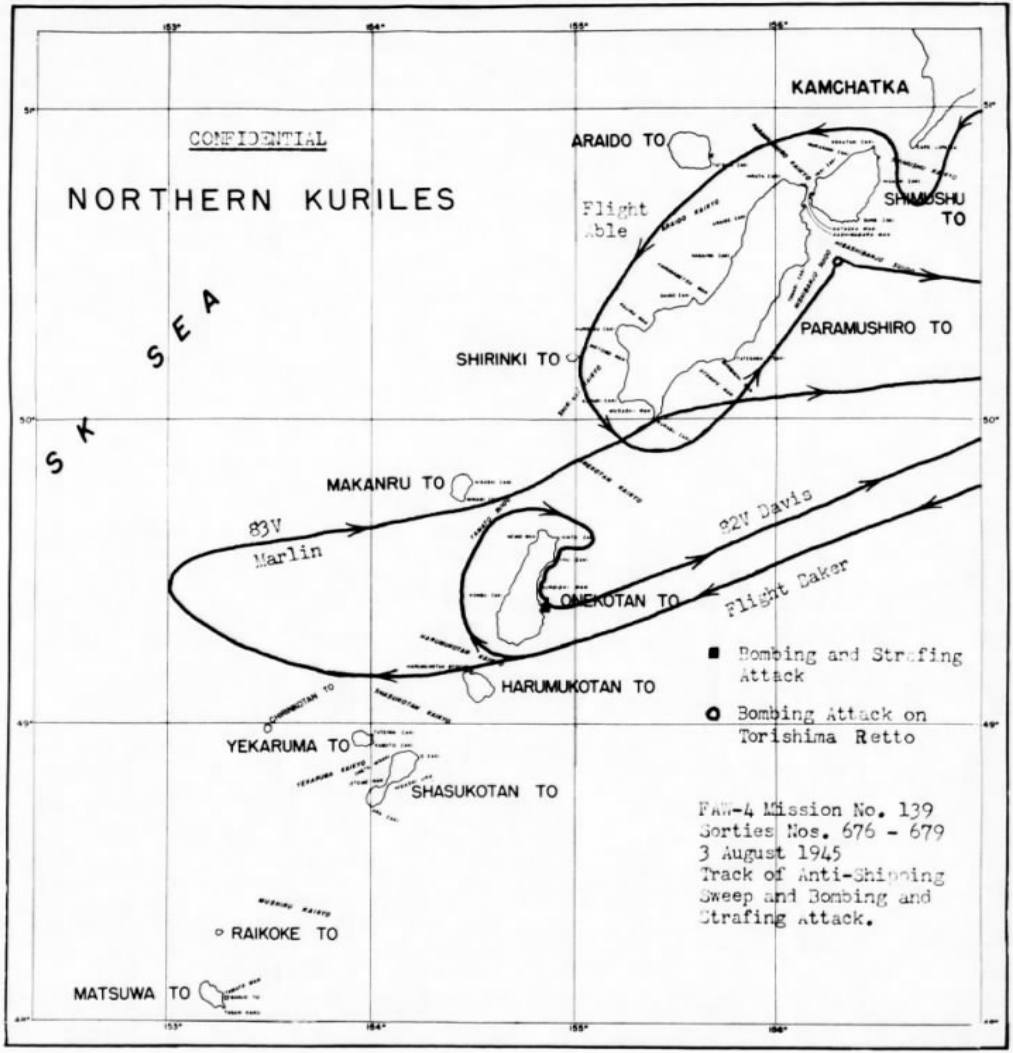


DECLASSIFIED
 Authority: E.O. 13526
 By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

