

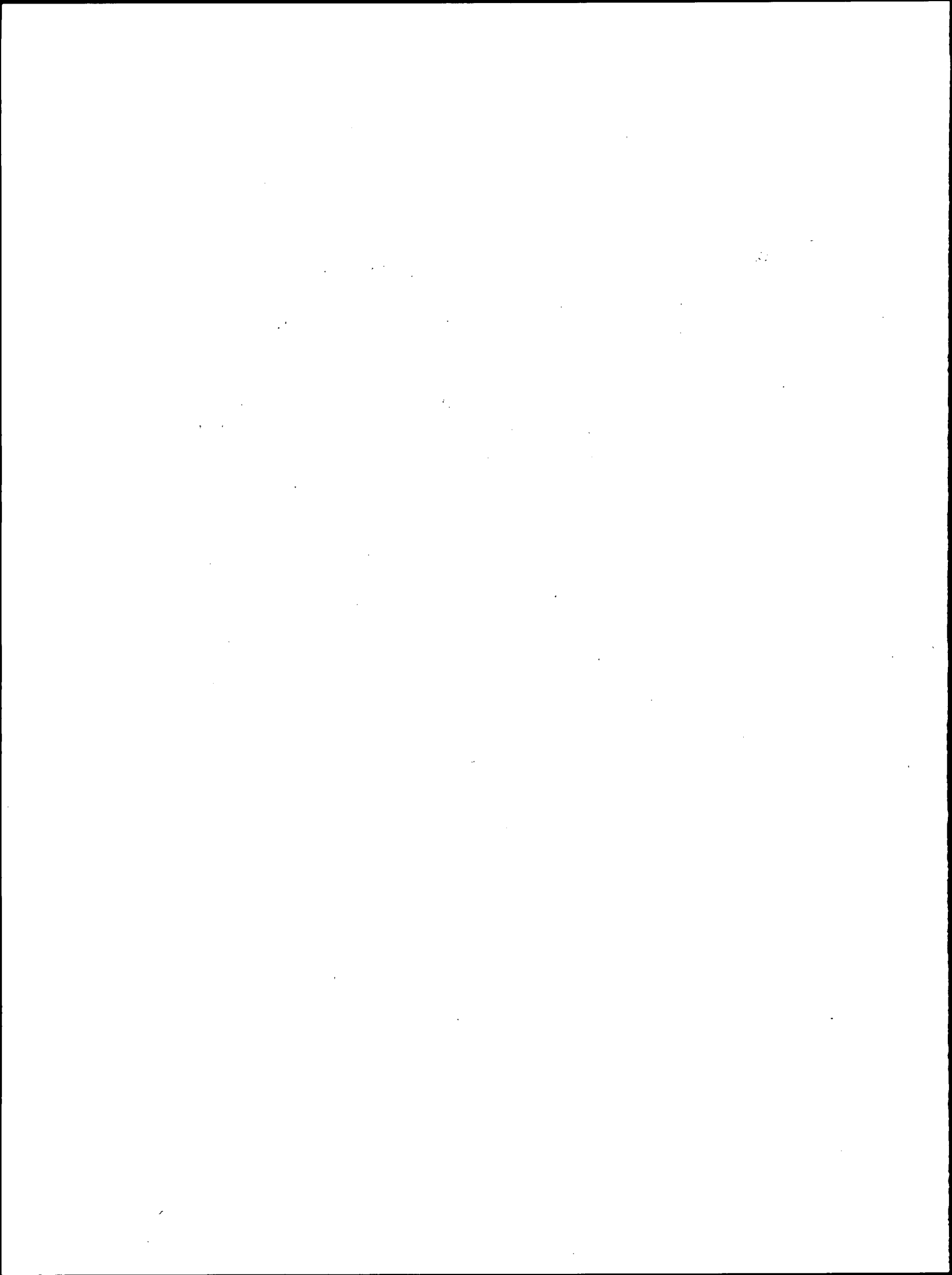
A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

U.S. Navy Action and Operational Reports from World War II, Pacific Theater

Part 2.

Third Fleet and Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA



A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

World War II Research Collections

**U.S. Navy Action and Operational
Reports from World War II**

Pacific Theater

Part 2.

**Third Fleet and
Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces**

**Project Editor and Guide compiled by
Robert E. Lester**

**A microfilm project of
UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
An Imprint of CIS
4520 East-West Highway • Bethesda, MD 20814-3389**

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

U.S. Navy action and operational reports from World War II. Pacific Theater.

(World War II research collections)

Accompanied by printed reel guides compiled by Robert E. Lester.

Includes indexes.

Contents: pt. 1. CINCPAC (Commander-in-Chief Pacific Area Command) (16 reels) -- pt. 2. Third Fleet and Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces (16 reels) -- pt. 3. Fifth Fleet and Fifth Fleet Carrier Task Forces (12 reels).

1. United States--Navy--History--World War, 1939--1945--Sources. 2. World War, 1939--1945--Naval operations, American--Sources. 3. World War, 1939--1945--Campaigns--Pacific Ocean--Sources. 4. United States--Navy--Fleet, 3rd--History--Sources. 5. United States--Navy--Fleet, 5th--History--Sources. I. Lester, Robert.

[Microfilm] 90/7009 (E) 940.54'5973
ISBN 1-55655-191-6 (Microfilm : pt. 2)

90-956103
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INTRODUCTION

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz was commander-in-chief, Pacific Fleet (CINCPAC) from December 31, 1941 to December 1945. CINCPAC was charged with orders to "win the 85 million square miles of the Pacific back from the Japanese." In cooperation with General Douglas MacArthur, commander-in-chief, Southwest Pacific Area, a two-prong advance against the Japanese empire was initiated. One prong, from the south through New Guinea to the Philippines, was coordinated by General MacArthur and his Allied forces, which included the Seventh Fleet. The second prong, through the central Pacific, consisted of the forces of the Third and Fifth Fleets and their attendant task force groupings. At the core of this two-prong advance was the strategy of island hopping.

This strategy consisted of leapfrog hops from one island to another by coordinated air, sea, and land attacks to cut off heavily defended Japanese bases, which could then be bombed into submission at will. To support this island-hopping strategy, the United States and the Allies assembled the most diverse and powerful armada in naval history in addition to overwhelming air forces. Of vital importance to the island-hopping strategy was the control of the air and sea. Carrier task force groupings provided abundant air power, both for offensive and defensive operations. Carrier-based planes were integral in turning the tide against the Japanese.

Effective February 1, 1941, U.S. naval forces were organized into various mission groupings. Foremost of these groupings was that of the U.S. Fleet. The U.S. Fleet comprised the Atlantic Fleet, Pacific Fleet, and the Asiatic Fleet (reorganized in 1942). These designated fleet groupings were primarily administrative and task organizations. They normally operated under the instructions/orders of the Navy Department by way of a flag officer having the title of commander-in-chief, Pacific Fleet. These fleets were further subdivided into area or task commands and, in most cases, assigned a number designation. In March 1943, the commander-in-chief, U.S. Fleet instituted a standardized system of numbering the components of the Atlantic and Pacific Fleet designations. Even numbers were assigned to the Atlantic Fleet and odd numbers to the Pacific Fleet. Several of the assigned numbers referred to administrative and type, rather than operational commands. The numbered fleets were further subdivided into task forces. These task forces provided operational flexibility in any situation. Task force commanders were not burdened by administrative or type commands. This micropublication highlights the activities of CINCPAC and its operational control of its two primary components, the Third and Fifth Fleets, through action/operation reports. The First and Ninth Fleets were also assigned to the Pacific Theater but were administrative groupings used to facilitate organization and communications in the task force system. The Seventh Fleet is not discussed in this micropublication due to its subordination to the Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area, General MacArthur. In addition, the Seventh Fleet comprised both U.S. and Australian naval forces.

Part 2 of this micropublication highlights the activities of CINCPAC's numbered subordinate command unit in the Central Pacific: the Third Fleet. A brief description of the Third Fleet command and carrier task forces is provided below.

The Third Fleet came into being on June 15, 1944, under the command of Admiral William Halsey, with the separation of South Pacific Force units from the South Pacific Area. This separation was primarily due to the successful conclusion of the South Pacific campaign. The Third Fleet was subordinated to the Commander, Pacific Fleet, and Pacific Ocean Areas (CINCPAC). The components of the Third Fleet constituted, and were named by CINCPAC, the Western Pacific Task Force. Components of the Western Pacific Task Forces consisted of heavy and light support units of battleships and cruisers, screening units consisting of light

cruisers and destroyers, and carrier task forces, consisting of aircraft carriers and supporting units. The carrier task forces were under the command of Task Force 38.

The mission of Task Force 38, also called Carrier Task Force 38, was to provide direct air support of ground units and short- and long-range bombing and reconnaissance operations. The carrier-based aircraft and support vessels of Task Force 38 were able to strike Japanese aircraft, installations, and shipping in the Western Caroline Islands, Philippines, China Sea areas, and the Japanese Home Islands. Movements of Task Force 38's components spanned the distance from Ulithi to Cam Ranh Bay in Indochina to the northern-most Home Island of Hokkaido. Task Force 38's carrier task groups provided air strikes supporting operations in the Palau Islands Group (specifically Peleliu and Angaur), during the Philippines campaign (specifically Leyte, Mindanao, Mindoro, and Lingayen Gulf on Luzon), in the Okinawa campaign, and in the pre-invasion "softening-up" of the Japanese Home Islands. The actions of the carrier task forces were instrumental in the defeat and decimation of the Japanese Fleet at the Battle of Leyte Gulf.

Task Force 38 consisted of four task groups. These task groups worked in conjunction with each other and/or as fast carrier task groups. The fast carrier task groups provided strategic support to the various operations in the Western Caroline Islands and Philippines by targeting areas of Japanese logistical and force buildup that were supposedly behind the front line of combat. Strikes were made against targets in Indochina, Formosa, Japanese-held South China, and the Ryukyus to draw off naval and air reinforcements. This was particularly effective during the Palau Islands and Leyte operations.

On January 26, 1945, units of the Third Fleet were turned over to the control of the Fifth Fleet, under command of Admiral Raymond Spruance. This terminated the active five-month operational period of the Third Fleet that had begun with the Palau Islands operation, carried through to support of the Philippines campaign, and culminated in the destructive air strikes in the South China Sea area and Ryukyus. On March 27, 1945, plans were conducted to reconstitute the Third Fleet into the Mid-Pacific Striking Force. These plans were never implemented, but the attention of the Third Fleet command and staff was directed toward other operational planning and studies regarding invasion of the Japanese Home Islands and securing a North Pacific supply route to the USSR.

The Third Fleet and its component task forces were reactivated from the Fifth Fleet on May 15, 1945. The Third Fleet assisted in attacks along the Central Pacific axis, culminating in support of the Okinawa campaign and pre-invasion "softening-up" of the Home Islands. Following the armistice and eventual surrender, the Third Fleet was again deactivated.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Action/Operation reports were compiled by the various Pacific naval command structures. CINCPAC, numbered fleet commands, task forces, area and section commands, and even individual naval vessels compiled reports and forwarded them through the chain-of-command. These reports contained summaries and analyses of data collected on major operations and campaigns, as well as individual battles. There were also Action/Operation reports compiled on experimental naval doctrine and methods. Action/Operation reports were utilized in the tactical and strategic planning of the war in the Pacific.

