ELEMENT ONCE MORE STRAFED AHEAD OF THE FIRST BOMBING ELEMENT ON THE LATTER'S SECOND RUN. MODERATE AND INACCURATE A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM ONE OR TWO A/W'S IN 648-D AND E. THIS POSITION WAS STRAFED BY THE SECOND ELEMENT AND SILENCED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 3,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3445 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1000 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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APD # 2446 JULY 1944
1430 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-26

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE.
B. NONE.
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN NELSON, LT. CORMIER, LT. SPENCER, LT. DE VONA,
(BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE OFF: 1255

LANDING: 1400 (#2 MAN
RETURNED EARLY DUE TO HYDRAULIC
LEAK, LANDED AT 1345.)

ATTACKED 648-C AND H, NOTING TWO 20 OR 40 MM GUNS IN 648-C. 648-H HAS A PIT WITH A BRUSH PILE IN THE MIDDLE CONTAINING NO VISIBLE GUNS. DROVE FROM 10,000 FEET TO 4,000 FEET FROM THE WEST, DROPPING ONE BOMB EACH. TWO HITS WERE MADE IN 648-C, JUST MISSING GUN POSITION BY 20 YARDS; AND ONE IN 648-F AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE RAILROAD AND THE RAMPS TO THE UNDERGROUND STORAGE STARTING A SMALL OIL FIRE WHICH BURNED 3 OR 4 MINUTES. FOURTH BOMB LANDED IN 648-D IN AN OPEN AREA. ON THE SECOND BOMBING RUN, WHICH WAS FROM THE WEST; 2 HITS WERE SCORED ON 648-C, ONE DIRECTLY IN THE GUN POSITION AND THE OTHER RIGHT NEAR; ONE IN AN OPEN AREA IN 648-D AND ONE DUD. AT THIS POINT #2 MAN RETURNED TO BASE. TWO STRAFING PASSES WERE MADE. THE FIRST WAS FROM THE SOUTH ATTACKING AND HITTING 648-C AND H. THE SECOND WAS FROM THE WEST, SCORING HITS IN 648-C, THE GUNS HAVING BEEN SILENCED.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 3,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3070 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. EIGHT 500 LB BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. COAST DEFENSE GUN IN 855-K STANDS SO BARE AND UNCAMOUFLAGED AS TO BE POSSIBLY A DUMMY.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2448 JULY 1944
1300 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-25

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LT. MILLER, LT. SNYDER, LT. MATTISON.
(BLUEGRASS 11)

TAKE-OFF: 1145

LANDING: 1300

FLIGHT WAS DIRECTED TO ATTACK A/A POSITIONS IN 620-A AND F, BUT FIRST TO SEND ONE ELEMENT OVER LOW TO DRAW FIRE. WERE CARRYING BOMBS AND BELLY TANKS AND WERE RELUCTANT TO EXPOSE PLANES UNNECESSARILY. AT THAT TIME BLUEGRASS 3, (10TH FIGHTER SQUADRON) CALLED IN AND WAS TOLD TO WORK WITH US. A RUN OVER THE TARGET WAS MADE BY BLUEGRASS 3, STRAFING. THERE WAS NO FIRE FROM THAT TARGET AREA BUT THERE WAS FROM A NEST OF M/GS IN 622L. AFTER BLUEGRASS 3 FINISHED STRAFING, WHILE WE REMAINED AT 8,000 FEET, WE WERE ORDERED TO DIVE-BOMB 622-L. LT SNYDER MADE THE FIRST RUN, FROM THE NORTH WEST, HIS BOMBS HITTING 622-Q AND W. THEN MAJOR WILLIAMS DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE SOUTH WEST, SCORING A HIT 20 FEET FROM THIS M/G POSITION. (LATER JETTISONED OTHER BOMB) MAJOR WILLIAMS THEN STRAFED FROM THE SOUTH WEST ENCOUNTERING IN-ACCURATE FIRE FROM 5 OR 6 M/GS IN THIS 622-L POSITION. HE THEN CIRCLED THE TARGET AT 1500 FEET, SEEING NO ACTIVITY, WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE FLIGHT CIRCLED AT 8,000 FEET. LT. MILLER AND LT. MATTISON THEN MADE THEIR BOMBING RUNS FROM THE WEST, DROPPING 2 BOMBS IN 622B AND DESTROYING SOME BUILDINGS AND 2 BOMBS 20 FEET FROM THE 622-L GUN POSITION.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES, 550 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. 500 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

5 JULY 1944
2000 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-24.

1. A. 12 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING OF ROTA AIRFIELD.
4. CAPTAIN MC COWN, LT. RILEY, LT. WILSON, LT. GREEK.
(BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPTAIN NELSON, LT. BYERS, LT. SMITH, LT. MILLER.
(BLUEGRASS 14)
CAPTAIN FLYNN, LT. RESER, LT. STEVENS, LT. CORMIER.
(BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE OFF: 1650

LANDING: 1815 (SECOND ELEMENT OF
BLUEGRASS 13 RETURNED EARLY DUE TO GAS
LEAK IN LT. WILSON'S PLANE. LANDED AT
1720)

ALL PLANES TOOK OFF FROM ISELY FIELD (ASLITO) AT 1700 AND STARTED FOR ROTA. THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 13 WAS FORCED TO TURN BACK AT THE SOUTH TIP OF TINIAN DUE TO A GAS LEAK. THESE TWO PLANES DROPPED FOUR BOMBS ON NORTH AIRFIELD, NORTH STRIP, TINIAN AT 1710. TWO BOMBS LANDED NEAR WHAT WAS BELIEVED TO BE A DUMMY PLANE ON THE RUNWAY, ONE STRIKING BETWEEN 648-X AND 648-Y (CAUSING MUCH SMOKE BUT NO VISIBLE FLAMES) AND THE OTHER ON 648-Y. ONE BOMB HIT ON X THE CORNER OF THE TAXI STRIP AT 647-Y, AND THE REMAINING BOMB SCORED A DIRECT HIT ON A M/G POSITION AT 647-X. FIELD WAS UNSERVICEABLE.

