

All planes in commission had guns on board together with full allowances of service ammunition. During the first attack, fire was opened from the guns as mounted in the planes, and when it was discovered that these were not effective for fire from the ground due to structural interference, many personnel removed these guns from the planes and set them up on brackets in vines and opened up an effective fire against the second attack. As nearly as can be determined, a total of 1 Japanese planes were shot down by personnel of patrol plane squadrons by this method.

Two planes of Utility Squadron One conducted an extensive search although these planes being of a noncombatant type were not equipped with machine guns. Despite the lack of defense against attacks by hostile aircraft, the pilots of these planes persisted in their search until the threatened exhaustion of their fuel forced their return to Pearl Harbor. The devotion to duty of these pilots will be made the subject of a special report.

There and numerous other instances of distinguished conduct occurred which Commander Task Force NINE has not yet had time to investigate.

4 Attention is invited to the following dispatches and mailgrams indicating the extensive searches conducted by units of this command during the period 29 November to 7 December 1941, from Wake and Midway:

Cincpac 250450	} of November.
280447	
040377	
ComTaskForce NINE 294124	} of December.
282101	
282103	
300309	} of November.
050328	

P. N. L. HULLISOCK.

Copy to:
Comincomstar.

HEWITT INQUIRY EXHIBIT No. 50 (A)

Classified outgoing

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

From:	Info To:
CINCPAC	COMPATWING 2
To:	COMBATFOR
COMTASKFOR 2	COMBASEFOR
COM 14	

Twelve planes marine fight from two eleven are to base Wake accordance Myser 101825 of 10 November X Enterprise provide transportation X After departure Pearl on 28 Nov form Task Force Eight consisting of Enterprise Chester Northampton Saltlake City and Desron six and pass command task force two to Real Admiral Draemel with orders task force two carry out normal operations in Hawaiian area X proceed to arrive 2000 miles 070 degrees from Wake at 0700 on 3 Dec X ply off marine planes that vicinity and upon receiving info that planes have arrived Wake return Pearl X enroute to and from Wake pass through point afirm four hundred miles south of Midway X Patrol planes from Midway and Wake will cover your route and provide security while at Wake X communications radio condition nineteen guard NPM primary Fox continuously X comfourteen inform Wake that planes expected arrive there 0830 on 3 Dec and direct Wake report comfourteen by coded dispatch when planes arrive there X comfourteen furnish this final arrival information to comtaskfor eight X Wake submarine patrol tambor triton will be advised X Narwhal and Dolphin are enroute Pearl at 1200 get on 27 Nov they were about 300 miles east of Wake

280447 Nov 41

11-860
Classified outgoing

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

From: CINCPAC
To: COMPATWING 2Info To:
COMSCOFOR
COMBATFOR
COM 14
COMBASEFOR
COMAIRBATFOR

Direct 12 patrol planes now at Midway proceed Wake on 1 Dec search enroute X provide one squadron relieve Midway planes on 30 November X after arrival both squadrons direct them comply my 280447 X present intention return Wake squadron Pearl about 5 December

Classified

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Incoming

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

Secret Mailgram 292103

ORIGINATOR:

CTF 9
292103

ACTION:

COMPATRONS 21, 22
COMTASKGROUP
9.2

INFORMATION:

CINCPAC
COM 14
COMSUBSCOFOR
CO NAS MIDWAY
CO NAS WAKE

Operation order 981 x Information Cinpac 280447 and 280450 x Task Force 8 Enterprise Chester Northampton Salt Lake City 6 DD transporting Marine Figron which will base on Wake x Planes will be launched 200 miles bearing 070 from Wake at 2000 GCT on December 3 x Enroute and returning Task Force 8 will pass point 400 miles south of Midway x Departed Pearl forenoon 28 Nov. x Wright expected arrive Midway from Wake 3 December x Mission cover route and provide security for TF 8 while in vicinity of Wake in order to obtain information possible enemy forces in threatening position and provide readily available aerial striking power during period carrier will be launching marine planes x Tasks Patron 21 search as (?) indicated; Nov. 30 depart Pearl daylight search sector 200-280 degrees to longitude 165 degrees thence on track 270 to long 172-30 thence to Midway; Dec 1 sector 170 dash 224 to 500 miles using 8 planes; Dec 2 sector 200-237 to 525 miles using four planes; Dec 3 sector 206-248 to 525 miles using 6 planes; Dec 4 sector 170-224 to 500 miles using 8 planes; Dec 5 sector 126-168 to 525 miles using 6 planes x Patron 22 search as indicated; Dec 1 depart Midway daylight using 2 plane sections sector 226-249 to 525 miles thence on track 238 to far perimeter of 120 mile circle from Wake thence to Wake; Dec 2 sector 060-102 to 525 miles using 6 planes; Dec 3 take off at 1800 GCT sector 048-092 to 500 miles (?) using six planes: one plane be 200 miles bearing 070 from Wake at 2000 GCT remain with Task Force 8 until 2400 GCT unless otherwise directed by visual: remaining 5 planes each load with 2 500 pound bombs; unless otherwise directed unload bombs at 0230 GCT December 4 x On December 6 x On Dec 4 take off daylight for Midway x On December 5 take off at daylight for Pearl xray critical period entire operation forenoon 3 Dec. x Logistics fuel as required x Special provisions use zone 0 times x Task Force 9 basic communications and aerological plans x Frequency plan fox Comtaskforce 9 with fairdet at nas Pearl x Maintain radio silence except for contact (?) reports and emergencies x Arrange for bases to broadcast Mo's on schedule without request x.