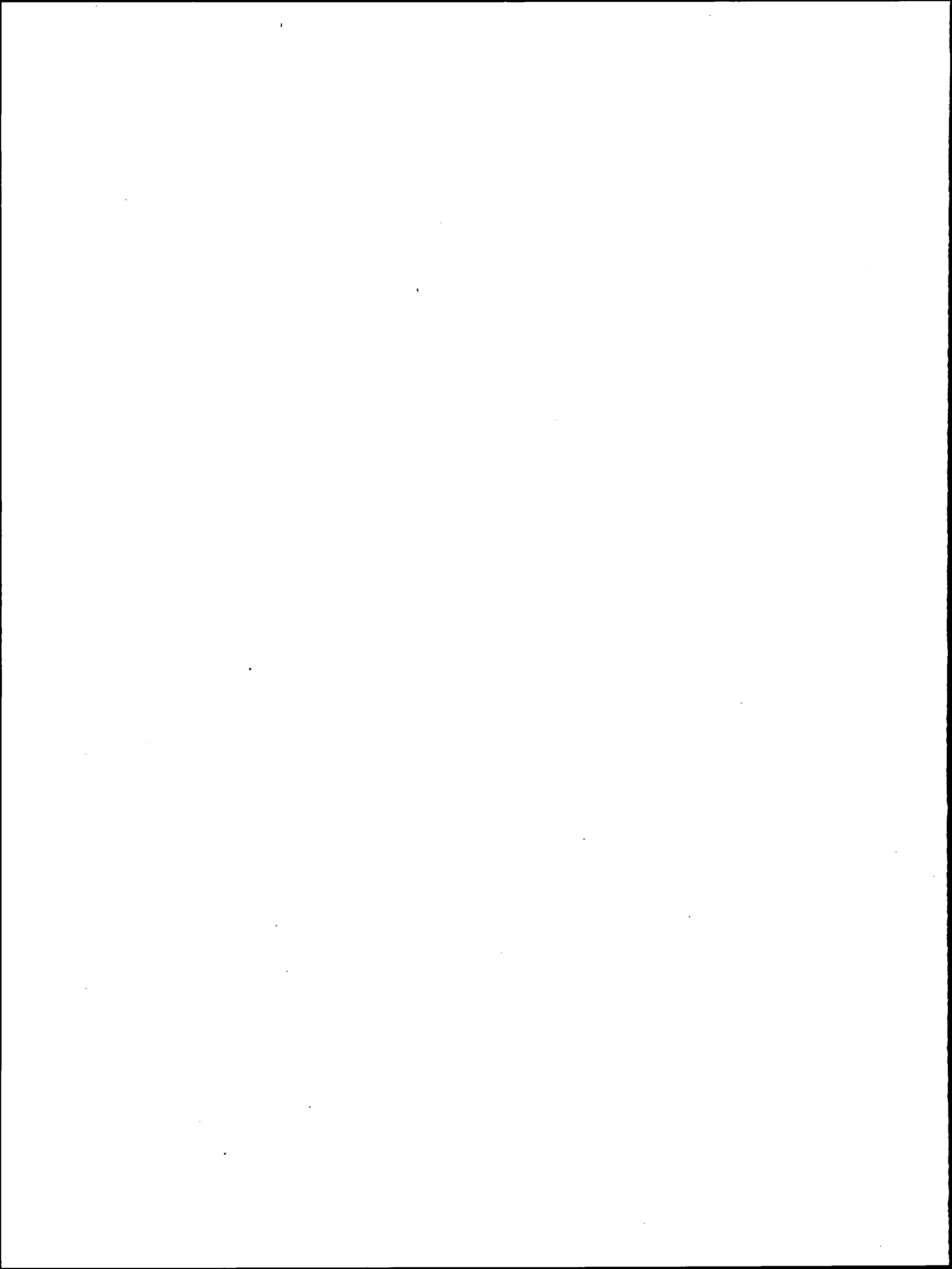
These reports consist of information on: organization—highlighting the activities and primary missions of subordinate forces and the disposition and condition of readiness—vessels, aircraft, and personnel; and battle narratives with graphic representations. Many of the reports include detailed appendices. These appendices consist of casualty reports, vessel damage reports, photographs, ordnance expenditure reports, awards recommendations, excerpts from lower-echelon commanders, and lessons learned.

The standardization of fleet designation led to a definite system in task force designation. A force was numbered with two digits—the first being that of the fleet from which the force was taken and the second indicating the sequence in that fleet (example: Task Force 38). Task groups within a force were numbered by adding an additional digit separated from the task force number by a decimal point (example: Task Group 38.1). To indicate a task unit within a group another decimal point and digit were added. Thus, the second task unit of the first task group of the eighth task force of the Third Fleet would be numbered 38.1.2.

Part 2. Third Fleet and Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces

The Third Fleet Action/Operation Reports were compiled by Admiral William "Bull" Halsey, Jr. These Action/Operation Reports detailed the "aggressive" activities of Admiral Halsey's South Pacific (renamed Third Fleet) Fleet of carriers, cruisers, and destroyers in the Solomon Islands, Southern Palau, and Western Caroline Islands campaigns, and the battles of Leyte Gulf and Okinawa. These reports highlight the organization, effectiveness, and disposition of Admiral Halsey's forces. Particular highlights deal with battle strategy, casualty reports, ordnance expenditures, battle narratives, and lessons learned. Graphic representations were utilized in defining strategy and tactical operations.

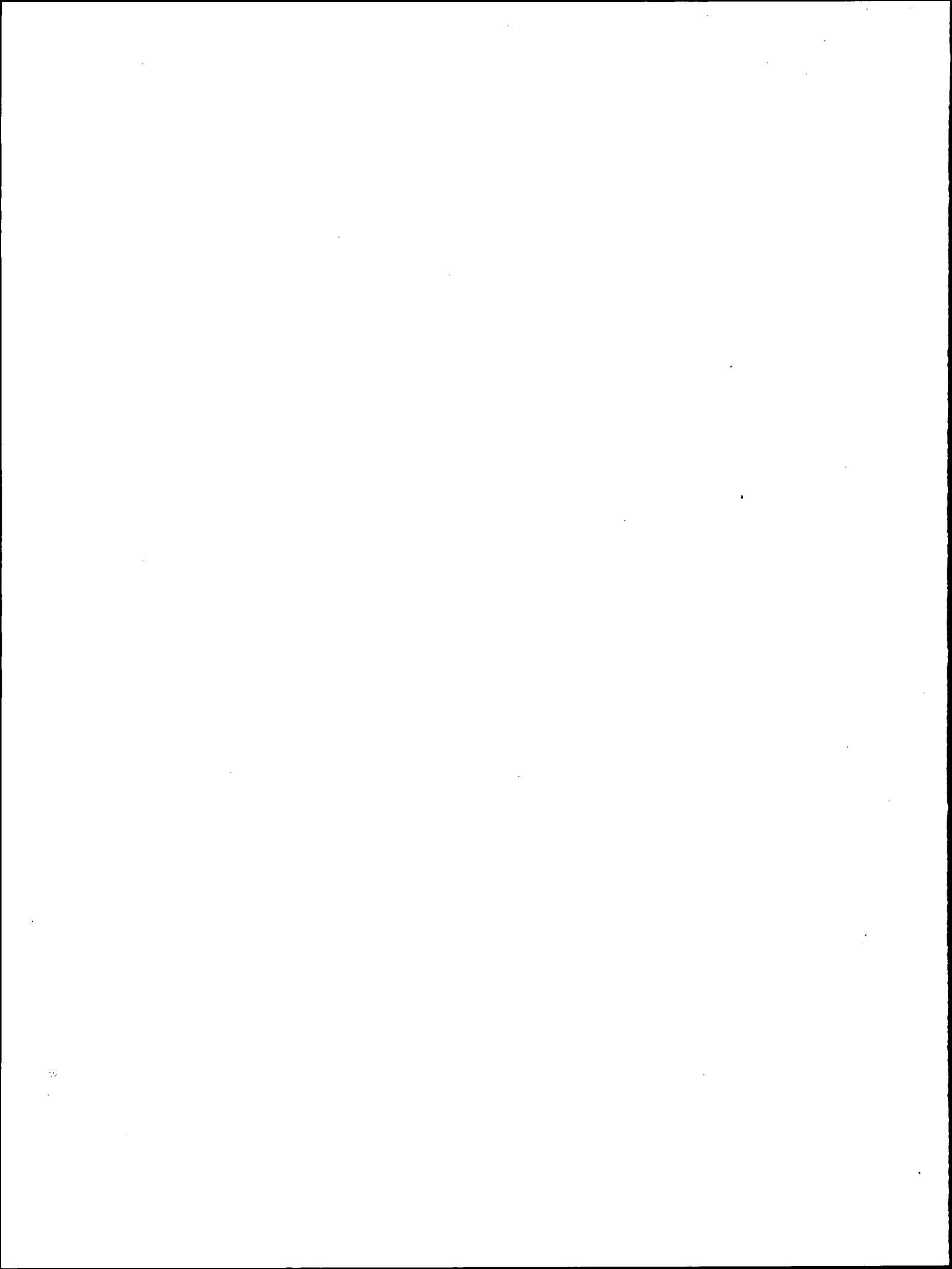
The Third Fleet Carrier Task Force Action/Operation Reports were compiled by the various task force commanders. These reports deal with the use of carrier-based aircraft and naval supporting elements. These were the forces at the forefront of the various battles, and the reports contain insights into battle management, communication, and execution of tactical planning.



SOURCE AND EDITORIAL NOTE

The materials utilized in this micropublication are from the holdings of the Operational Archives Section, U.S. Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.

The materials in this micropublication have been microfilmed both as they are arranged and in their entirety. These materials encompass the contents of boxes 39-42 and 142-167. Duplicates have not been microfilmed. This micropublication consists of a large number of maps and charts. These have been microfilmed in sections, beginning with top left and right, then bottom left and right.