REMAINDER OF PLANES ATTACKED ROTA AT 1740 AFTER FLYING HIGH COVER FOR THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON WHILE IT ATTACKED. OUR ATTACK WAS THEN MADE FROM THE EAST, DIVING DOWN TO 5,000 FEET, AND COMING IN FOUR, FOUR AND TWO. 15 BOMBS LANDED ON THE RUNWAY, 4 IN 207-V, 3 IN 207-U, 4 IN 207-W, 2 IN 208-X, AND 2 IN 207-Y. 3 BOMBS LANDED JUST NORTH OF THE RUNWAY IN 207-P AND 207-Q, AND 2 WERE JETTISONED IN THE WATER. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. FIELD WAS DEFINITELY UNSERVICEABLE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 AT 2,000. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-24.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 24 X 500 POUND BOMBS WITH 4 TO 5 SECOND FUSES. 2140 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO SPOT POSSIBLE SECOND AIRFIELD ON ROTA. SAW NOTHING SOUTH OF EXISTING FIELD. DID NOTE CLEARED GRASS FIELD RUNNING EAST AND WEST WITH THREE HEDGES CROSSING IT AT RIGHT ANGLES. CLEARED AREA IS LOCATED BETWEEN 203 AND 204. HEDGES LOOK SO BRIGHT GREEN AS TO BE POSSIBLE CAMOUFLAGE. AREA IS SURROUNDED BY SHRUBBERY.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2444 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-23.

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. RECONNAISSANCE OF AGUIJAN ISLAND.
4. CAPTAIN MC COWN, LT. RILEY, LT. SNELL, LT. HOWARD.
(BLUEGRASS 13)

TAKE OFF: 1540

LANDING: 1740

FLEW C.A.P. UNTIL 1650 WHEN ORDERED TO AGUIJAN TO SEARCH FOR POSSIBLE AIRFIELD UNDER CONSTRUCTION. NOTED A CLEARING, PROBABLY PINEAPPLE FIELDS, BETWEEN 806-M AND 806-W. OUTSIDE OF RECENTLY FELLED TREES, ONE IN 806-M AND ONE IN 806-R, SAW NO SIGNS OF ACTIVITY. OBSERVATION RUN WAS MADE AT 1,000 FEET FROM SOUTHWEST ACROSS WEST END OF ISLAND AFTER ORBITING AT 10,000 FEET. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CAPSTAN WAS CONTROL.
6. NONE.
7. NONE. NO AMMUNITION. 800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2445 JULY 1944
1200 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-20

1. A. NONE 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING NORTH STRIP OF NORTH FIELD TINIAN.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LT. RILEY, LT. SNEEL, LT. HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 11)

TAKEOFF: 1030

LANDING: 1130

ORDERED TO 648C AND H WHERE TWO OBSERVING RUNS WERE MADE AT 3,000 FEET, NOTING THE TWO UNDERGROUND POSITIONS IN A PLOWED FIELD IN 648 B AND G AND THREE GUN EMPLACEMENTS, (PROBABLY LARGE) IN 648C AND H. ATTACKING FROM THE NORTHEAST, DOVE FROM 6,500 TO 3,000 AND DROPPED THE BOMBS. ONE BOMB LANDED DIRECTLY ON A GUN POSITION IN 648C, ONE NEAR A GUN IN 648H, TWO IN 648B BETWEEN GUN EMPLACEMENTS AND UNDERGROUND POSITIONS, ONE IN 647S AND ONE IN 647 T (BOTH PARKING AREAS), ONE IN BUILDING AREA IN 647 I, AND ONE DUD. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. TWO WRECKED BOMBERS WERE SEEN IN PARKING AREA AND ONE SINGLE-ENGINE PLANE ON NORTH SIDE OF RUNWAY, TOWARD EAST END WHICH APPEARED TO BE IN F IR SHAPE. RUNWAY WAS INOPERATIONAL.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

5 JULY 1944
1130 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-21

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. STRAFING BUILDING AREA AT NORTH FIELD, SAIPAN.
4. CAPTAIN TOWHEY, LT. O'HARA, LT. HARBOUR, LT. DEVONA (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE OFF: 0900

LANDING: 1105

FLEW C.A.P. UNTIL 1030 WHEN ORDERED TO POINT NAN AT 9,000 FEET. ORBITED UNTIL 1045 AND THEN ATTACKED BUILDINGS IN 28BW AND 282C IN SOUTHEAST QUADRANT OF FIELD. CAME FROM NORTH WEST ON RUN. TRACERS WERE SEEN GOING INTO SEVERAL TIN-ROOFED BUILDINGS. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. THE RUNWAY APPEARED TO BE IN FAIRLY GOOD SHAPE.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 2135 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 1,000 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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APO # 2445 JULY 1944
1100 LOCAL73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 22. 7-20
1.A.3 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING INSTALLATIONS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN O'HARE, LT. FURGE, LT THOMPSON. (BLUEGRASS 15)
(LT. GRAHAM DID NOT TAKE OFF -- WAS STUNG BY A SCORPION IN THE EYE JUST PRIOR TO TAKE OFF)