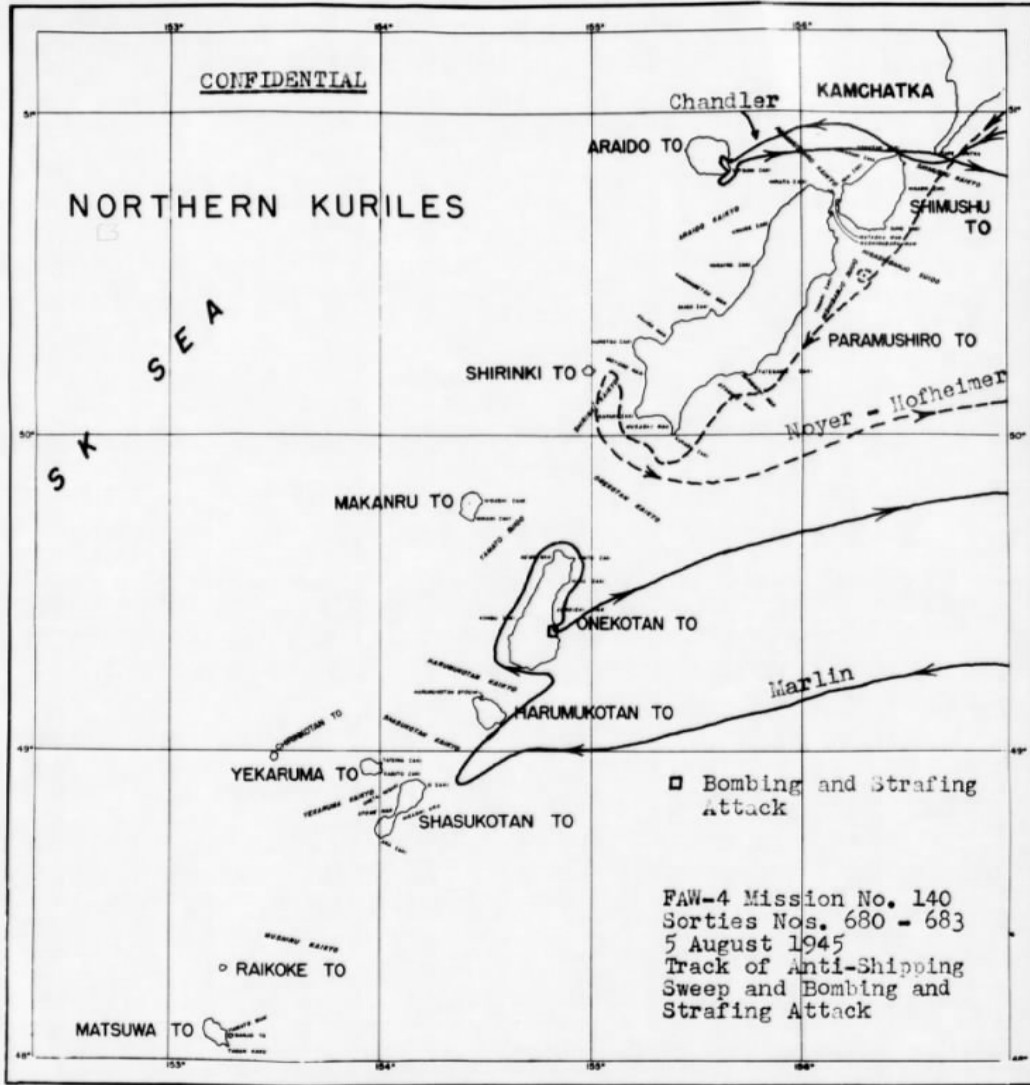


7
 8 02912

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012



9 01148

7

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

OPNAV-16-223
Form ACA-1
Sheet 4 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
VPB-120

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. Two

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT
Method of Locating, Distance
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Own Weaknesses
Enemy Weaknesses
Offensive Tactics, Own
" " Enemy
Defensive Tactics, Own
" " Enemy
Flexible Gunnery, Own
Escort Tactics
Fighter Direction
Use of Radar
Night Fighting
Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS
Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics
Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY
Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics
Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL
Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

This mission was an anti-shipping sweep off the east and west coasts of the islands of Onkotan and Paramushiro in the northern Kuriles. The flight consisted of two sections of two planes each.

Section Able, led by Lt. NOYER with Lt. HOFHEIMER in the second plane, was assigned the Paramushiro area and section Baker, led by Lt. MARLIN with Ensign CHANDLER in the second plane, was assigned the Onkotan area.

Section Able took off at 0801W and flew to target area on instruments, the planes remaining in proximity of each other by radar. Near the coast of Paramushiro the flight broke thru the overcast and swept the area for enemy shipping at an altitude of 100 feet. The flight strafed two small vessels off northeast coast of Shimushu. Damage was undetermined. Flight continued on patrol. When 4 miles east of Unani, Shimushu Island, heavy, accurate flak was encountered. The flight took evasive action by altering course and altitude and continued the anti-shipping sweep south along the east coast of Paramushiro. When approximately five miles east of Tomari Zaki, medium inaccurate flak was encountered and the same evasive action as above was taken.