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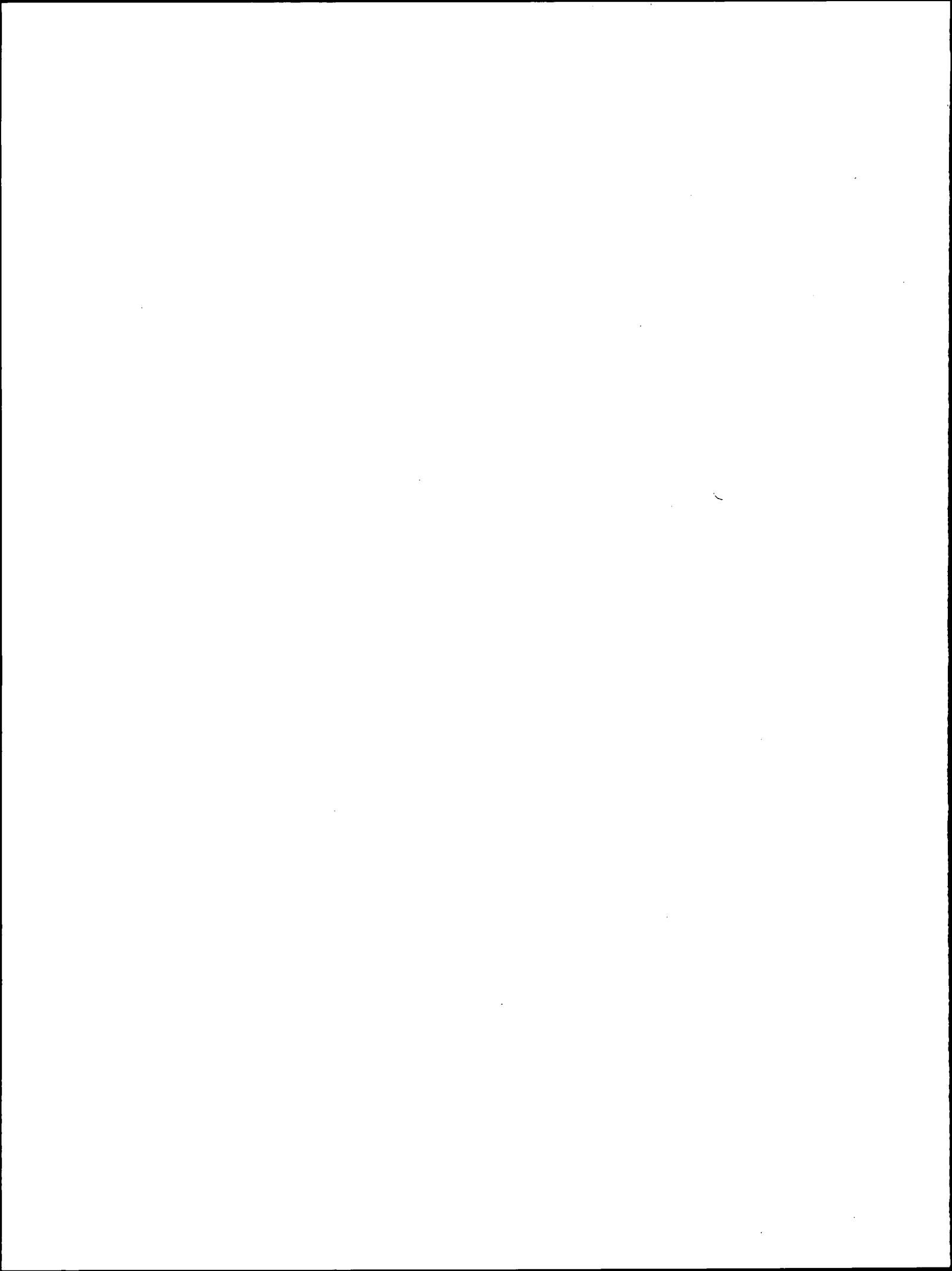
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ACRONYMS AND INITIALISMS LIST

The following acronyms and initialisms are used frequently throughout this guide and are included here for the convenience of the researcher.

ATF	Fleet Ocean Tug
BatDiv	Battleship Division
BB	Battleship
CA	Heavy Cruiser
CarDiv	Carrier Division
CL	Light Cruiser
CV	Aircraft Carrier
CVL	Aircraft Carrier, small
CruDiv	Cruiser Division
DD	Destroyer
DesDiv	Destroyer Division
DesRon	Destroyer Squadron
TF	Task Force
TG	Task Group; subunit of a Task Force
TU	Task Unit; subunit of a Task Group

The number following the initials BB, CA, CL, CVL, and DD refers to the assigned vessel number and class.



REEL INDEX

Entries in this index refer to specific file reports within the micropublication *U.S. Navy Action and Operational Reports from World War II, Pacific Theater, Part 2*. These reports are arranged into two major groupings entitled Third Fleet and Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces. The Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces are further subdivided into task groups, which are further subdivided into task units, where available. The reports for each of the above sections are in general chronological order. The serial number preceding the report title refers to the Navy Department's document filing system. The Reel Index details each micro-filmed report in the micropublication. The first line of the entry contains (left) the frame number at which the report begins and (right) the document's serial (or identification) number and the title of the report. The following line contains the author of the report, the document's date, and its page count. Reports containing a large number of oversized charts have both the total pages of the reports and the total number of frames that were used. The final lines provide an abstract of the report.

Reel 1

Frame No.

Third Fleet

- 0001 **Serial 021, Narrative Account of the South Pacific Campaign.**
W. F. Halsey. September 3, 1944. 18pp. 17pp.
Narrative outlines of the various actions, between April 20, 1942 and June 15, 1944, that constituted the South Pacific campaign. Provides a one-document presentation of such broad matters as command relationships, strategic moves and implications, and the mutual and relative relationship of the various ground, amphibious, surface, and air operations.
- 0018 **Serial 0057, Preliminary Reports on Third Fleet Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey. [Robert B. Charney]. October 3, 1944. 20pp.
Statistical summary of results of TGs 38.1, 38.2, and 38.3 air strikes on Philippine Island areas in support of operations in Western Caroline Islands between September 9 and 24 by TF 38.
- 0038 **Serial 0074, Operations Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Charney]. October 27, 1944. 12pp.
Brief statistical summary of air strikes, by TG 38.3, on September 14; by TF 38 in the Visayas area on October 11 and 15, in Luzon area on October 12-14, and in the Formosa area on October 16. Actions by TG 30.3 are noted also.
- 0050 **Serial 0088, Action Report for the Period October 23-26, 1944.**
W. F. Halsey. November 13, 1944. 103pp. [115 frames.]
Highlights actions of the Third Fleet against the Japanese Fleet in Leyte Gulf [Second Battle of the Philippines]. Written from the viewpoint of the Third Fleet commander. Includes copies of messages and dispatches exchanged by the fleet commander and subordinate commands, operational summary reports, track charts, force composition and damage reports, and prisoner of war summary statements.

Frame
No.

- 0165 **Serial 0090, Report on Seizure of Southern Palau Islands and Ulithi, and Concurrent Operations in Support of the Seizure of Morotai.**
W. F. Halsey. November 14, 1944. 37pp.
Highlights two major operations: the occupation of Southern Palau Islands of Peleliu and Angaur and Ulithi Atoll, all in the Western Carolines, and preliminary operations leading to the occupation of Leyte in the Philippines, from August 31 to October 14, 1944. Enclosures outline force composition, results of carrier air strikes, and ship losses.
- 0202 **Serial 00109, Operation Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Charney]. November 22, 1944. 7pp.
Brief statistical summaries of air strikes by TF 38 components against northern Luzon and Visayas on between October 17 and 21.
- 0209 **Serial 00119, Forwarding of Action Reports.**
W. F. Halsey. November 26, 1944. 93pp.
Forwards reports on TG 30.3, dealing with the protection of the crippled *Canberra* and *Houston* in withdrawal from Formosa area and also as bait to lure Japanese Fleet into battle with TF 38 between October 14 and 24. Enclosures include the action reports of the commanders of CruDiv 13 and 10 and DesDiv 92.
- 0302 **Serial 00121, Report of Operations Preliminary to and In Support of the Leyte-Samar Operations, October 1944.**
W. F. Halsey. November 28, 1944. 13pp.
Narrative highlights the operations preliminary to KING II, including the completion of the Palau operations and carrier-based air operations against Formosa, between October 14 and 22. Enclosures outline force composition, results of surface actions and carrier air strikes, and loss and damage reports.
- 0315 **Serial 00124, Influence of Weather on Okinawa Strike, October 10-11, 1944.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. November 30, 1944. 4pp.
Aerological (meteorological) report of weather and its relation to the attack on Okinawa in long-range support of Leyte campaign. Third Fleet units used a typhoon as "cover" during approach and effected complete surprise on the Japanese defenders.
- 0319 **Serial 00129, Operation Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. December 3, 1944. 15pp.
Covers TF 38 air strikes, between October 28 and November 22, in Leyte area; on Luzon airfields; on Japanese convoy entering Ormoc Bay; and on Yap Island.
- 0334 **Serial 00138, Operation Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. December 9, 1944. 17pp.
Brief statistical summary of TF 38 air strikes against three Japanese Fleet forces in various phases of the Battle of Leyte Gulf. Gives a breakdown of damage inflicted by various groups of TF 38 and composition of Japanese Fleet forces.
- 0351 **Serial 00139, Report on Operations in Support of the Leyte-Samar Operations for the Period October 27-November 30, 1944.**
W. F. Halsey. December 9, 1944. 22pp.
Covers closing phases of KING II Operation and air support by TF 38 to aid ground forces on Leyte when land-based Army Air Corps aircraft unable to effectively neutralize Japanese airfields on Luzon. Enclosures highlight force composition, results of carrier air strikes, and vessel losses.
- 0373 **Serial 00143, Comments on Report of the Amphibious Operation to Capture Peleliu and Angaur [in the Palau Islands group of the Western Carolines].**
W. F. Halsey. December 10, 1944. 4pp.
Comments on the period between September 15 and October 14, highlighting the lessons learned from the Palau operations and recommendations regarding changes in logistical support of landings.
- 0377 **Serial 00144, Operational Summary of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. December 10, 1944. 3pp.
Brief statistical summary of TF 38 strike on Luzon airfields to prevent Japanese reinforcements being sent to Leyte area on November 25.

- 0380 **Serial 00166, Typhoon in Philippine Sea, December 17-22, 1944.**
W. F. Halsey. December 25, 1944. 43 pp. [51 frames].
Events, decisions, and results of typhoon in Philippine Sea which interrupted fueling operations of forces engaged in strikes against Luzon airfields to aid landings on Mindoro. Enclosures include: chronology of events during and after typhoon; track and air search/rescue charts; and extracts from ship's log of the *New Jersey* (BB62).
- 0431 **Serial 00174, Comments on Operation Report of the III Amphibious Corps on Palau Operation.**
W. F. Halsey. December 28, 1944. 5pp.
Comments highlighting the lessons learned from the Palau operations and recommendations regarding changes in logistical support of landings for the period September 15 through October 20.
- 0436 **Serial 0022, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. January 6, 1945. 8pp.
Summary of air strikes on Luzon airfields by elements of TF 38 to aid landings on Mindoro, during the period from December 14 through 16.
- 0444 **Serial 0040, Report on Operations of the Third Fleet, December 1-29, 1944.**
W. F. Halsey. January 10, 1945. 18pp.
Summary of air and surface actions in support of Leyte and Mindoro operations, particularly air strikes against the Luzon airfields. Includes analysis of logistical and supply efforts during the period.
- 0462 **Serial 0053, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. January 16, 1945. 9pp.
Brief statistical summary of air strikes by TF 38 elements in support of Lingayen Gulf landings, between January 3 and 9. Includes air strikes against Formosa, Pescadores, and Luzon.
- 0471 **Serial 0081, Report on Operations of the Third Fleet, December 30, 1944-January 23, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey. January 23, 1945. 20pp.
Covers Third Fleet's support of Lingayen Gulf landings by Southwest Pacific forces. Includes information on activities of Fast Carrier Task Force and oiler group in China Sea, and air strikes on Formosa and in Nansei Shoto area.
- 0491 **Serial 0084, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. January 24, 1945. 9pp.
Brief statistical summary of air strikes by elements of TF 38 in China Sea area. Includes strike information on shipping off Indochina coast and in Saigon-Cam Ranh Bay area on January 12 and on Formosa and China coast in Hong Kong-Hainan-Amoy area between January 12 and 16. In addition, a comparison of French reports and TF 38 claims regarding shipping damages in Saigon-Cam Ranh Bay area is highlighted.
- 0500 **Serial 0085, Report on the Operations of Western Pacific Task Forces and the Third Fleet.**
W. F. Halsey. January 25, 1945. 190pp.
Highlights surface and air activities of Third Fleet in Western Carolines campaign, including Palau operations and support of Philippines campaign, particularly Leyte-Samar, Mindoro, and Lingayen operations. Includes air and surface activities of Fast Carrier Task Force in support of above operations and in China Sea area. Period covered includes August 31, 1944-January 23, 1945. Enclosures include planning and development of operations, force composition, U.S. and enemy losses and damages reports, logistics and supply, post stalemate basing plan, intelligence activities, and administration and communications activities.
- 0690 **Serial 0086, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. January 26, 1945. 6pp.
Brief statistical summary of TF 38 air strikes, after leaving China Sea, against Formosa on January 21 and Nansei Shoto area [Okinawa] on January 22.