TAKE OFF: 0915

LANDING: 1020

WERE ORDERED TO 531G AND H TO ATTACK A POSSIBLE TANK DISPERSAL AREA, IN A HEAVILY WOODED SECTION. BOMBED FROM THE SOUTH EAST FROM 4,000 FEET. ONE HIT WAS SCORED ON 531G, TWO IN G, B, AND C AREA, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ONE IN 539G AND ONE IN 539R. ONE BOMB FELL ON A ROAD WHICH GOES THROUGH 539R. STRAFED FROM NORTH EAST, ATTACKING THE WOODED AREA. SAW ONLY A SMALL FIRE FROM THE BASE OF A LEDGE. NO ROADS OR OTHER SIGNS OF LIFE. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. THEN PROCEEDED TO 559D. FIVE TOWERS RADIO TOWERS WERE LOCATED IN THE AREA, AND WITHIN THE AREA OF THE TOWERS ARE SEVERAL TIN ROOFED BUILDINGS. THE MASTS ARE STILL STANDING, THE BUILDINGS ARE SMASHED. ONE RUN WAS MADE FROM THE NORTH WEST ^{and one} A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM A/Ws, ONE WITHIN A BUILDING, BOTH OF ~~them~~ IN 559I. BOTH CEASED FIRING. STRAFING RUN WAS ALSO MADE OVER SMALL HOUSES IN 560B AND G.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3345 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. 6 500 POUND BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 480 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

5 JULY 1944
1030 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON XXII MISSION # 15. 7-19

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN FLYNN, LT. RESER, LT. STEVENS, LT. SHOEMAKER.
(BLUEGRASS 15)

TAKE OFF: 0805

LANDING: 0915

ORDERED TO ATTACK M/G POSITIONS AT 514F AND 514G ON TINIAN. POSITIONS CONSISTED OF ONE OR TWO M/GS LOCATED IN EDGE OF TREES ALONG A NARROW BEACH ON 514G, 514F SEEMINGLY BEING LOCATED IN THE WATER. DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE NORTH, COMING DOWN TO 4,000. ONE BOMB FELL ON THE BEACH AND THE REST JUST ALONG THE WATER'S EDGE. FOUR STRAFING RUNS WERE THEN MADE, FROM THE EAST, THE NORTHEAST, THE NORTH AND FROM THE NORTHWEST. THESE RUNS COVERED 514F, G, B, R, AND W; AND INCLUDED TREE AREA WITH RAILROADS LINE THROUGH THE MIDDLE. A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM A/WS, 5 IN NUMBER. FIRE WAS MODERATE AND INACCURATE, EITHER TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE LEAD. BY END OF FOURTH PASS NO GUNS WERE FIRING. RECEIVED A SHORT BURST FROM GUN ESTIMATED AT 20MM IN BUILDING AREA IN 521Q. THIS WAS HIT ON SECOND RUN AND SILENCED. A LARGE FIRE WAS SET IN CANFIELD IN 514N.

THEN ORDERED TO OBSERVE AIRFIELDS ON TINIAN. REPORTED SOUTH FIELD INOPERATIONAL DUE TO AT LEAST EIGHT BOMB CRATERS ON THE RUNWAY. THE EAST-WEST RUNWAY OF WEST FIELD WAS INOPERATIONAL DUE TO CRATERS, ^{North-South Runway Crater} WHICH WERE HARD TO OBSERVE DUE TO MOTTLED COLOR OF RUNWAY. TEN AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN IN REVETMENTS AROUND THE EAST WEST RUNWAY, ALL ON THE SOUTH SIDE BUTONE. THE CONDITION OF THE PLANES WAS UNOBSERVED. BOTH NORTH FIELDS ARE INOPERATIONAL DUE TO BOMB CRATERS. TWO UNDERGROUND INSTALLATIONS WITH RAMPS LEADING DOWN WERE PLAINLY VISIBLE IN AREA BOUNDED BY 648A, B, F, AND G.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL

6. UNDETERMINED.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # ED. 7-19

7. 5135 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS
WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1000 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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**73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244**

**4 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL**

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-18.

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING ROTA AIRFIELD.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LT. BABCOCK, LT. GALT, LT. SHENEMAN
(BLUEGRASS 11) SMITHMAKER.

TAKE OFF: 1600

LANDING: 1715

SERVED AS HIGH COVER AT 10,000 FEET WHILE THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON DIVE BOMBED THE FIELD. THEN MADE DIVE BOMB ATTACK OUT OF THE EAST, DIVING DOWN TO 3,000 FEET. SCORED SIX HITS ON RUNWAY PROPER AND TWO ALONG THE VERY EDGE OF THE RUNWAY. CIRCLED THE ISLAND AT 2,000 FEET WHILE THE 19TH FIGHTER MADE ITS STRAFING RUN. THEN CAME IN FOR A STRAFING RUN FROM THE NORTH, APPROACHING THE FIELD AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE STRIP IN LINE ABREAST SLIGHTLY STAGGERED BACK TO THE RIGHT. STRAFED AS WE APPROACHED, DOWN TO ABOUT 500 FEET. AS WE PASSED OVER THE RUNWAY, WITH THE FLIGHT LEADER SOMEWHAT TO THE EAST OF CENTER, THREE OR FOUR LARGE EXPLOSIONS WENT OFF JUST ALONG THE SOUTH EDGE OF THE STRIP. THE FLIGHT LEADER AND HIS WING MAN FELT VIOLENT BLASTS WHICH ROCKED THEIR PLANES. THE SECOND ELEMENT DID NOT FEEL THESE BLASTS, BUT OBSERVED COLUMNS OF SMOKE AND DUST RISING AT LEAST AS HIGH AS THE PLANES, COMPARING THE APPEARANCE TO THE RESULT OF A FIVE HUNDRED POUND BOMB EXPLOSION.

