

DECLASSIFIED
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By DDB NARA, Date 3/94

DECLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ U.S.S. ALBACORE - Report of NINTH War Patrol

<skipped to Page 11>

23 June (all times Item)

Enroute YAP area for lifeguard duties.

0634 Submerged for Aircraft Contact #25.

0905 Surfaced.

0959 Submerged for Aircraft Contact #26.

1021 Surfaced.

1150 Submerged for Aircraft Contact #27.

1231 Surfaced.

24 June (all times Item)

0001 On station for lifeguard duties midway between
YAP and ULITHI.

0327 Submerged for Aircraft Contact #28.

0647 Surfaced. Aircraft similar to MITCHELL.

0914 Submerged for Aircraft of Contact #28. Received one
depth bomb while passing 100 ft. not close,
no damage.

0950 Surfaced.

1019 Contact on SD radar at 21 miles, moved to 20 miles
and was lost at 33 miles. Contact #29

1030 Contact on SD radar similar to above. Contact #30

1050 SD contact 35 miles cleared to 33 miles and then
opened to 50 miles and was lost. Contact #31. These
believed to be U. S. Army bombers over YAP.

1410 YAP in sight bearing 309 degrees (T) distant 23 miles.

1500 Set course to head for <garbled text> south and west of YAP
to intercept possible shipping from PALAU during night.

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U.S.S. ALBACORE - Report of NINTH War Patrol

1604 SD contact 22 miles. Dove as it was closing rapidly to 15 miles. Contact #32.

1640 Surfaced. Patrolling south end west of YAP.

2200 Headed east to be on station tomorrow's raid by Army.

25 June (all times Item)

0604 Sighted BETTY patrolling at 10 miles, bearing 350 degrees (T). (Contact #33) heading away.

0617 Headed north to get on line midway between YAP and ULITHI.

0807 Sighted BETTY at 13 miles bearing 347 degrees (T). (Contact #34), Range opening.

0845 Changed course to close YAP and be in position for strike 1030.

0936 YAP bearing 275 degrees (T), 27 miles.

1016 SD contact 27 miles (Aircraft Contact #35). This contact on the SD screen at ranges varying from 30 to 17 miles until.

1037 When flight of 21 LIBERATORS sighted headed for YAP: Went ahead full on all engines, closing YAP.

1101 Observed large fires on YAP.

1120 Received word on voice circuit that plane was coming Down 95 miles bearing 290 degrees (T) from SOROL. This message distinctly heard by Communications Officer.

1123 Changed course to 153 degrees (T) to head for downed plane, and increased speed to maximum.

1135 Received word on 8455 CW that plane was down. This position plotted in 2 miles off TONIL HARBOR entrance. Continued to position of first plane reported as chances of rescue were thought to be better.

1418 Arrived at reported position of downed plane and commenced search.

1850 Received word on 8455 CW that plane was down one mile south of YAP.

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U.S.S. ALBACORE - Report of NINTH War Patrol

- 1915 On 8455 CW asked if there was a plane down in area we were searching. No answer received.
- 2207 Discontinued search and set course for south end of YAP.
- 26 June (all times item)
- Enroute new search area.
- 0430 Two miles south of YAP, searching area.
- 0530 SD contact 8 miles (Aircraft Contract #36). Dove. Conducted search submerged along southwest coast of YAP.
- 0622 Sighted ZEKE thru periscope (Aircraft Contact #37).
- 0630 Sighted BETTY thru periscope (Aircraft Contact #38). This plane or similar one's searched in our vicinity until 1015.
- 1030 Attempted to surface several times during the next hour but was held down by SD and sight contacts (Aircraft Contact #39) varying in range from 1-12 miles.
- 1108 Heard explosions and shortly thereafter sighted fires on YAP.
- 1143 Surfaced.
- 1205 In view of the fact we had been submerged during day's strike called the Army Bombing Bras and asked if they had any area for us to search. No answer received.
- 1350 SD contact 9 miles (Aircraft Contact #40). Dove. Identified plane by periscope as a BETTY.
- 1423 Surfaced.
- 1525 Set course to head for and search area southwest of YAP.
- 1840 SD contact 11 miles (Aircraft Contact #41). Dove. Range opening.
- 1930 Commenced search of area.