Frame
No.

- 0696 **Serial 0087, Report on Communication Operations, September 1944–January 1945.**
W. F. Halsey. January 26, 1945. 28pp.
Technical analysis of communications during Third Fleet operations in support of the Palau, Leyte, and Lingayen campaigns. Consists of comments set forth in action reports from various Third Fleet components and upon the experiences and observations of the communication officer, Third Fleet staff. Comments on radar, fighter direction, and illegal communications countermeasures are also included.
- 0724 **Serial 00194, Typhoon off Okinawa, June 3–6, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey. June 18, 1945. 32pp. [40 frames.]
Aerological [meteorological] consideration and communications aspects of Third Fleet encounter with typhoon off Okinawa. Includes communication log, track charts, chronology of events, and unit damage reports.
- 0764 **Serial 00228, Report on Operations of the Third Fleet, January 26–July 1, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey. July 14, 1945. 37pp.
During this period the Third Fleet units came under the control of the Fifth Fleet and the command organization was returned to the U.S. mainland for rehabilitation and debriefing. The Third Fleet command organization began planning operations in the North Pacific against the northern Japanese Home Islands, the China coast area, and in securing supply routes to USSR. In March, the Third Fleet surface and air organization was reactivated as the Mid-Pacific Striking Force and was assigned in May to participate in activities along the Central Pacific axis and in support of Okinawa operation. Enclosures include force composition, enemy situation summary for May 28, and U.S. and enemy losses and damages reports.
- 0801 **Serial 00235, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. July 21, 1945. 24pp.
Brief statistical summaries of air strikes in support of Okinawa operation and on Tokyo area during pre-invasion "softening-up" of Japanese Home Islands between May 28 and July 18.
- 0825 **Serial 00240, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. July 26, 1945. 7pp.
Brief statistical summaries of air strikes on Shikoku, Eastern Inland Sea, and Kure in support of pre-invasion "softening-up" of Japanese Home Islands on July 24.
- 0832 **Serial 0425, Salvage and Towing Operations by USS *Munsee* (ATF107), June 5–20, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. July 27, 1945. 10pp.
Events surrounding the salvage and towing operations of the "bow section" of *Pittsburgh* (CA72) which had been dismembered during a typhoon on June 5.
- 0842 **Serial 00251, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. August 1, 1945. 5pp.
Summary of air strikes on Kure and Inland Sea area by TF 37, on July 25, in support of pre-invasion of Japanese Home Islands.
- 0847 **Serial 00275, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [H. E. Stassen]. August 14, 1945. 8pp.
Summary of air strikes on North Honshu area by TF 37 and 38, between August 8 and 10, in support of pre-invasion of Japanese Home Islands.
- 0855 **Serial 00277, Operational Summaries of Carrier Strikes.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. August 20, 1945. 5pp.
Summary of air strikes on Tokyo area by TF 38, on August 13 and 15, in support of pre-invasion of Japanese Home Islands.
- 0860 **Serial 00311, Report on Operations of Third Fleet, July 1–August 15, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey. September 17, 1945. 22pp.
Summary covering pre-invasion air strikes on Japanese Home Islands. In addition, highlights on extensive replenishment-at-sea operations.

Frame
No.

- 0882 **Serial RE 007, Report on Operations of the Third Fleet, August 16–September 19, 1945.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. October 6, 1945. 21pp.
Summary covering the period between declaration of armistice and assumption of command by Fifth Fleet of units. Includes discussion of Operation Plan 10–45 contingency plan for measures to be taken in event of surrender and arrival of Third Fleet units in Tokyo Bay for surrender proceedings.

Reel 2

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces TF 38

- 0001 **Serial 0063, Action Report, Buka-Bonis Strikes, November 1 and 2, 1943.**
W. F. Halsey [Robert B. Carney]. December 8, 1943. 60pp.
Covers air strikes against airfields on Buka and Bonis in support of landings at Empress Augusta Bay, Bougainville.
- 0061 **Serial 0064, First Rabaul Strike, November 5, 1943.**
W. F. Halsey [Frederick C. Sherman]. December 8, 1943. 62pp.
Covers morning attack on shipping in Rabaul harbor, New Britain, in support of New Guinea–New Britain and Bougainville campaigns.
- 0123 **Serial 0065, Second Strike on Shipping in Rabaul Area, November 11, 1943.**
W. F. Halsey [Frederick C. Sherman]. December 8, 1943. 15pp.
Covers air strike by TF 38, TG 50.3, and land-based planes of TF 33 on the Rabaul area, New Britain. Includes discussion of command relationship and effectiveness of coordinated operations with carrier-based and land-based aircraft.
- 0138 **Serial 008, Action Report of Bombardment of Enemy Positions—Kieta and Numa Areas, Bougainville [Solomon Islands].**
W. L. Ainsworth. January 14, 1944. 78pp.
Covers reports submitted by the Commander, CruDiv 9, regarding the preparation, action, and retirement of forces in completion of unopposed offshore bombardment of enemy targets on December 27. Includes vessel commanders' narratives of target assignments, ordnance, navigation, personnel situation, and lessons learned.
- 0216 **Serial 0015, Action Report of Bombardment of Japanese Shore Installations in the Shortlands-Faisi Area, Bougainville [Solomon Islands], January 8, 1944.**
W. L. Ainsworth. February 1, 1944. 131pp.
Covers report submitted by the Commander, CruDiv 9, regarding night offshore bombardment action against selected targets on Poporang Island, Korovo Peninsula, and Faisi Island area. Includes vessel commanders' narratives of target assignments, ordnance, navigation, personnel situation, and lessons learned.
- 0347 **Serial 023, Report on Action Against Enemy Aircraft, February 14, 1944.**
W. L. Ainsworth. March 1, 1944. 94pp.
Covers action, in response to enemy air attack, during night movement as a covering force for the attack echelon of Green Island occupation force. Submitted by commander, CruDiv 9, includes summary of events, battle damage and casualty information, recommendations, and vessel commanders' individual narratives.

Frame
No.

0441 **Serial 00505, Action Report—Summary of TF 38 Operations, August 29–October 30, 1944.**

M. A. Mitscher. November 3, 1944. 266pp.

Covers First Carrier Task Force operations in support of capture of Peleliu, Angaur, and Ngesebus [Palau Island group] and Ulithi in the Western Carolines. In addition, support of operations in Eastern Leyte are highlighted. Main report includes narrative of operations, results of air operations, and comments and recommendations on personnel performance, communications, and ordnance. Enclosures consist of radio logs, track charts, calendar of employment of Fast Carrier Task Groups, and summary of damage to enemy fleet.

TG 38.1

0707 **Serial 0015, Action Report of Operations Against Palau, Mindanao, Visayas, Luzon, Celebes, and Morotai during period from August 29 through September 28, 1944.**

J. S. McCain. October 7, 1944. 58pp.

Highlights the activities of the Second Carrier Task Force in support of operations in the Palau Island Group and Ulithi in the Western Carolines. The action in the Celebes was in support of the capture of Morotai. Comprises a detailed narrative covering the essential points of the above operations, statistical summary of operations, track chart of movements, training report, and selected photographs of actions. Recommendations and lessons learned are highlighted also.

0765 **Serial 0320, Attacks on Luzon Airfields, November 5 and 6, 1944.**

A. E. Montgomery. November 29, 1944. 31pp.

Highlights the air strikes by Carrier Division 3 on Manila Bay Airfields and Northern Luzon area to prevent Japanese aid to Leyte. Consists of a narrative of air operations, assessment of damage to enemy and operational statistics, track charts, and photographs.

0796 **Serial 0322, Report of Leyte Shipping Attack.**

A. E. Montgomery. November 29, 1944. 25pp.

Highlights deployment and attack on shipping in support of Leyte operations by TG 38.1 and TG 38.3. Assessment of damage to the enemy and operational statistics, track charts, and photographs are included in the enclosures. Includes comments from commander, Second Carrier Task Force, on action.

0821 **Serial 0323, Attacks on Luzon Objectives, November 19, 1944.**

A. E. Montgomery. November 29, 1944. 27pp.

Comprises the report of the commander, Carrier Division 3, highlighting the air operations against the central Luzon airfields in support of Leyte operations. Enclosures consist of assessment of damage to enemy forces, operational statistics, and track charts.

0848 **Serial 0324, Report of Attacks on Manila.**

A. E. Montgomery. November 29, 1944. 34pp.

Highlights air operations against enemy shipping in Manila Harbor on November 13–14, by TG 38.1, TG 38.3, and TG 38.4. Chronology of events, enemy and U.S. damage and loss information, intelligence summary, and track charts are included also.