FLIGHT LEADER'S PLANE RECEIVED A HIT WHICH CAUSED A SERIES OF HOLES, ANGLED FROM FRONT TOWARDS REAR, THROUGH ELEVATOR AND RUDDER SURFACES. THESE HAVE RAGGED EDGES AND ARE FROM 1 1/2 TO 3 INCHES IN DIAMETER. NUMBER TWO MAN'S PLANE RECEIVED A HIT THROUGH THE LEFT WING FLAP, APPROXIMATELY THE SAME SIZE AND APPEARANCE. BOTH ARE PRESUMABLY FROM SHRAPNEL FROM THE PROBABLE LAND MINE EXPLOSIONS.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 AT 2,000. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD
6. UNDETERMINED

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-17, DD 4 JULY 1944

7. 2010 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION AND EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS
WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1120 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

4 JULY 1944
1730 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-1817

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF GUN POSITIONS ON NORTHERN SAIPAN.
4. CAPTAIN NELSON, LT. DEVONA, LT. SHEPARD, LT. BARNHILL.
(BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE OFF: 1530

LANDING: 1700

ORBITED SUGAR AT 5,000 FEET, THEN ORBITED QUEEN BEFORE ATTACKING PLATEAU IN NORTHERN SAIPAN, LOCATED WITHIN SOUTHEAST 282, SOUTHWEST 283, NORTHEAST 276 AND NORTHWEST 277, AT 1615. THERE WERE GUN PITS CONTAINING BIG GUNS IN 283U AND 283V AND A SHACK IN 283V. IN 282S THERE ARE THREE GUN POSITIONS BUT ONLY ONE GUN WHICH WAS POSSIBLY A COAST DEFENSE GUN. DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE WEST DOWN TO 3,000 FEET, SCORING ONE HIT ON 283V IN THE GUN PIT, AND ONE NEAR THE SAME POSITION. ONE BOMB LANDED IN 276E2M IN A BUILDING AREA, ONE IN 277D, ONE THE SHORELINE, AND THREE IN THE WATER, OF WHICH ONE WAS A MISS AND THE OTHER TWO JETTISONED. ONE BOMB WAS A DUD. STRAFED FROM THE WEST OVER THE SAME AREA, ATTACKING 282S (POSSIBLE COAST GUN), 283U AND 283V (GUN PITS), AND 277B (M/G POSITIONS). A SECOND RUN WAS MADE OVER THE SAME AREA. A/A WAS RECEIVED FROM M/GS IN 277B ALONG THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SQUARE, WHILE STRAFING. THE M/GS WERE AT LEAST TEMPORARILY SILENCED BY THE STRAFING. A/A WAS ALSO RECEIVED FROM HEAVY GUNS IN 283U AND 283V, BURSTING FROM 5,000 FEET DOWN, MEAGRE AND INACCURATE IN ALTITUDE.

5. A. CAVU
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 2185 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 700 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-1516

4 JULY 1944
1700 LOCAL

1. A. FOUR P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING OF NORTH FIELD (SAIPAN).
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LT3. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)

TAKE OFF: 1415

LANDING: 1525

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 1415 AND WERE ORDERED TO 610 AND 601 AREAS ON TINIAN TO LOOK FOR OIL DUMPS. THEY SAW NONE. WERE CALLED OFF BECAUSE OF ARTILLERY FIRE AND WERE ORDERED TO ATTACK 260 (SAIPAN). THEY WERE CALLED OFF JUST AS THEY GOT THERE, PROBABLY BECAUSE OUR TROOPS WERE APPROACHING. ORDERED TO ATTACK NORTH FIELD (SAIPAN) AND MADE ONE PASS FROM WEST RELEASING BOMBS AT 4,000 FEET. TWO HITS WERE MADE ON 287D (RUNWAY), TWO ON LOWER 288F (ENCAMPMENT AREA), AND ONE IN 288-O (GUN EMPLACEMENT). THE OTHER THREE HIT IN 291-V, 287-C AND 288-B. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. WEATHER CLEAR. VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 8 X 500 POUND BOMBS WITH .025 SECOND FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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4 JULY 1944
1500 LOCAL

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 2444 JULY 1944
1330 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-18 19

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING GUN POSITIONS ON TINIAN.
4. LT. SPENCER, LT. CORMIER, LT. FIETZ, AND LT. MILLER.
(BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 1145

LANDING: 1300

ORBITED SOUTH TIP OF TINIAN AT 5,000 FEET BEFORE JOINING BLUEGRASS 1 IN ATTACK ON 526-1 WHERE FOUR A/W GUNS WERE LOCATED IN AN OPEN YARD NORTH OF TINIAN TOWN. DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE NORTH EAST, DROPPING SIX BOMBS AND SCORING SIX DIRECT HITS ON THE GUN POSITIONS. THE REMAINING BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN A SECOND RUN. ONE HIT AND ONE MISS WERE MADE. THEN STRAFED THAT PART OF THE TOWN IN 526, APPROACHING FROM THE SOUTH EAST. THE SECOND STRAFING PASS WAS FROM THE SAME DIRECTION AS THE FIRST AND COVERED THE SAME AREA. THE THIRD PASS WAS FROM THE NORTH WEST CONCENTRATING FIRE ON 526-1 AND COVERING THE SURROUNDING AREA. A/A WAS RECEIVED ON THE BOMBING RUNS FROM THE TARGET GUNS UNTIL ELIMINATED, AND A/W AND RIFLE FIRE ON STRAFING RUNS FROM A BUILDINGS IN THE NORTHERN PART OF TOWN. ONE SMALL (POSSIBLY .30 CALIBER) HOLE WAS MADE IN LT. SPENCER'S PLANE.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 4/10 AT 2,700 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. DEFINITE ELIMINATION OF GUNS IN 526-1.
7. 4675 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION, EIGHT 500 POUND BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. BLUEGRASS 1 ACTED AS SPOTTER DURING BOMBING. THIS FACILITATES ACCURATE REPORTING.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

4 JULY 1944
0730 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-12

1. A. 4 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. ATTACKING ROTA AIRFIELD AND GROUND SUPPORT FOR TROOPS ON NORTHERN SAIPAN.
4. CAPTAIN TOUNEY, LT. O'HARA, LT. HARBOUR, LT. CLARK.
(BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKEOFF: 0525

LANDING: 0700

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 0525, PROCEEDING DIRECTLY TO ROTA JUST ABOVE THE WATER. CLIMBED TO AN ALTITUDE OF 4,000 FEET NORTH OF ROTA AND DOVE THROUGH THE CLOUDS FROM THE NORTH WEST TOWARD THE FIELD. STRAFED THE FIELD HAPHAZARDLY IN ORDER TO DISCOURAGE A/A, HITTING SOME BUILDINGS, SOME DROMS AT THE NORTH EAST CORNER OF THE FIELD. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. FIELD APPEARED TO BE IN FAIRLY GOOD REPAIR, THE RUNWAY HAVING ONLY THREE OR FOUR CRATERS. WERE SENT TO NORTH SAIPAN FOR GROUND SUPPORT MISSION.

