UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET AIR FORCE
COMBAT AIRCRAFT SERVICE UNIT (F) FORTY-FOUR
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

CHRONOLOGY

A change in the command of this unit occurred on 22 August 1945 when Lt.Cdr., James S. PURNELL, S(A), USNR, 100607, was relieved by LtCdr., Elmer F. SIPP, Jr., S(A), USNR, 78494.

During the period covered by this supplement to the CASU(F)-44 history, two (2) detachments operated for short periods away from the location of the main unit on Tinian. The first detachment consisted of one (1) officer and seven (7) men which operated as an emergency maintenance crew on Iwo Jima from 11 March 45 until early April 1945. [2] The second detachment operated as an emergency maintenance crew on Okinawa from 30 April 45 to 8 June 45. This detachment consisted of two (2) officers and thirty-three (33) men. [3]

The main unit of CASU(F)-44 took part in no action on Tinian during the period covered by this supplement, due to the fact that only a handful of the enemy remained on Tinian, and they were more interested in surviving than creating any damage. However the CASU(F)-44 detachment at Iwo underwent a few air raids of little importance which caused no damage or injury to CASU equipment or personnel. A different condition existed, however, on Okinawa, where the CASU detachment experienced over one hundred (100) air-raids in less than thirty (30) days. CASU(F)-44 men were working on planes parked on Yontan Field the night that two Japanese transports crash-landed on the field, and a score of Japanese special combat troops succeeded in doing considerable damage to Navy

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1. See Appendix, Encl. 1 through 8 inclusive - Biography of LtCdr SIPP and LtCdr Sipp's orders to this unit as relief for LtCdr PURNELL.
2. See Appendix, Encl.9 - Orders of 11 March 45 to Lt(jg) EDELBERG.
3. See Appendix, Encl. 10-14 inclusive - Orders and endorsements to Lt(jg) EDELBERG and commendation Encl. 14 from C.O. CASU(F)-11.