Reel 3

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.1 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0395, Action Report on Operations Against Luzon Airfields and Shipping, during Period December 10 to 24, 1944.**
John B. Moss. December 29, 1944. 186pp.
Highlights three-day air operation against Luzon airfields in support of Mindoro landings on December 15. Includes information on force composition and organization, narrative chronology of events, and comments and recommendations on conduct of air operations. Enclosures include assessment of damage to the enemy, operational statistics, and individual vessel action narratives.
- 0187 **Serial 043, Action Report, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945. Volume 1 of 5.**
A. W. Radford. January 27, 1945. 126pp.
Detailed report on the actions of Carrier Division 6 in supporting the Lingayen Gulf landings. Air operations included targets in Formosa, Indochina [Vietnam], and along Chinese coast. Includes information on force composition and organization, narrative chronology of events, and comments and recommendations on conduct of air and surface operations. Enclosures include assessment of damage and losses to enemy shipping, aircraft, and land targets, plus operational statistics.
- 0313 **Serial 043, Action Report, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945. Volume 2 of 5.**
A. W. Radford. January 27, 1945. 95pp.
Covers operations by *Yorktown* (CV10) against the enemy during the period from December 30, 1944 to January 23, 1945. Operations include air strikes against Luzon, Formosa, Indochina, Japanese-held China, and the Nansei Shoto. Air strikes were primarily against airfields and shipping in an effort to disrupt enemy force buildup and possible counterattacks.
- 0408 **Serial 043, Action Report, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945. Volume 3 of 5.**
A. W. Radford. January 27, 1945. 15pp. [61 frames.]
Dead Reckoning Tracer Charts of the *Yorktown* (CV10), for the period January 3 to 23, 1945.
- 0469 **Serial 043, Action Report, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945. Volume 4 of 5.**
A. W. Radford. January 27, 1945. 110pp.
Consists of continuation of *Yorktown's* operational narrative and commander's narrative report from Air Group Three. In addition, this volume contains the commander's narrative for the *Wasp* in the above listed operations. Enclosures to this narrative include composition and organization of forces and mission, narrative of events, assessment of air strikes, track chart, equipment performance, U.S. and enemy battle damage and losses, air and surface operational reports, and comments and recommendations on lessons learned.
- 0579 **Serial 043, Action Report, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945. Volume 5 of 5.**
A. W. Radford. January 27, 1945. 148pp.
Covers air operations by *Cowpens* against the enemy during the period of December 30, 1944 to January 4, 1945. Operations consisted of air strikes against Formosa, primarily against airfields and shipping, in an effort to disrupt enemy force buildup and possible counterattacks during landings on Luzon. Enclosures include narrative of events, chronological account, ordnance material and equipment performance comments, and recommendations and lessons learned.

Frame
No.

- 0727 **Serial 0080, Report of Operations of TG 38.1 (Fast Carrier Group One) for the Period May 28 to June 13, including Air Strikes Against Kyushu, Minami Daito, Okino Daito, and Further Operations in Support of the Occupation of Okinawa. Volume 1 of 2.**
J. J. Clark. June 14, 1945. 99pp.
Consists of a chronology of events and commander's narrative of the actions in support of the Okinawa campaign. Recommendations and lessons learned are included also. Enclosures consist of track charts, statistical summary of operations, typhoon reports, and gunnery information.

Reel 4

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.1 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0080, Report of Operations of TG 38.1 (Fast Carrier Group One) for the Period May 28 to June 13, including Air Strikes Against Kyushu, Minami Daito, Okino Daito, and Further Operations in Support of the Occupation of Okinawa. Volume 1 of 2 cont.**
J. J. Clark. June 14, 1945. 246pp.
Covers the actions of DesRon 61, and the carriers *Belleau Wood* (CVL24), and *Hornet* (CV12). DesRon 61's actions consisted of picket duty and offshore bombardment. Enclosures include individual vessel commanders' narratives. In addition, the action reports highlight air operations in support of the Okinawa campaign, including a chronology of events, ordnance information, Air Group commander's reports, and comments, recommendations, and lessons learned on the air operations and weather situation. Aircraft action reports are included also.
- 0247 **Serial 0080, Report of Operations of TG 38.1 (Fast Carrier Group One) for the Period May 28 to June 13, including Air Strikes Against Kyushu, Minami Daito, Okino Daito, and Further Operations in Support of the Occupation of Okinawa. Volume 2 of 2.**
J. J. Clark. June 14, 1945. 282pp.
Covers the individual vessel commanders' report on air operations and surface movements of the Carriers *Bennington* (CV20), *Bon Homme Richard* (CV31) *San Jacinto* (CVL30), and Destroyer *Stockham* (DD683). Information includes chronology of events, air group commanders' reports, aircraft action reports, air-sea rescue operations, and recommendations and lessons learned.
- 0529 **Serial 0234, Report of Operations of TG 38.1 Against the Japanese Empire, July 1-August 15, 1945.**
T. L. Sprague. August 27, 1945. 135pp.
Covers air strikes against airfields, naval bases, and industrial targets from Hokkaido to Inland Sea area. Information highlights force composition and organization, chronology of events, ordnance, effectiveness of air strikes, statistical analyses of results, personnel situation, and air-sea rescue activities. Enclosures highlight photographic results of air strikes and information on Japanese aircraft dispersal.
- 0664 **Serial 0413, Report of Operations of TG 38.1 from August 16 to September 2, 1945.**
T. L. Sprague. September 10, 1945. 24pp.
Covers air support during early stages of occupation of Japanese Home Islands. Operations included surveillance of Japanese airfields on Honshu and Southern Hokkaido, dropping supplies to prisoner of war camps, and support of occupation of Tokyo area.

Frame
No.

TU 38.1.2

- 0688 **Serial 0110, Action Report Covering Operations from 0700, August 29, 1944, to 2400, September 24, 1944.**
L. J. Wiltse. September 26, 1944. 7pp.
Covers actions as support group to TG 38.1 in connection with amphibious operations against Palau Islands and Morotai and carrier air strikes against Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.
- 0695 **Serial 0180, Action Report on Northern and Central Philippines Strike, December 14-16, 1944.**
G. B. Davis. December 25, 1944. 43pp.
Covers actions as support group to TG 38.1 in connection with the scheduled air strikes in Northern and Central Luzon, in support of the Mindoro landings. Actions include air and surface defense, gunfire spotting, air-sea rescue, antisubmarine operations, and fighter aircraft direction. Enclosures include narratives from units of DesRons 53 and 47.

TU 38.1.3

- 0738 **Serial 0159, Report of Anti-Aircraft Action by Surface Ships, September 22, 1944.**
Carl F. Espe. September 26, 1944. 69pp.
Highlights DesRon 46's anti-aircraft screening operation east of Luzon in support of TG 38.1's air strikes against Luzon supporting STALEMATE II. Enclosures include vessel commanders' narratives with supporting documents.

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Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont.

TU 38.1.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0178, Report of Anti-Aircraft Action by Surface Ships, October 12-15, 1944.**
Carl F. Espe. October 24, 1944. 174pp.
Highlights DesRon 46's anti-aircraft screening operation in support of TG 38.1's air strikes against Formosa during Leyte-Cebu-Negros area operations. Enclosures include vessel commanders' narratives with supporting documents.
- 0175 **Serial 0152, Action Report of Commander, TU 38.1.3, for Philippine Islands Campaign, December 10, 1944.**
H. B. Jarrett. December 29, 1944. 4pp.
Highlights DesRon 53's anti-aircraft screening operation in support of TG 38.1. This task unit did not engage the enemy, but provided air-sea rescue activities due to inclement weather.

TU 38.1.4

- 0179 **Serial 0020, Action Report on Operations during the Surrender and Occupation of Japan, August 16-September 2, 1945.**
C. B. Hunt. September 5, 1945. 12pp.
Highlights Cruiser Support Unit operating off the east coast of Honshu during the capitulation of Japan and in support of occupation of the Tokyo Bay area.

TU 38.1.22

- 0191 **Serial 0021, Commander, TU 38.1.22 Action Report, May 28-June 10, 1945.**
L. J. Wiltse. June 17, 1945. 53pp.
Highlights CruDiv 10's support of Okinawa operation. Enclosures include individual vessel commanders' narratives.

TG 38.2

- 0244 **Serial 0019, Report of Operations of TG 38.2 against Palau, Mindanao, the Visayas, and Luzon in Support of Landings on Palau, September 6 through 24, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. October 1, 1944. 42pp.
Includes task group composition and organization, narrative and chronology of air and surface operations and movements, and comments and recommendations on lessons learned. Enclosures include statistical reports on enemy shipping and aircraft losses and target charts on air operations.
- 0286 **Serial 0040, Action Report, TG 38.2, October 6–November 3, 1945.**
G. F. Bogan. November 8, 1944. 55pp.
Highlights operations as part of TF 38 in strategic support of the assault force which landed on Leyte, attacked airfields and shipping in the central and southern Nansei Shoto, Formosa, Luzon, and the Visayas. Enclosures include statistical reports on effectiveness of air operations, track charts of TG 38.2 and enemy fleet, and enemy fleet disposition.
- 0341 **Serial 0121, Report of Operations of CTG 38.2—Action against Luzon, November 5–6, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. November 16, 1944. 17pp.
Highlights air strikes against enemy aircraft, air installations, and shipping in the Luzon-Bicols area in support of continued Leyte operations. Enclosures include action narrative and chronology and statistical assessment of effectiveness of air strikes. Comments and recommendations highlight tactics, communications, and fighter direction coordination.
- 0358 **Serial 0065, Action Report, November 19 and 25, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. December 13, 1945. 42pp.
Covers air strike support of campaign for the securing and consolidating of the islands of Leyte and Samar by neutralizing enemy air strength on Luzon, hindering attempts by the enemy to reinforce his forces, and by attacking combatant and cargo shipping in waters adjacent to Luzon. Enclosures include summaries on effectiveness of air operations.
- 0400 **Serial 0081, Forwarding of Action Reports—*Intrepid* (CV11), *Hancock* (CV19), *Cabot* (CVL28), and *Independence* (CVL22), November 14–27, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. December 31, 1944. 326pp.
Individual reports highlight the air operations of the above carriers in support of air, naval, and ground operations in the Philippines. The mission of these vessels was to launch air strikes against enemy aircraft, installations, and shipping in the central and southern Luzon area, Manila Bay, and Sibuyan Sea. Each report includes a narrative and chronology of events, ordnance and equipment assessments, and weather reports. In addition, there is information highlighting the effectiveness of air strikes and includes damage summaries, aircraft action reports, gunnery and battle damage reports due to enemy air attacks, anti-aircraft action reports, and personnel performance and casualties.
- 0726 **Serial 0044, Action Report, December 14–16, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. January 24, 1945. 32pp.
Covers mission of neutralizing enemy air power and denying the enemy harbors on Luzon during the amphibious landings on Mindoro Island. Includes task organization and composition, narrative and chronology of events, weather report, and information on tactics, night operations, and air-sea rescue activities. Enclosures include statistical reports on the effectiveness of the air strikes and target sketch.
- 0758 **Serial 0047, Action Report: Support of Lingayen Landings, December 30, 1944–January 26, 1945.**
G. F. Bogan. January 26, 1945. 72pp.
Covers air strikes against enemy aircraft, installations, and shipping in the Formosa, Luzon, Cam Ranh Bay (Indochina), Hong Kong, and Okinawa Gunto areas during the period January 3–22. The air strikes were in strategic support of the Lingayen Gulf

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- landings in the Philippines. This report includes information on air and surface operations and movements, summaries of air actions and effectiveness of strikes, and recommendations and lessons learned pertaining to tactics, equipment, and personnel. There is also information on communications, fighter direction, and target analysis.
- 0831 **Serial 0158, Forwarding of Action Reports—*Lexington* (CV16), *Hornet* (CV12), *Hancock* (CV19), *Cabot* (CVL28), and *Independence* (CVL22), December 10–24, 1944.**
G. F. Bogan. January 26, 1945. 8pp.
Commentary on action reports, including recommendations regarding personnel matters.