ORBITED EASY UNTIL 0630, WHEN ORDERED TO MAKE A DUMMY PASS STRAIGHT ACROSS THE ISLAND ALONG A LINE FROM 241 TO 240 FROM EAST TO WEST, FOR THE PURPOSE OF KEEPING THE JAPS INOPERATIVE WHILE OUR FORCES ADVANCED. THE SECOND RUN WAS FROM WEST TO EAST AND VERY SLIGHTLY FURTHER NORTH. ON THIS RUN INTENSE A/A WAS RECEIVED FROM AN A/W BATTERY IN 241. EVASIVE ACTION AFTER TRACERS HAD APPEARED DIRECTLY AHEAD PREVENTED PLANES FROM BEING HIT. WERE WHEN REFUSED PERMISSION TO STRAFE THE GUN POSITION DUE TO ITS PROXIMITY TO OUR OWN TROOPS. THIRD DUMMY RUN WAS MADE FROM EAST TO WEST AGAIN SLIGHTLY MORE TO THE NORTH AND RECEIVING NO A/A. THEN MADE A RUN FROM WEST TO EAST OVER A HILL IN 2500. FRIENDLY ROCKETS WERE LANDING THERE AS WE STRAFED. STRAFED NORTH SLOPE THROUGH THE SMOKE, ENCOUNTERING NO A/A. LAST PASS, ALSO STRAFING, WAS OVER THE SAME TARGET FROM EAST TO WEST.

5. A. SOLID OVERCAST AT 2,000 AND SCATTERED AT 1,000. CLEAR BELOW.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

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6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3,000 ROUNDS OF .50 ~~MM~~ CALIBER AMMUNITION. 900 GALLONS OF GAS
8. ROCKET FIRE SHOULD HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED AS WE STRAFED. OUR PLANES COULD HAVE EASILY BEEN BLOWN UP BY THE EXPLOSIONS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

3 JULY 1944
2000 (LOCAL)

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION NO. 7-14

1. A. 12 P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING NORTH-SOUTH STRIP ON WEST FIELD TINIAN.
4. CAPTAIN MC COWN, LT. THOMAS, LT. SNELL, LT. HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)
CAPTAIN O'HARE, LT. CUMSTONE, LT. THOMPSON, LT GRAHAM.
(BLUEGRASS 15)
LT. MARTIN, LT. BABCOCK, LT. GALT, LT SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKEOFF: 1700

LANDING: 1910 (SECOND ELEMENT
OF BLUEGRASS 15 LANDED AT
1845 DUE TO RUNNING LOW ON
GAS)

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 1700 AND PROCEEDED DIRECT TO NORTH-SOUTH STRIP ON WEST FIELD (TINIAN), FOLLOWED BY THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON WHICH JOINED OUR BLUEGRASS 19 AS HIGH COVER AT 11,000 FEET. BLUEGRASS BLUEGRASS 13 DIVE-BOMBED DOWN TO 4,000 FEET, FOLLOWED BY BLUEGRASS 15. THREE HITS WERE MADE IN THE CENTER OF THE RUNWAY AND FOUR ALONG THE EDGES. FIVE HIT WITHIN 25 YARDS OF THE RUNWAY IN THE DISPERSAL AREA, TWO ON ONE SIDE AND THREE ON THE OTHER. FOUR HIT WITHIN 50 YARDS OF THE RUNWAY IN THE DISPERSAL AREA, 2 TWO ON EACH SIDE, ONE OF THEM LANDING DIRECTLY ON THE TAXI LOOP ON THE WEST SIDE. NO PLANES WERE SEEN ON THE FIELD AND NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. THE NORTH-SOUTH RUNWAY APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION. THE EAST-WEST RUNWAY HAS SOME HOLES. ORBITED WILLIAM AT 15,000 FOR REST OF TIME, LANDING AT ASLITO AT 1910, EXCEPT FOR THE SECOND ELEMENT OF BLUEGRASS 15 WHICH LANDED AT 1845 DUE TO RUNNING LOW ON GAS.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 8/10 AT 10,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. NYLON WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 16 X 500 POUND BOMBS WITH 5 SECOND FUSES. 3,200 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

HUSSEY

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 249

2 JULY 1944
2000 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-17

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF ROTA AIRFIELD.
4. LT. COL. TAYLOR, LTS. SADBICK, WILSON, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 31)
CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. SHOEMAKER, SMITH, DUMPSTONE. (BLUEGRASS 13)