The search down the east coast was negative so the flight made a level bombing run on Torishima Retto, the assigned secondary target. The bombs failed to release due to, as yet, undetermined causes. The flight retired.

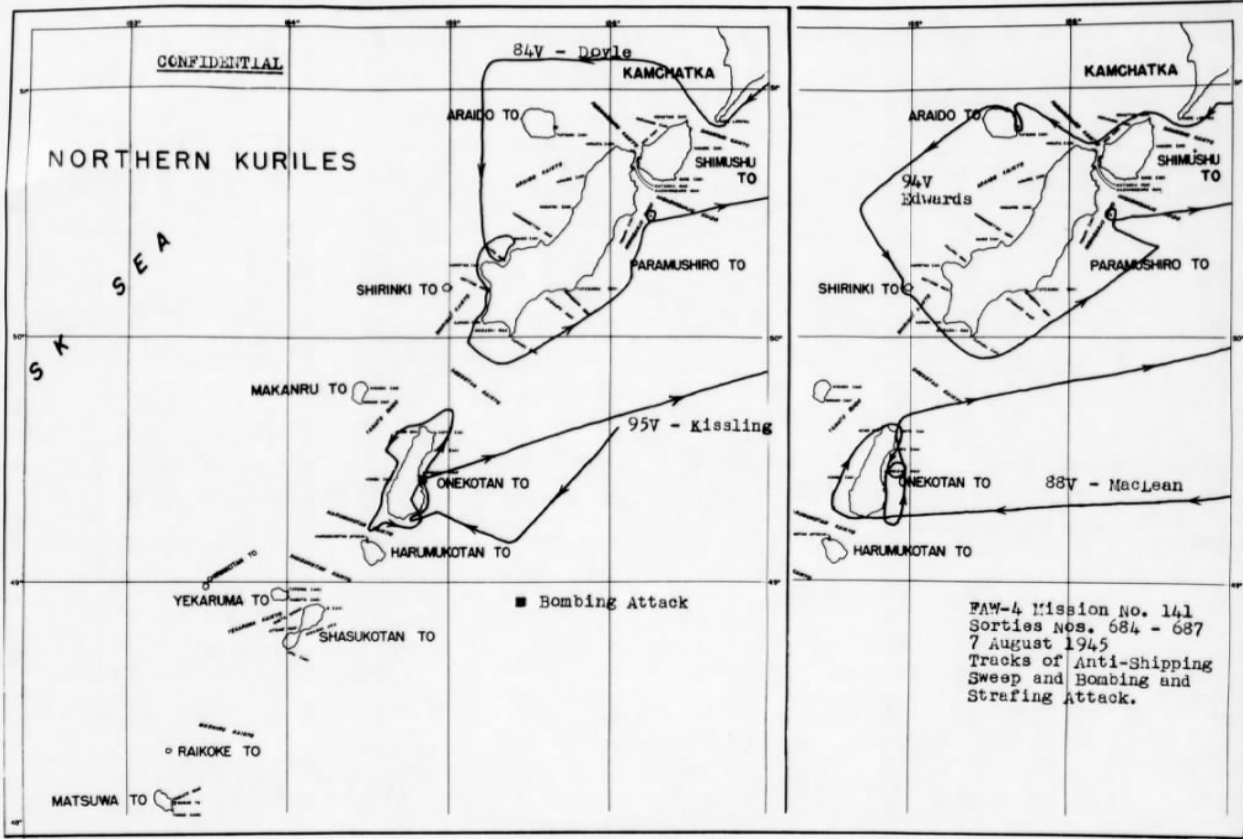
Flight Baker went on instruments soon after take-off and due to faulty radar in Ensign Chandler's plane, the planes became separated. Lt. MARLIN proceeded on instruments until reaching the Onkotan area. He let down and searched the west coast of Onkotan from an altitude of 100 feet with negative results. The ceiling was only 150 feet on the west coast of Onkotan but on the east coast it was 600 feet. Lt. MARLIN sighted a 40 foot type "A" Army landing barge and two smaller craft in a bay south of Otomari Zaki on the east coast of Onkotan. He made two bombing runs on the barge. The first run was from an altitude of 150 feet, speed 180 knots, on course 360 degrees. One bomb was dropped and fell wide. Another run was made at the same altitude and speed on a course of 200 degrees true. Only one bomb released and fell short of a near miss. The barge was strafed with 700 rounds of .50 calibre fire and although many hits were registered, the craft did not smoke or burn. No flak was observed but on return to base, a 7.7 MM bullet hole was found in the cockpit just rear of the pilot's seat.