TU 38.2.2

- 0839 **Serial 076, Action Report for November 1944.**
O. C. Badger. November 30, 1944. 20pp.
Covers primarily activities of *Iowa* (BB61) and *New Jersey* (BB62) in anti-aircraft screen of Task Group 38.2 during air strikes on Luzon airfields and shipping on November 19 and 25. Enclosures include vessel commanders' narratives.
- 0859 **Serial 01, Action Report, December 1–24, 1944.**
O. C. Badger. January 6, 1945. 19pp.
Covers BatDiv 7, primarily activities of *Iowa* (BB61), in anti-aircraft screen of Task Group 38.2 during air strikes on south central Luzon airfields in support of Mindoro operation and to aid in air-sea rescue operations. Enclosures include vessel commander's narrative and report on effects of typhoon.

TU 38.2.3

- 0878 **Serial 0140, Action Report of Air Attacks, November 14–27, 1944 inclusive.**
J. P. Womble, Jr. November 28, 1944. 7pp.
Highlights operation of DesRon 52 as anti-aircraft screen to TG 38.2 during air strikes against Luzon on November 19 and 25.

Reel 6

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3

- 0001 **Serial 0076, Report of Palau Strike, September 6–8, 1944, TG 38.3. Volume 1 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 22, 1944. 160pp.
Highlights mission to destroy enemy aircraft, air facilities, shipping, and defense installations on Peleliu Island in preparation for September 15 landings. Enclosures consist of Operation Order No. 1-44 and detailed vessel narratives with supporting documents. In addition, air strikes and offshore bombardment operations on other islands in the Palau group and Philippines are highlighted.
- 0161 **Serial 0076, Report of Palau Strike, September 6–8, 1944, TG 38.3. Volume 2 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 22, 1944. 343pp.
Continues with enclosures relating to air operations against Peleliu and other targets in the Palau group and Philippines. This volume begins with the *Lexington's* (CV16) Air Group 19 narrative.
- 0504 **Serial 0076, Report of Palau Strike, September 6–8, 1944, TG 38.3. Volume 3 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 22, 1944. 330pp.
Continues with enclosures relating to air operations against Peleliu and other targets in the Palau group and Philippines. This volume continues with the *Lexington's* (CV16) Air Group 19 narrative and ends with the narrative of the *Santa Fe* (CL60).

Reel 7

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0077, Report of Southern Philippines Strike, September 9–10, 1944, TG 38.3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 23, 1944. 231pp.
Highlights two-day air strike on northern Mindanao area and attack on small-ship convoy off Sanco Point. The purpose of these air strikes was to "soften-up" the island in preparation for amphibious landings and gather photographic intelligence. Enclosures consist of both detailed vessel group commands and individual vessel and air group narratives.
- 0233 **Serial 0078, Report of First Visayas Strike, September 12–14, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 25, 1944. 283pp.
Highlights three-day air strike against enemy shipping and installations on Cebu, Negros, and Bohol in the Central Philippines. Enclosures consist of both detailed vessel group commands and individual vessel and air group narratives.
- 0516 **Serial 0079, Report of Manila Strike, September 21–22, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 26, 1944. 241pp.
Highlights mission to destroy enemy aircraft and aircraft installations, ground installations, and shipping in the Manila and Batangas areas during Operation STALEMATE II. Enclosures consist of both detailed vessel group commands and individual vessel and air group narratives.
- 0757 **Serial 0080, Report of Second Visayas Strike, September 24, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 27, 1944. 150pp.
Covers air strikes against shipping at Coron Island and installations on Cebu and Negros. Enclosures consist of both detailed vessel group commands and individual vessel and air group narratives.

Reel 8

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0080, Report of Second Visayas Strike, September 24, 1944 cont.**
Frederick C. Sherman. October 27, 1944. 64pp.
- 0066 **Serial 0090, Battle for Leyte Gulf. Volume 1 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 2, 1944. 211pp.
Highlights role of TG 38.3 in the Second Battle of the Philippines (also called Battle of the Eastern Philippines Sea) during October 24–25. Enclosures provide a detailed chronology and analysis of the battle through the reports of the various sub-unit commands, air group commanders' reports, and narratives of individual vessels.
- 0277 **Serial 0090, Battle for Leyte Gulf. Volume 2 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 2, 1944. 231pp.
Continues with Enclosure "I".
- 0508 **Serial 0090, Battle for Leyte Gulf. Volume 3 of 3.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 2, 1944. 503pp.
Consists of messages received and sent between October 21 and 29 by sub-unit commands, air group commands, and individual vessels encompassing Enclosure "C."

Reel 9

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0089, Report of Manila Strikes, November 5-6, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 6, 1944. 60pp.
Highlights two-day air strike against Manila area in support of U.S. forces in central Philippines. In addition, there is information on damage to *Lexington* (CV16) by suicide plane. Enclosures include message traffic, photographic record of operation, and narratives from sub-unit groups, individual vessels and air group commands.
- 0061 **Serial 0092, Action Report of Ormoc Bay Strike, November 11, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 6, 1944. 35pp.
Highlights air attacks on enemy convoy as it entered Ormoc Bay in an effort to supply and reinforce enemy positions on Leyte. Enclosures include message traffic, track chart and the narratives of the *Essex* (CV9) and DesRon 55.
- 0096 **Serial 0088, Action Report of Nansei Shoto Strike, October 10, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 8, 1944. 152pp.
Covers air strikes against enemy aircraft, shipping, facilities, and defensive positions on Okinawa Jima, Ie Shima, and Kume Jima, and reconnaissance operations in Daito Islands area. Enclosures include Operation Order No. 3-44 and narratives of sub-unit command groups, individual vessels, and air group commands.
- 0248 **Serial 0091, Action Report of Battle of Formosa.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 8, 1944. 437pp.
Highlights the mission objectives of destroying enemy aircraft, facilities, and shipping in central western Formosa and in the Pescadores Islands. In addition, covers enemy air response to task force movement towards Formosa. Enclosures include Operation Order 3-44, with annexes and sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives. Recommendations and lessons learned are highlighted also.
- 0685 **Serial 00100, Report of Action Off Luzon, November 25, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 24, 1944. 257pp.
Covers air strikes on shipping off western Luzon, especially at Santa Cruz Harbor and in Lingayen Gulf. Enclosures highlight Operation Order No. 6-44, air operations planning, anti-aircraft screen and response to enemy air attacks, and sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives.

Reel 10

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00102, Report of Manila Strikes, November 13-14, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. December 26, 1944. 86pp.
Covers two-day air strike on Manila area in an effort to deny the enemy use of their airfields to support and reinforce forces on Leyte. Enclosures highlight Operation Order No. 5-44, air operations planning, and anti-aircraft screen and response to enemy air attacks. In addition, sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives include chronologies, gunnery and battle damage reports, personnel performance and casualty summaries, and air operations analyses.

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- 0087 **Serial 00103, Report of Luzon Sweeps, December 14-16, 1944.**
Frederick C. Sherman. January 8, 1945. 319pp.
Outlines air strikes and sweeps against enemy airfields and shipping in northern Luzon in support of airborne and amphibious landings on Mindoro Island. Includes accounts of surface actions in support of Mindoro landings. Enclosures highlight Operation Order No. 7-44, air operations planning and results, and anti-aircraft screen and response to enemy air attacks. In addition, sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives include chronologies, gunnery and battle damage reports, personnel performance and casualty summaries, and air operations analyses, including aircraft action reports.
- 0406 **Serial 0024, Report of Operations in Support of Luzon Landings, December 30, 1944-January 26, 1945.**
Frederick C. Sherman. February 9, 1945. 59pp.
Outlines air and surface operations in support of amphibious landings in Lingayen Gulf. These support operations were intended to prevent large Japanese air and surface forces from responding to reinforcement calls from Luzon. The fast carrier forces provided air strikes against Luzon, Formosa, and in the South China Sea area. Air and surface strikes in the South China Sea were against enemy shipping and forces in Saigon-Cam Ranh Bay, South China Coast-Hong Kong-Formosa, and in the Nansei Shoto areas.
- 0465 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 1 of 4.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 365pp.
Provides detailed accounts on air strikes, surface bombardments, and sweeps against enemy aircraft, shipping, and industrial targets on the four Home Islands of the Japanese Empire. Areas of operation included Tokyo, Tsugaru Straits and Northern Honshu, and in Shikoku-Honshu area. Enclosures consist of sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives. These include narratives and chronologies, gunnery and battle damage reports, personnel performance and casualty summaries, and air operations analyses, including aircraft action reports.
- 0830 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 2 of 4.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 113pp.
Continues sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives from frame 0465 above. (Continues with *Ticonderoga* (CV14) narrative.)

Reel 11

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 2 of 4 cont.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 393pp.
Continues sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives described at Reel 10, frame 0465. (Continues with *Ticonderoga* (CV14) Air Group 87 narrative.)
- 0394 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 3 of 4.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 443pp.
Continues sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives as noted above. (Continues with *Bataan* (CVL29) narrative.)

Frame
No.

- 0837 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 4 of 4.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 128pp.
Continues sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives as noted at frame 0001. (Continues with Task Flotilla Two narrative.)

Reel 12

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.3 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00111, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from July 1 through August 15, 1945. Volume 4 of 4 cont.**
G. F. Bogan. August 20, 1945. 197pp.
Continues sub-unit command groups, individual vessel, and air group operational narratives described at Reel 10, frame 0465. (Continues with DesDiv 124 narrative.)
- 0198 **Serial 0542, Typhoon off Southern Honshu and Shikoku, August 25, 1945.**
G. F. Bogan. August 30, 1945. 24pp.
Highlights maneuvering in response to approach of typhoon and reports on damage to vessels. Enclosures include message traffic and weather logs.
- 0222 **Serial 00120, Forwarding of Action Report of TG 38.3, from August 16 through 1200 hrs. September 2, 1945.**
G. F. Bogan. September 7, 1945. 118pp.
Highlights activities in period between armistice and surrender ceremony. These activities include air and surface vessel patrols, support of air-sea rescue activities, picket duty, typhoon information collection, and search for and supply of prisoner of war camps. Enclosures include individual vessel narratives for *Randolph* (CV15) and *Wasp* (CV18).

TU 38.3.3

- 0340 **Serial 0126, Composite Action Report, Honshu-Hokkaido and Kyushu Raids by Third Fleet, July 2-August 15, 1945.**
T. R. Cooley. August 18, 1945. 3pp.
Outline of report submitted, by commander, BatDiv 6, regarding routine screening operations in pre-invasion carrier air strikes on Home Islands.

TU 38.3.4

- 0343 **Serial 060, Action Report on Palau Strikes, September 6-8, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. September 25, 1944. 2pp.
Outline of report and brief summary of screening and offshore bombardment operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55.
- 0345 **Serial 061, Action Report of Carrier Strikes on Southern Philippines, September 9-10, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. September 25, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening and surface operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55, in support of Mindanao operations.
- 0348 **Serial 062, Action Report of First Visayas Strike, September 12-14, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. September 25, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening operation submitted by commander, DesRon 55.
- 0351 **Serial 063, Action Report of Manila Strikes, September 21-22, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. September 25, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening operation submitted by commander, DesRon 55.