TAKE-OFF: 1730

LANDING: 1945

BLUEGRASS 31 WENT IN FIRST FROM THE WEST, DIVING TO 3,000 FEET, FOLLOWED BY BLUEGRASS 13. BOMBS LANDED ON 207-R, A POSSIBLE AMMUNITION DUMP, (2 HITS); ON 207-W, RUNWAY, (2 HITS); 207-V, RUNWAY, (3 HITS); 208-P, REVETMENT AREA, (1 HIT); 207-U & D, RUNWAY, (5 HITS); 103-C, SOUTH SIDE OF RUNWAY, (2 HITS); AND ONE BOMB WAS JETTISONED LATER IN THE WATER. BLUEGRASS 13 WENT TO HIGH COVER AT 10,000 FEET WHILE BLUEGRASS 31 WENT OVER #17 TO LOCATE SUPPOSED UNMODELLED POSITION, BUT SAW NOTHING. STRAFED ALONG RAILROAD SPUR OFF MAIN LINE RAILROAD IN LOWER 227 AND WESTERN 228, WHERE THERE MAY BE A STORAGE DUMP. NUMBER 2 MAN STRAFED 207-S, A REVETMENT, NUMBER 3 STRAFED 227 AND WESTERN 228, AND NUMBER 4 STRAFED 207-P, A REVETMENT AREA. THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MEANWHILE HAD ALSO ATTACKED THE FIELD. NO AAA WAS ENCOUNTERED. THE RUNWAY WAS FULL OF BOMB CRATERS EVEN BEFORE WE HIT. THE SAME PLANES WERE SEEN AS ON PREVIOUS MISSIONS. RENDEZVOUS 5 MILES NORTH OF THE ISLAND AND RETURNED TO ASLITO.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 AT 3,000. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 1340 POUNDS OF .50 CALIBER AMMUNITION. SIXTEEN (16) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH INSTANTANEOUS FUSES. 1800 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE

HUSSEY

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APO # 2442 JULY 1944
1800 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-10

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. ATTACKING A BRIDGE IN NORTHERN 241-P (NORTHERN SAIPAN)
4. LTS. SPENDER, CORMIER, FIETZ, DYENS. (BLUEGRASS 20)

TAKE-OFF: 1530

LANDING: 1700

ORDERED TO ATTACK A BRIDGE IN 241-P. FOUND IT (ABOUT 25 TO 40 FEET LONG) IN 241-T, ACROSS A RAVINE. DIVE-BOMBED FROM 10,000 TO 3,000 FEET FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, DROPPING SEVEN BOMBS. THEN CLIMBED WHILE LEADER WENT DOWN TO 500 FEET TO ASCERTAIN DAMAGE TO BRIDGE. TWO HITS WERE NOTED ON THE ROAD 50 FEET FROM SOUTH END OF BRIDGE. SINGLE PLANE WENT DOWN TO DROP LAST BOMB WHICH HIT ROAD 50 FEET ON THE NORTH SIDE. FOUR BOMBS DID NOT GO OFF. NO A/A WAS ENCOUNTERED. THEN PROCEEDED TO 233, 241, 240, 239, 249, 230, 251, 261 TO CHECK ALL ROADS AND OPEN FIELDS FOR TROOPS ETC. AS ORDERED. THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF TRAFFIC OR TROOP ACTIVITY VISIBLE. FLEW AT 1,000 FEET DURING RETURN. DID NO STRAFING.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 2/10. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. ROAD BLOWN OUT ON BOTH SIDES OF BRIDGE.
7. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH .025 SECOND FUSES.
8. WERE TOLD THAT ALL WAS CLEAR. FOUND NAVY PLANES IN OUR PATTERN.

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APO # 2442 JULY 1944
1600 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-9

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING TARGET ON TIBIAN.
4. LTS. MARTIN, THOMAS, BALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 18)

TAKE-OFF: 1410

LANDING: 1500

FROM ASLITO WENT TO 639-D (ASSIGNED AREA) WHERE DIVE-BOMBED FROM 6,000 TO 2,000 FEET, COMING IN FROM THE NORTHEAST ON THE FIRST PASS. SIX BOMBS WERE DROPPED. TWO PLANES MADE A SECOND RUN DROPPING TWO REMAINING BOMBS. ONE BOMB DROPPED EXTREMELY CLOSE TO A WHITE CONCRETE PILLBOX, FIVE MODERATELY CLOSE, AND TWO IN THE WATER OFF SHORE. TWO UNMANNED COAST GUN POSITIONS WERE NOTED AT 646-P & V. ONE GUN WAS STILL THERE BUT APPEARED KNOCKED OUT. NO AXA WAS ENCOUNTERED.

5. A. CLEAR AND VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 4-5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. WAITED UNTIL CRUISER STOPPED SHELLING SAME TARGET.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

2 JULY 1944
1530 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-8

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. DIVE-BOMBING OF GUN AND AMMUNITION STORAGE ON TINIAN.

4. CAPTAIN TOUHEY, LTS. CORMIER, SMITH, CLARK. (BLUEGRASS 17)

TAKE-OFF: 1300

LANDING: 1430

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AIRFIELD. THE BOMBING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE NORTH-WEST, RELEASING THE BOMBS FROM 5,500 FEET. ONE BOMB LANDED IN ASSIGNED TARGET AREA 629-M AND TWO BOMBS HIT IN 629-I. NO GUNS WERE SEEN IN 629-M BUT MACHINE GUNS WERE FIRING FROM SMALL SHOPS IN 629-I. OTHER FIVE BOMBS DID NOT HIT IN AREA. SEVERAL BUILDINGS IN 629-Q, R, & S FIRED A/W. ON-WAY BACK JOINED IN SEARCH FOR DOWNED PILOT OFF SOUTH-EAST SAIRAN.