Ensign CHANDLER departed with Lt. MARLIN but became separated from him in the overcast when he departed from base course to investigate a blip on the radar scope which proved false. There were other false indications on the scope plus frontal conditions which caused CHANDLER to get off course and come out of the front near the east coast of Paramushiro. He crossed the Kurile chain thru the Shimushu Straits and searched the west coasts of Shimushu and Paramushiro with negative results. This area was fogged in solid. CHANDLER then proceeded to Araido where he made a strafing run on a beached Fox Tare Dog type ship and a fish cannery, expending 1800 rounds of .50 calibre ammunition and registering many hits on the targets. Due to mechanical difficulty, his bombs were not released. No smoke or flames were observed therefore, it was impossible to determine the damage. CHANDLER then returned to base.

5

ALL SET - MFD BY THE EGM REGISTER CO., PATENTED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: E.O. 13526
By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012



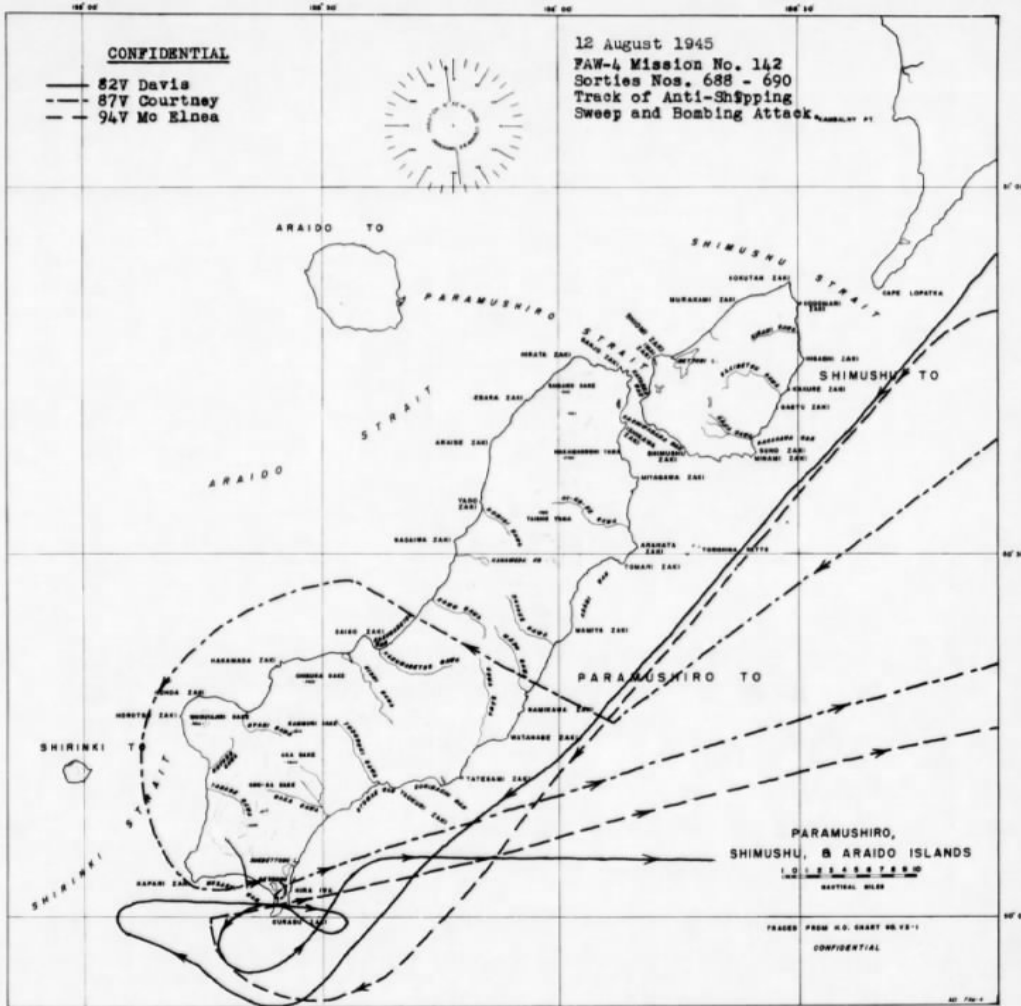
8480 6

7

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012



DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