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- 0354 **Serial 064, Action Report of Second Visayas Strike, September 24, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. September 25, 1944. 2pp.
Brief summary of screening operation submitted by commander, DesRon 55, in support of STALEMATE II.
- 0356 **Serial 077, Action Report, Okinawa Jima Strike, October 10, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. October 15, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening and surface operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55, in support of Nansei Shoto operations.
- 0359 **Serial 078, Action Report, Formosa Strikes, October 12-14, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. October 15, 1944. 5pp.
Brief summary, including chronology and casualty report, of screening and surface operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55.
- 0364 **Serial 088, Action Report of Battle of Philippines, October 20-25, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. October 30, 1944. 27pp.
Summary and chronology of screening and surface operations in support of TF 38 actions in Leyte Gulf operations. Enclosures include unit formation, communications logs, and track charts.
- 0391 **Serial 0116, Action Report of Air Strikes on Luzon, November 5-6, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. November 8, 1944. 4pp.
Brief summary and chronology of screening, plane guard, and strike picket operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55.
- 0395 **Serial 0117, Action Report of Air Strikes on Enemy Shipping, Ormoc Bay Area, November 11, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. November 14, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55, in support of air interception of enemy force trying to reinforce western Leyte.
- 0398 **Serial 0120, Action Report of Air Strikes on Luzon, November 13-14, 1944.**
C. R. Todd. November 16, 1944. 3pp.
Brief summary of screening, plane guard, and strike picket operations submitted by commander, DesRon 55, in support of air operations against enemy efforts to reinforce Leyte.
- 0401 **Serial 011, Destroyer Squadron 50 Action Report for Period December 30, 1944 to January 22, 1945.**
E. R. Wilkinson. January 27, 1945. 76pp.
Summary and chronology of screening, picket, plane guard, communications, air-sea rescue, and mine destruction operations in support of carrier task forces supporting the Lingayen Gulf landings. Area of operations consisted of Luzon and South China Sea. Enclosures include individual vessel narratives.

TU 38.3.5

- 0477 **Serial 088, Action Report, August 16-September 2, 1945.**
H. H. Henderson. September 9, 1945. 27pp.
Covers screening operations, by DesRon 48, in support of TG 38.3, which furnished air support for early occupation of Home Islands. Enclosures include individual vessel narratives.

TU 38.3.9

- 0504 **Serial 0505, Forwarding of Action Report of TU 38.3.9, from August 24 through September 2, 1945.**
C. A. F. Sprague. September 5, 1945. 16pp.
Summarizes activities of Carrier Division 2 prior to surrender ceremony. Activities include combat air patrols, picket surveillance, location and support of prisoner of war camps in Eastern Shikoku-Western Honshu area.

Frame
No.

TG 38.4

- 0520 **Serial 00191, Action Report—TG 38.4's Strike on Bonin-Volcano Islands, August 31–September 2, 1944.**
Ralph Davison. September 20, 1944. 246pp.
Highlights air strikes against aircraft, shipping, and installations by Carrier Division 2. In addition, intelligence and surveillance air operations were conducted. Enclosures include individual vessel and sub-unit command narratives highlighting force composition and mission, chronology of events, equipment and personnel performance, battle damage assessments, and air operational statistics.
- 0766 **Serial 00206, Action Report—TG 38.4's Strikes on Yap and Ulithi and Pre-Invasion Strikes and Air Support at Palau during the Period from September 5 to September 18, 1944.**
Ralph Davison. No date. 174pp.
Highlights air operations consisting of neutralization strikes on Yap and Ulithi, reconnaissance of Ngulu, and pre-invasion strikes and support in the invasion and occupation of Peleliu and Angaur in the Palau Islands group. Enclosures include photographs of air strikes on enemy installations and of the amphibious landings on Peleliu, and narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders, sub-unit group commands, and air group commands. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, air operational reports, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.

Reel 13

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.4 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00206, Action Report—TG 38.4's Strikes on Yap and Ulithi and Pre-Invasion Strikes and Air Support at Palau during the Period from September 5 to September 18, 1944 cont.**
Ralph Davison. No date. 85pp.
Continues individual vessel, sub-unit command groups, and air group commands narratives.
- 0087 **Serial 00263, Action Report—Operations Against Okinawa Jima, Formosa, Luzon, and Visayas in Support of the Occupation of Leyte, during the Period from October 7 through 21, 1944. Volume 1 of 2.**
Ralph Davison. November 16, 1944. 181pp.
Details effectiveness of air and surface operations in an effort to inflict maximum damage on enemy aircraft, surface forces, shipping, and ground installations. This was to prevent enemy surface and air reinforcement and interference with invasion and occupation of Leyte. Enclosures include narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders, sub-unit group commands, and air group commands. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, surface and air action reports and statistics, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.
- 0268 **Serial 00263, Action Report—Operations Against Okinawa Jima, Formosa, Luzon, and Visayas in Support of the Occupation of Leyte, during the Period from October 7 through 21, 1944. Volume 2 of 2.**
Ralph Davison. November 16, 1944. 281pp.
Continues individual vessel, sub-unit command groups, and air group commands narratives from frame 0087 above. (Continues with *San Jacinto* (CVL 30) narrative.)

Frame
No.

- 0549 **Serial 00267, Action Report—Operations in Support of the Occupation of Leyte and Against the Japanese Fleet during the Period October 22 to 31, 1944. Volume 1 of 2.**

Ralph Davison. November 18, 1944. 386pp.

Details actions of Carrier Division 2 in the Second Battle of the Philippines and in support of the occupation of Leyte. Operational area included the Sibuyan Sea, San Bernardino Straits, Surigao Straits, Leyte-Samar area, and waters east of the Visayas. Air operations consisted of air combat against ground and naval forces, antisubmarine patrols, search and strike operations, and reconnaissance flights. Surface operations included interception and pursuit of enemy forces north from Leyte. This volume consists primarily of TG 38.4's narrative and chronology, with narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders, sub-unit group commanders, and air group commanders. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, surface and air action reports and statistics, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.

Reel 14

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.4 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00267, Action Report—Operations in Support of the Occupation of Leyte and Against the Japanese Fleet during the Period October 22 to 31, 1944. Volume 2 of 2.**

Ralph Davison. November 18, 1944. 930pp.

This volume consists of the message traffic between TG 38.4, its sub-unit commands, individual vessels, and air groups and their sub-units. In addition, message traffic between cooperating task forces, higher Pacific and Southwest Pacific Area Command headquarters, and fleet commands is included.

Reel 15

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.4 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 00267, Action Report—Operations in Support of the Occupation of Leyte and Against the Japanese Fleet during the Period October 22 to 31, 1944. Volume 2 of 2 cont.**

Ralph Davison. November 18, 1944. 332pp.

Continuation of message traffic (see Reel 14 for description).

- 0333 **Serial 00274, Action Report—Operations Against Shipping in Visayas and Strikes Against Luzon and Yap during the Period November 10 to 22, 1944 Inclusive.**

Ralph Davison. November 24, 1944. 358pp.

Details air strike and interception operations against enemy convoys trying to reinforce Leyte, especially through Ormoc Bay. Includes details on air strikes in central Luzon in order to disrupt enemy communications and supply activities, and prevent air and surface reinforcement of southern Luzon and Leyte areas. Training exercises are highlighted. Enclosures include narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders, sub-unit group commanders, and air group commanders. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, surface and air action reports and statistics, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.

Frame
No.

- 0691 **Serial 0525, Action Report, May 24 to June 13, 1945.**
A. W. Radford. July 2, 1945. 222pp.
Highlights activities of Carrier Division 6 as part of TF 58 (later TF 38) in support of Okinawa Operation. Activities include combat air patrols, barrier patrols, troop support missions, and long-range fighter sweeps. In addition, offshore bombardment of Okino Daito Jima is highlighted. Areas of operation included Ryukyus, and Kyushu. Enclosures include damage to enemy assessments and operational statistics, track charts, aerological report on June 4-5 typhoon, and narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders, sub-unit group commanders, and air group commanders. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, surface and air action reports and statistics, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.

Reel 16

Third Fleet Carrier Task Forces cont. TG 38.4 cont.

- 0001 **Serial 0525, Action Report, May 24 to June 13, 1945 cont.**
A. W. Radford. July 2, 1945. 22pp.
Continues individual vessel, sub-unit command groups, and air group commands narratives from Reel 15, frame 0691. (Continues with *Independence* (CVL22) narrative.)
- 0023 **Serial 0779, Action Report, July 2 to August 15, 1945. Volume 1 of 3.**
A. W. Radford. September 7, 1945. 181pp.
Highlights Carrier Division 6's pre-invasion operations, in conjunction with TF 38, with attacks against aircraft, shipping, and industrial targets on the Home Islands of Hokkaido, Honshu, and Shikoku. Enclosures include Combat Information Center "Bogey" plots, damage to enemy assessments and operational statistics, loss reports, rescue logs, and narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders and air group commanders. Information included in these narratives consists of chronologies, surface and air action reports and statistics, battle damage assessments, casualty information, equipment and personnel performance reports, and recommendations and lessons learned.
- 0204 **Serial 0779, Action Report, July 2 to August 15, 1945. Volume 2 of 3.**
A. W. Radford. September 7, 1945. 184pp.
Continues individual vessel, sub-unit command groups, and air group command narratives as described above. (Continues with *Shangri-La* (CV38) narrative.)
- 0388 **Serial 0779, Action Report, July 2 to August 15, 1945. Volume 3 of 3.**
A. W. Radford. September 7, 1945. 345pp.
Continues individual vessel, sub-unit command groups, and air group command narratives as described at frame 0023. (Continues with *Cowpens* (CVL258) narrative.)
- 0733 **Serial 0880, Action Report, August 16 to September 2, 1945.**
A. W. Radford. September 15, 1945. 105pp.
Highlights air and surface activities in support of occupation of Tokyo area. These activities included airfield and prisoner of war camp reconnaissance with food and supply drops to the latter, combat air patrols for Third Fleet units operating in Sagami Wan and Tokyo Bay, air cover for airborne troop movements, and air support for Third Amphibious Force landings. Enclosures provide details on operational statistics, the Task Group Landing Force, and operational narratives submitted by individual vessel commanders and air group commands.

TU 38.4.2

- 0839 **Serial 0015, Action Report on Bombardment of Chichi Jima and Iwo Jima, September 1-2, 1944.**
D. M. McGurl. September 8, 1944. 10pp.
Highlights offshore bombardment operations against shore installations and targets of opportunity in the Bonin-Volcano Islands, submitted by commander, Cruiser Support Unit. Enclosures include damage tables on shipping, aircraft, and shore installations, and ammunition expenditure and casualty reports.
- 0849 **Serial 0018, Action Report on Operations from September 5-18, 1944, Including Bombardment of Yap Islands on September 7-8, 1944.**
D. M. McGurl. September 20, 1944. 6pp.
Brief summary of offshore bombardment operations against shore installations and targets of opportunity in the Yap Islands, submitted by commander, Cruiser Support Unit. Enclosures include tables on ammunition expenditure and damage to shore installations.
- 0855 **Serial 0065, Action Report—Operations with TG 38.4 for the Period October 21-31, 1944.**
C. T. Joy. November 6, 1944. 7pp.
Brief summary and chronology of CruDiv 6's screening operation during search for Japanese Fleet during Battle for Leyte.