5. A. LIGHT SCATTERED CLOUDS. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH FIVE-SECOND FUSES. 900 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

2 JULY 1944
1400 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7-7

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF POSITION IN NORTHERN SAIPAN
4. CAPT. FLYNN, LTS. SABICK, FIETZ, RESER. (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 1145

LANDING: 1315

ORBITED QUEEN AT 1000 FEET UNTIL 1250 WHEN TOLD TO ATTACK A POSITION ON TOP OF A CLIFF IN 283-U & V. THE BOMBING RUN WAS MADE FROM NORTH TO SOUTH, RELEASING THE BOMBS FROM 4,000 FEET. ALL EIGHT BOMBS MISSED, LANDING IN 283-P (THE BASE OF THE CLIFF) 282-W AND 276-D, E, I. THREE GUN POSITIONS WERE SEEN, HEAVY A/A GUNS, BUT NOT FIRING. EIGHT .50 CALIBERS WERE ALSO SEEN IN THE SAME AREA, HIDDEN IN TREES AND RUBBISH, FIRING. A STRAFING RUN WAS THEN MADE, ONE ELEMENT ATTACKING FROM THE NORTH AND THE OTHER FROM THE WEST. FOUR OR FIVE M/GS WERE SILENCED. THE SECOND STRAFING RUN WAS FROM THE NORTH BY SPREAD ELEMENTS, AND MAY HAVE SILENCED THE REMAINING GUNS. TWO SMALL FIRES WERE STARTED, ONE IN TREES IN 283-V AND ANOTHER IN A BARN IN 283-V. IN 250-G THERE WAS A LARGE A/A GUN FIRING AT NAVY PLANES.

5. A. LIGHT SCATTERED CLOUDS. VISIBILITY GOOD,
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 2,100 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. EIGHT (8) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH 4-5 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 1020 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. ALL THE PRELIMINARY ORBITING SERVED ONLY TO USE UP OUR GAS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

2 JULY 1944
0800 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-6

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. STRAFING OF ROTA AIRFIELD.
4. MAJOR HUSSEY, LTS. FURGE, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 11)

TAKE-OFF: 0515

LANDING: 0620

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 0515 AND WERE OVER TARGET AT 0540. FLEW OVER AT 2,000 FEET AND CIRCLED BACK OVER IT AGAIN. SAW NO TARGET AT WHICH TO SHOOT. THEN CIRCLED ENTIRE ISLAND AT 800 FEET. CROSSED FIELD AGAIN AT 2,000 FEET FROM THE SOUTH WEST AND FINALLY DREW FIRE FROM A 20MM AT 208-Q. FIRE WAS MODERATE. ATTACKED GUN FROM NORTHWEST. DEFINITELY HIT POSITION ON SECOND PASS FROM NORTH-WEST. ALSO HIT WHAT APPEARED TO BE BRUSH PILES, WHICH WERE POSSIBLY CAMOUFLAGE FOR RUNWAY REPAIR EQUIPMENT (SUCH AS STEAM-ROLLERS) AT 208-Y. LANDED AT 0620.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 5/10 BETWEEN 2,000 AND 4,000 FEET. VISIBILITY WAS GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 3,440 ROUNDS OF .50 CALIBER. 800 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. RUNWAY APPEARED IN GOOD CONDITION AND HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN REPAIRED.

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APO # 2441 JULY 1944
1745 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-5

1. A. FOURTEEN (14) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING OF ROTA AIRFIELD.
4. MAJOR WILLIAMS, LTS. MATTISON, SNYDER, ANDERSON. (BLUEGRASS 12)
CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)
LTS. SPENCER, MILLER, WILSON, GREEK. (BLUEGRASS 20)
CAPT. SLEPECKY, LT. LUSTIG (19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON)

TAKE-OFF: 1500

LANDING: 1630

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 1500. BLUEGRASS 20 AND THE 19TH SQUADRON ELEMENT FLEW HIGH COVER WHILE BLUEGRASS 12 AND 14 ATTACKED FROM THE WEST, DIVE-BOMBING FROM 10,000 TO 4,000 FEET. TEN HITS WERE SCORED ON THE RUNWAY, MOSTLY ON THE WEST END AND THE REST WERE ON EITHER SIDE. THESE SAME FLIGHTS THEN STRAFED FROM THE WEST ON TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY WHICH WERE BUILDINGS (WAREHOUSES SOUTH OF FIELD), POSSIBLE DRUMS AMONG TREES SOUTH OF EAST END OF RUNWAY AND BARRACKS AREA NORTHEAST OF RUNWAY. THEN BLUEGRASS 20 AND THE 19TH SQUADRON ELEMENT DIVE-BOMBED FROM THE WEST, EIGHT BOMBS HITTING THE RUNWAY, ONE LANDING IN BUILDING AREA SOUTH EAST OF RUNWAY, AND THREE FAILING TO EXPLODE. THIS FLIGHT THEN MADE A STRAFING PASS FROM THE WEST ATTACKING TWO M/G POSITIONS IN HOUSING AREA SOUTH EAST OF RUNWAY, XMM IN 192-H (NOT MANNED), BUILDINGS IN 192-G, AND TWO TRUCKS NORTHEAST OF JUNCTION OF RUNWAY AND TAXI STRIP. ONE MAN WAS SEEN AND STRAFED. NO A/A WAS RECEIVED. LANDED AT 1630.

5. A. CLEAR AND VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 10,210 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. 24 X 500 LB. BOMBS. 2400 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED. (DOES NOT INCLUDE 19TH SQUADRON ELEMENT)
8. 38 HOLES WERE EASILY VISIBLE IN THE RUNWAY. THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE PURPOSE IN INDISCRIMINATE STRAFING WITHOUT SPECIAL TARGETS.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

1 JULY 1944
1230 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-4

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE

2. A. NONE
B. NONE

3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING WEST FIELD, TINIAN.

4. LTS. MARTIN, BABCOCK, GALT, SHENEMAN. (BLUEGRASS 19)

TAKE-OFF: 1045

LANDING: 1145

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 1045 AND WER TOLD TO ATTACK ALL A/A POSITIONS IN 555-A, B & F, 400 YARDS SOUTH OF EAST END OF WEST FIELD, TINIAN. AT 1100 CAME OUR OF SUM FROM THE NORTHEAST. DOVE FROM 11,000 TO 5,000 FEET, SCORING TWO HITS IN AREA AND TWO JUST OUTSIDE. GOOD CLOUD COVERAGE WAS AVAILABLE FOR GETAWAY. MADE A STRAFING RUN FROM NORTHEAST ON SAME AREA AND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE RUNWAY INCLUDING REVETMENTS. NO A/A WAS RECEIVED. THREE HEAVY AND SOME LIGHT POSITIONS WERE SEEN IN THE AREA, BUT THE PITS WERE EMPTY OF GUNS. STRAFED TWO OR THREE RUNNING MEN ON SOUTH TAXI LOOP. WRECKED PLANE IN 564-Y WAS ONLY ONE SEEN. FIELD APPEARED INOPERATIONAL. LANDED AT 1145.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 7/10 AT 2,000 FEET.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.