27 June (all times item)

Searching area.

- 0530 Sighted BETTY over YAP, (Aircraft Contact #42) range 8 miles. Dove.
- 0559 Surfaced and set course for position for day's strike.
- 0700 SD contact 6 miles (Aircraft Contact #43). Dove. Identified plane as BETTY thru periscope.
- 0742 Surfaced.
- 0807 SD Contact 15 miles (Aircraft Contact #44) range opening.
- 0815 Signed ZEKE bearing 270 degrees (T), range 12 miles (Aircraft Contact #45). Lost from sight shortly thereafter.
- 1025 Sighted formation of 5 LIBERATORS bearing 150 degrees (T) range 15 miles (Aircraft Contact #46).
- 1032 Dove, when planes sighted at 1025 headed for us at a range of 5 miles.
- 1044 Sighted flight of LIBERATORS thru periscope, range 15 miles. (Aircraft Contact #47).
- 1046 Surfaced. Making full speed, closing YAP.
- 1047-1100 Observed air battle between 19 LIBERATORS and Jap fighters.
- 1101 SD contact range 5 miles. (Aircraft Contact #48).
- 1103 Dove. Contact closed to 1 mile as SQ west went under. Plane not seen.
- 1113 LIBERATORS disappeared heading southward.
- 1126 Surfaced and headed south.
- 1204 Asked Army Flight Commander if he had area for us to search. No answer received.

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U.S.S. ALBACORE - Report of NINTH War Patrol

- 1403 Set course for area southwest of YAP to continue search for plane lost on the 25ht of June.
- 1626 SD contact 11 miles, closing. (Aircraft Contact #49). Dove.
- 1658 Surfaced.
- 1745 SD contact 11 miles, closing (Aircraft Contact #50). Dove.
- 1830 Surfaced.
- 2000 Commenced search of area.

28 June (all times item)

Searching area.

Several times during Mid-watch sighted lights on YAP airfield.

- 0435 SD contact 21 miles (Aircraft Contact #51). Contact lost 3 minutes later.
- 0514 Sighted plane (possible BETTY) range 6 miles, closing. (Aircraft Contact #52). Dove.
- 0536 Surfaced.
- 0540 SD contact 9 miles, closing (Aircraft Contact #53). Dove.
- 0604 Surfaced, set course for position for day's strike.
- 0810 Sighted ZEKE bearing 000 degrees (T), range 6 miles, closing. (Aircraft Contact #54). Dove, and was strafed as as bridge went under. No damage.
- 0843 Surfaced.
- 1013 SD contact 19 miles, opening (Aircraft Contact #55).
- 1032 Sighted the first of 40 LIBERATORS headed for YAP (Aircraft Contact #56).

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- 1049-1107 Observed bombing of YAP (Huge fires on YAP TOWN, and at airfield), moderate anti-aircraft fire over YAP, and air battle between LIBERATORS and Jap fighters. Fighters broke off engagement. Counted 40 LIBERATORS heading south.
- 1108 SD contact 7 miles, closing (Aircraft Contact #57).
- 1109 Dove. SD range 1 mile as mast went under.
- 1134 Surfaced, heading south at full speed to close YAP.
- 1330 Set course for area southwest of YAP to continue search for palne downed on the 25th.
- 1900 Commenced search of area.

29 June (all times item)

Searching area.

- 0513 Set course for position for day's strike.
- 1024 In position. First of many SD contacts 12 to 35 miles. (Aircraft Contact #58). Began closing YAP. Observed bombing of YAP, anti-aircraft fire, and air battle between Army bombers and Jap fighters. Numerous contacts on SD.
- 1058 SD contact 4 miles, closing (Aircraft Contact #59). Dove. Surfaced by ZEKE as diving alarm was sounded and again just before bridge went under. Several holes in deck and end superstructure, hits on the bridge and on 20MM hole in breech cover of 4" gun. No casualties to personnel.