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Authority: E.O. 13526

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NARRATIVE

high seas wrecked all installations in Tinian Town Harbor, and until the time repairs were made 7500 drums of Avgas were used over a nine (9) day period. Several times the supply of Avgas on Tinian was so small that there was enough left¹ for only two (2) days operations by the squadrons.

The Radio, Radar and Electrical Division suffered during the early stages at North Field in much the same way as has been previously described for other divisions. Available equipment was for PB4Y's, personnel were trained for work on these planes, and many of the men in this Division were absent on special working parties. Therefore, the usual difficult situation arose with the arrival and operation of the PV squadrons. The radar situation was particularly serious.² Through the cooperation of the squadrons additional trained personnel was obtained, as well as radar accessories from A.S.D., Roi.

Ordnance problems were also severe. There was a shortage of men trained in bombsight work and the maintenance of Honeywell equipment, and consequently a heavy burden was placed on other men assigned to this Division. Bomb handling equipment did not arrive until the middle of September, but by borrowing two (2) bomb service trucks and six (6) Mk. 2 bomb trailers from VMTE-242, Ordnance was able to handle loading operations. In addition many of the planes arriving came with gun mount adapters of every description, and accessories were not available to handle all of the varied types which were on the planes. This trouble seems to have been caused by each Patrol Plane Captain installing ordnance equipment in accordance with his individual opinion as to the type of armament his plane should have.

1 See Appendix, Encl. 48 - Memo from Operations Officer to OO CASU-44 of 8-28-44.
2 See Appendix, Encl. 52 - Ltr. from OO CASU-44 to Base Operations of 10-21-44.