6. UNDETERMINED.

7. 3,150 ROUNDS OF .50 GALIBER. FOUR (4) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH .025 FUSES. 400 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.

8. SIX NAVY TBF'S AND F6F'S WERE IN SAME PATTERN WE WERE AS WE CAME OUT OF CLOUDS TO ATTACK AS PER INSTRUCTIONS.

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APO # 2441 JULY 1944
1030 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-3.

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. BOMBING AND STRAFING OF POSITION ON TINIAN.
4. CAPT. NELSON, LTS. DE VONA, SHEPARD, AND BARNHILL. (BLUEGRASS 14)

TAKE-OFF: 0910

LANDING 0950

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 0910 AND WERE ORDERED TO GO TO 545-P TO ATTACK SUPPOSED CAMOUFLAGED A/A GUNS. FOUR OR FIVE TIN-ROOFED BUILDINGS AND A PIT WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN THE GUN POSITIONS WERE SEEN. DIVE-BOMBED FROM 10,000 FEET TO 4,000 FEET, COMING FROM THE NORTH-EAST. TWO HITS WERE SCORED IN AREA AND ONE ON THE ROADWAY. STRAFED FROM THE NORTH-EAST, FIRST ELEMENT COVERING THE SAME AREA AS ON THE FIRST PASS AND THE SECOND ELEMENT FLYING MORE TO THE SOUTH ATTACKING A/A FIRE FROM AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON IN 537-A OR B IN A CLUMP OF SMALL BUILDINGS. FIRE HAD BEEN MODERATE AND WAS SILENCED. ASSIGNED AREA WAS ALSO STRAFED BY THIS ELEMENT. LANDED AT 0950.

5. A. LOW BROKEN CLOUDS OVER TARGET AT 2,000 FEET UP. 6/10 COVERAGE. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. ~~GOOD~~. FAIR. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 1,165 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. FOUR (4) 500 LB. BOMBS WITH .025 FUSES. 400 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. NONE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

1 JULY 1944
0930 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-2

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE.
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. DIVE-BOMBING AND STRAFING ON TINIAN.
4. CAPT. MC COWN, LTS. FURGE, SNELL, HOWARD. (BLUEGRASS 13)

TAKE-OFF: 0800

LANDING: 0858

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 0800. WERE ASSIGNED TO 536-P & U, AND 535-I. DIVE-BOMBED FROM 12,000 FEET TO 6,000 FEET ON 536-P & U WITH THREE BOMBS. (ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND PILOT LANDED WITH IT). IN SEARCH FOR CAMOUFLAGED POSITIONS, SAW WHAT LOOKED LIKE SOME TYPE OF REVETED POSITION IN THAT AREA. HITS WERE ALL NEAR. NO A/A FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. STRAFING RUN WAS MADE FROM NORTH-EAST ON SAME AREA, DRAWING ONLY SMALL ARMS FIRE. NO PERSONNEL WERE SEEN. FLIGHT LANDED AT 0858.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 3/10 AT 3,000 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. GOOD. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 1,300 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. FOUR (4) 500 POUND BOMBS WITH .025 SECOND DELAY FUSES. 600 GALLONS OF GAS CONSUMED.
8. ANY TYPE OF PHOTOGRAPH OF TINIAN WOULD BE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE.

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73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
APO # 244

1 JULY 1944
0900 LOCAL

73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #7-1

1. A. SEVEN (7) P-47D-11'S
B. NONE
2. A. NONE
B. NONE
3. STRAFING OF TINIAN TOWN.
4. CAPT. O'HARE, LTS. CUMSTONE, THOMPSON, GRAHAM. (BLUEGRASS 15)
LTS. STEVENS, RESER, SHOEMAKER. (FLIGHT LEADER WAS UNABLE TO
TAKE OFF) - (BLUEGRASS 16)

TAKE-OFF: 0513

LANDING: 0735

TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AT 0513 ON A C.A.P. MISSION. AT 0700, WERE
SENT TO SOUTH TINIAN AND INSTRUCTED TO ATTACK SECTION 526 AND
1,500 YARDS SOUTH. FIRST PASS WAS OVER TOWN FROM NORTH TO SOUTH.
TWO MINOR FIRES WERE STARTED IN THE TOWN. FIRED A FEW BURSTS AT
A SMALL CARGO SHIP, ALREADY IN A DAMAGED CONDITION, TIED UP AT
WHARE. SECOND PASS WAS FROM THE SOUTHEAST STRAFING WHOLE TOWN
TOWN AGAIN. STARTED A FIRE IN SOME DRUMS BY LARGE PIER. ALSO
STRAFE A POSSIBLE RADIO TOWER IN OR NEAR 527-K. A FIRE EN-
COUNTED FROM AUTOMATIC WEAPONS IN TOWN WAS VERY HEAVY, PART-
ICULARLY JUST NORTH OF CENTER AND ALONG THE BEACH. FIRE WAS
DRAWN FROM GUNS AROUND SOUTH FIELD. GUN POSITIONS WAS NOTED
IN 521-D. FLIGHT LANDED AT 1735.

5. A. CLOUD COVERAGE WAS 6/10 AT 3,500 FEET. VISIBILITY GOOD.
B. FAIR. CHEROKEE WAS CONTROL.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 6,170 ROUNDS .50 CALIBER. 1,960 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE.

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