Date 11/30/41. Crypto-Group Mail. Grp. Ct. 100. Circ. No. 11-974

Classified

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Incoming

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

Mailgram 292101 Mailgram

Operation Order 982 special provisions use zone plus 12 time x Task force nine basic communication and aerological plans

Frequency plan fox information Cincpac 170429 of October x Comtask force 9 in fairdet at nas Pearl x Mission conduct daily

Patrols from outlying bases in order to locate possible enemy forces threatening their security x Tasks search area within

100 miles of Midway daily using sector search plan number 2 x Be prepared to shift base to Wake x Take offensive action only

If planes or bases are actually attacked or on further orders from Cincpac x Report all contacts except United States naval

Vessels x Coordinate activities with subs operation from Midway x This order effective upon completion of opord 981 x

Date, 11/30/41. Grp. Ct. 100. Circ. No. 11-973.

Originator, CTF 9, 292101. Action, COM PATRON 21. Information, CINCPAC, COM 14, NAS MIDWAY (VIA VP 21), COMSUBSCOFOR.

Classified

Outgoing

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

Date

Grp. Ct.

From CINCPAC. Mailgram to COMTASKFOR 3, COMFOURTEEN, COM-PATWING 2.

Info Mailgram to: COMBATFOR, COMBASEFOR, COMAIRBATFOR, LEXINGTON.

Originator 11. Release 00. 202101. Show to 12.95.

Myser 01825 of 10 Nov Marine scoron two three one will base eighteen planes Midway X Lexington provide transportation X on 5 Dec after sortie Pearl form Task Force 12 under Comruscoron consisting of Lexington Chicago Astoria Portland desron five less desdiv ten X task force twelve proceed by direct route to arrive four hundred miles 120 degrees from Midway at 2230 Oct on 7 Dec X From that vicinity fly off Marine planes to Midway X return operating area and resume normal operations after planes have arrived Midway X Comtaskfor nine direct patrol planes from Midway cover Lexington flying off position provide security while that area and guard Marine plane flight X communications radio condition 19 guard continuously nrm primary fox X Com 14 inform Midway planes expected arrive about 0200 GCT on 8 Dec and require Midway report arrival to Com 14 by coded dispatch X Com 14 pass this report to Comtaskfor 12 X Midway submarine patrol will be advised

Classified

Incoming

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

Copy

Secret

AMGM

Deliver to Compatron 21 operation order 983 information Marine scoron 231 will base Midway 18 planes X Taskforce 12 Lexington 3 CA 5 DD will launch 400 miles 130 degrees from Midway on December 7 at GCT 2230 X mission cover launching position provide security while that area and guard Marine plane flight December 7 X logistics fuel as required tasks 5 planes search section 120 to 170 degrees to distance 450 miles arriving outer limit at 2230 GCT X 2 planes arrive launching position by 2230 and escort Marscoron 231 to Midway X remaining 5 planes each load with 2 500 pound bombs and await orders at Midway unless otherwise directed unload bombs at 0200 GCT December 8 X special provisions

Date 6 December '41; Crypto-group pl/MG; CBO HRF/HJG.

Originator Comtaskfor 9, Page 1 of 2 pages 050323. Action, NAS Midway. Information, Cincpac, Lexington, CO Maraigr 21, Commarscoron 231. Serial No. 12-206.

NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Classified

CINCPAC AND CINCPAC

Incoming

Copy

Secret

AMGM

Use zone 0 time X Comtaskfor 9 with fairdet at nas Pearl radio silence except for contact reports and emergencies use task force 9 basic communication and aerological plans frequency plan fox

Copy and return to Adm. Bellinger

MAILGRAM

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

A. S. F. stand. form No. 13

U. S. S. Wright

Deliver this mailgram to communication system immediately upon receipt for distribution and handling as a regular dispatch

From: Comtaskfor 9

To: NAS Midway

Mailed at: PH TH 1124

To: Compatron 21 (Mail)

291124

Your squadron departs for Wake daylight December first X Detailed orders via Patron 21 X Mission cover Route Taskforce 8 including carrier proceeding westward X Task on thirty November using six planes search sector 153-195 degrees to 500 miles X Patron 21 enroute Midway will search adjacent sector to eastward X For Patron 22 X Present intention return your squadron about 5 December to Pearl X Arrange schedule for base broadcast MO's without request on 364 Kilocycles to cover return your squadron and arrival Patron 21 X Maintain radio silence except for contact reports and emergencies.

Authenticated: _____
Signature, name and rank.

Copy and return to Admr. Bellinger

A. S. F. Stand. Form No. 13

U. S. S. Wright

MAILGRAM

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Deliver this mailgram to communication system immediately upon receipt for distribution and handling as a regular dispatch

From: COMTASKFOR 9

To: NAS Midway

Date: November 30, 1941

Mailed at: NAS, PH, TH, 2359

To: NAS Johnston

302359

Detailed plans and orders arriving via Patron 21 planes prior sunrise tomorrow minday X First day operations require quote December 1 depart Midway daylight using two plane sections search sector 226-249 degrees to 525 miles thence on track 238 to far perimeter of 120 mile circle from Wake thence to Wake unquote if necessary leave one pair planes Midway with orders depart directly for Wake upon receipt of papers from Patron 21 X INFO ADEE deliver to Compatron 21 X Action ADEE to Compatron 22.

Authenticated: _____
Signature, name and rank.