TU 38.4.3

- 0862 **Serial 0115, Action Reports, October 7-21, 1944.**
V. D. Long. November 4, 1944. 2pp.
List and transmittal of individual vessel narratives by commander, DesRon 6.
- 0864 **Serial 0116, Action Reports, October 22-31, 1944.**
V. D. Long. November 4, 1944. 2pp.
List and transmittal of individual vessel narratives by commander, DesRon 6.
- 0866 **Serial 0117, Antiaircraft Action Reports, October 12-13, 1944.**
V. D. Long. November 4, 1944. 28pp.
Forwards action reports, by commander, DesRon 6, of *Helm* (DD388) and *Bagley* (DD386) covering screening operations east of Formosa during three-day air strike by TG 38.4 in support of Leyte Operations.
- 0894 **Serial 0150, Forwarding of Report of Battle for Leyte Gulf.**
V. D. Long. November 23, 1944. 11pp.
Brief summary of participation of *Swanson* (DD443) in screening operation during naval engagement off Cape Engano during Battle for Leyte Gulf, October 24-25, submitted by commander, DesRon 6.

TU 38.4.4

- 0905 **Serial 0144, Action Report of TU 38.4.4 as Cruiser Support Unit of TG 38.4, from August 20 to September 2, 1945. Covering Occupation of the Tokyo Area.**
B. H. Colyear. September 11, 1945. 30pp.
Covers routine screening operation during period between armistice and formal surrender. Enclosures consist of individual vessel operational narratives.

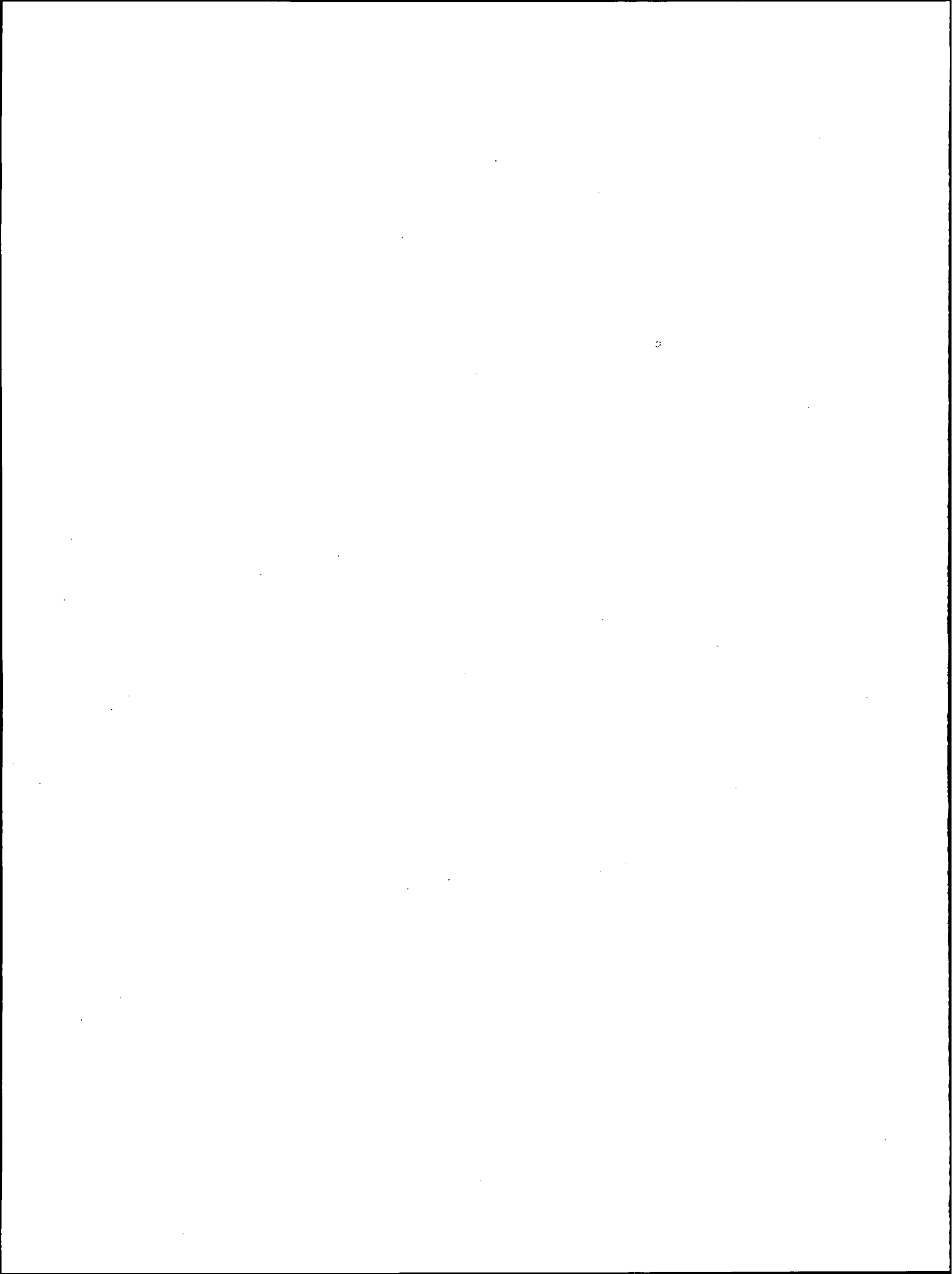
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TG 38.5

0936 Serial 003, Action Report for January 1945.

M. B. Gardner. January 28, 1945. 35pp.

Covers operations of Carrier Division 7, designated as First Night Carrier Task Group. This task group was assigned to TG 38.2 during daylight operations. The mission of this task group was to protect the amphibious landings in Lingayen Gulf, between January 6-22, from interference by enemy surface forces, and from air attacks launched from Formosa or Nansei Shoto airfields. Information includes summary of operations, statistical summaries on air operations, ordnance expenditures, losses and rescue operations, and damage to enemy. There is a section highlighting recommendations and lessons learned.



SUBJECT INDEX

The following index is a guide to the major topics in *U.S. Navy Action and Operational Reports from World War II, Pacific Theater, Part 2*. The first arabic number refers to the reel, and the four-digit number after the colon refers to the frame number at which a particular report containing information on the subject begins. Hence 1: 0001 directs the researcher to the report that begins at frame 0001 on Reel 1. By referring to the Reel Index that constitutes the initial segment of this guide, the researcher will find the file report containing the subject. Due to the frequency with which the following subjects appear in the microfilmed reports, they are not included in this Subject Index: force composition outlines; loss and damage reports; air operational and statistical summaries; recommendations, comments, and lessons learned; track charts; ordnance and personnel performance reports; personnel matters and casualty reports; and individual vessel action narratives.

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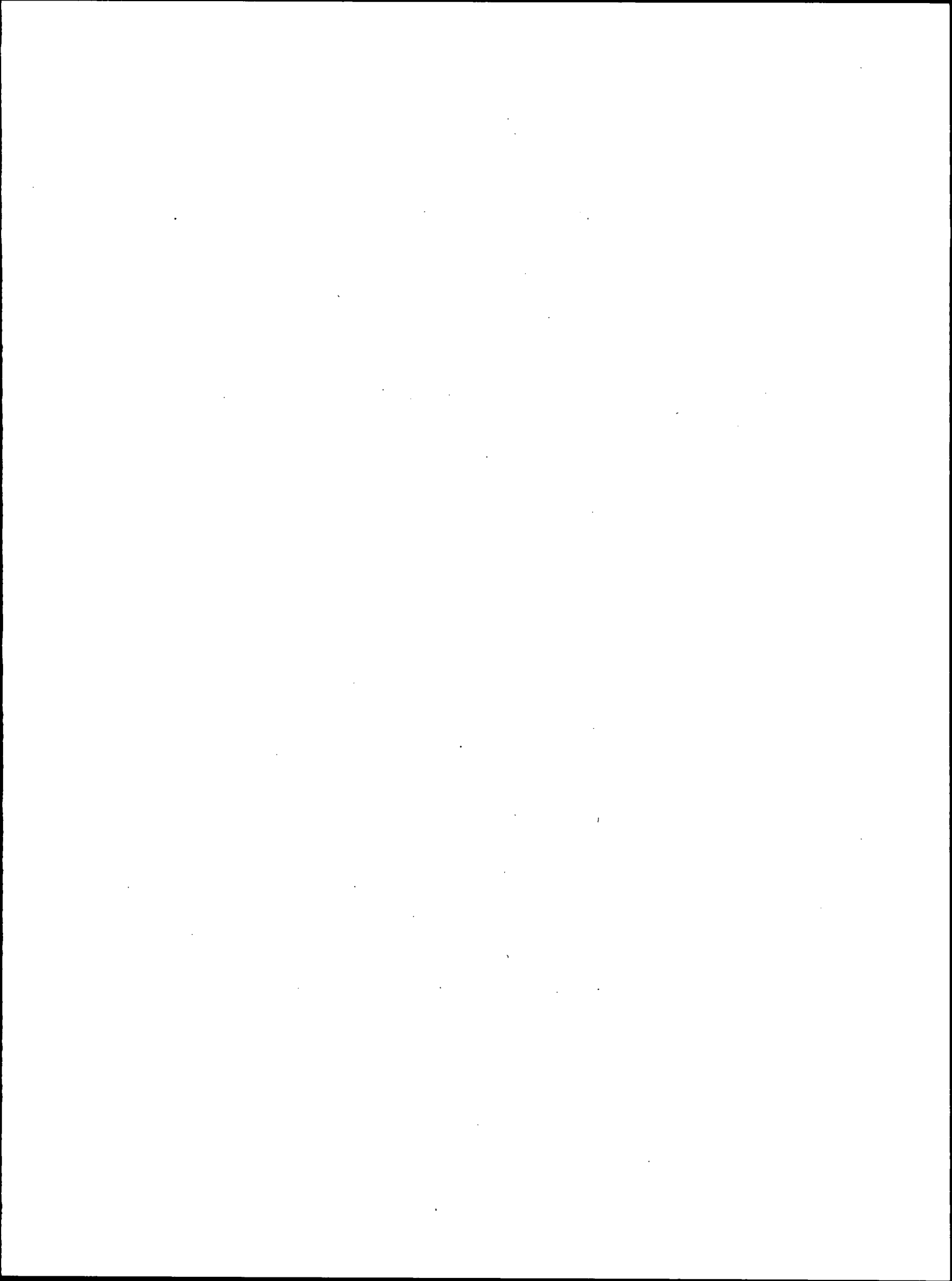
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