

Daily Activity Reports

**Prepared by Major Clyde S. Shields
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2 February – 31 July 1945

The first three pages of this PDF were compiled from Major Clyde S. Shields Daily Diary for the period February to the end of May 1945. The reason for this compilation from Maj. Shields Daily Diary is simply to present this early Kingman Drop Test Schedule in a similar table format as was originally provided by Maj. Shields after 1 June 1945. Pages 4 thru 8 are the original June and July tables provided by Maj. Shields in his original Daily Diary record. In the first three pages not cover in table form by Maj. Shields I have highlighted points of interest or milestones along the way, but these are only milestones from my point of view.

The February to the end of May table was originally created 2 March 2013 by Scott Muselin, any errors or omissions, if any, were unintentional and the intent here again was to provide as complete a table format as possible from 2 February – 31 July 1945.

Kingman early Test schedule February to June 1945

Date	Aircraft	Pilot	Bombardier	Test Unit	Target	Comments
2/4/1945	234	n/a	n/a	n/a	none	Temperature test
2/13/1945	258	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	required # of drop tests performed "no details"
2/17/1945	235	Maj. Sweeney	n/a	n/a	n/a	departed 1030 returned 1730
2/17/1945	234	Maj. Shields	n/a	n/a	n/a	departed 1100 landed LV NV bad weather K
2/19/1945	235	Maj. Sweeney	n/a	n/a	SB	no other details
2/20/1945	235	Capt. Marquardt	n/a	n/a	SB	no other details
2/20/1945	234	Maj. Shields	n/a	n/a	SB	#3 engine out @ 26,000 - Landed San Bernardino
2/21/1945	235	Maj. Marquardt	Maj. Ferebee	S-24 #8 1418	SB	A/C burned on runway @ K
2/25/1945	234	Maj. Shields	n/a	1491	n/a	Burch onboard thermo test
2/25/1945	258	Maj. Hopkins	n/a	(4) M-26 Flares	n/a	failure - chutes ripped
2/26/1945	258	Maj. Hopkins	n/a	(3) M-26 Flares	n/a	failure - chutes ripped
2/26/1945	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	All test work completed with test drops today???
2/27/1945	Lt. Hartshorn assigned to 216th					
Note: March 3,4 & 5 Test drop witnessed by Shields/Semple at I or SB. It is obvious I drops are not included in this Shields Daily Diary						
3/10/1945	258	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1560	SB	altitude 28,000 ft. Classen crew observing
3/11/1945	234	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1418	SB	Zahn crew observing
3/12/1945	234	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1418	SB	Costello crew observing drop altitude 30,000 ft.
3/13/1945	258	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1560	SB	Zahn crew observing
3/18/1945	234	Lt. Westover	Lt. Allen	1418	SB	Drop 29,000 ft.
3/18/2012	258	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1560	SB	Drop 30,000 ft.
3/19/1945	262	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	1560	SB	Drop 28,000 ft.
3/19/1945	259	Lt. Col. Classen	Capt. Chapman	1491	SB	Drop 29,000 ft.
3/20/1945	Drop testing of aircraft 237, 238, 239 completed today (this may be a ground drop test verification of function not an actual drop)					
3/20/1945	260	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Semple	1560	SB	Drop 31,000 ft.
3/22/1945	259	Lt. Ray	Lt. Ferina	S-33 1491	SB	Lost bomb faulty arming wiring - premature release
3/24/1945	260	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Semple	S-34 1560	SB	Drop 30,000 ft.
3/25/1945	260	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	S-35 1560	SB	Drop 30,000 ft.
3/26/1945	262	Lt. Ray	Lt. Ferina	S-35 1491	SB	Drop 29,200 ft.
3/26/1945	258	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Semple	S-37 1560	SB	Drop 28,000 ft.
3/27/1945	258	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	S-38 1560	SB	Drop 30,000 ft.
3/28/1945	234	Maj. Sweeney	Maj. Ferebee	S-39 1560	SB	Drop 32,300 ft. plus turbo surge test

3/29/1945	239	Lt. Westover	Lt. Allen	K-44 1491	K	Drop 30,000 ft. Hard surface local target
3/30/1945	234	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	K-45 1560 H.E.	K HE-Target	Drop 32,000 ft. low order detonation fusing error??
4/17/1945	384	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Semple	T-7 1560	?	No Drop camera problems at Target
4/17/1945		Maj. Darby assigned to FTS from 509th as XO to Maj. Shields				
4/18/1945	385	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Von Grafen	T-8-9-10 ?	?	Drop 21,000 ft.
4/18/1945	234	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	T-11 1560 H.E.	I	Drop 30,000 ft. ground SNAFU @ I not ready
4/18/1945	385	Maj. Hopkins	Capt. Chapman	Blast Tubes	K - Local	T-1 thru T-6 chutes failed
4/20/1945	385	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Von Grafen	T-14 1560	SB	Drop 35,000 ft.
4/21/1945	387	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	T-3 1491	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/21/1945	384	Capt. Bystrom	Lt. Von Grafen	T-16 1491	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/23/1945	387	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Von Grafen	T-17 1491	SB	Drop 29,000 ft. A/C vibration problems unknown
4/24/1945		393rd removed from drop test program, Pumpkin program will fulfill their tactical training				
4/24/1945		216th to take over program at I due to past unsuccessful operations; majority of their schedule shifted to K				
4/25/1945	385	Maj. Shields	Lt. Semple	T-13 1560	SB	Drop 32,000 ft. Parsons, Ramsey observers
4/25/1945		Lt. Semple promoted to Capt.				
4/25/1945	384	Capt. Bystrom	Lt. Von Grafen	T-33 1492	SB land target	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/26/1945	385	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Von Grafen	T-12 1560 No. 16	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/26/1945	384	Capt. Bystrom	Capt. Semple	T-19 No.5 1791	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/26/1945		C-45 A/C 4731 Dipsy Doodle local fusing test mission flown by Maj. Darby				
4/27/1945	384	Capt. Bystrom	Lt. Von Grafen	T-20 No 7 1791	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/27/1945	385	Maj. Shields	Capt. Semple	T-15 No.17 1560	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/27/1945		C-45 A/C 431 Dipsy Doodle local fusing test mission flown by Lt. Mirgon				
4/28/1945	387	Maj. Darby	Lt. Von Grafen	T-21 No.28 1791	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/28/1945	385	Lt. Hartshorn	Capt. Davis	T-26 No.18 1560	SB fly over	No Drop: Unit brought back to K for inspection
4/29/1945	234	Maj. Darby	Lt. Semple	T-31 #20 1560	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/30/1945	385	Lt. Hartshorn	Lt. Von Grafen	T-36 #18 1560	SB	Drop 32,000 ft.
4/30/1945		C-45 A/C 431 two (2) Dipsy Doodle local fusing test mission flown by Lt. Mirgon				
4/30/1945		Irate call from Cmdr. Hayward from "I" about the schedule change				
5/3/1945		Meeting held at "I" Cmdr Hayward commented on 509th poor bombing, unreliable recorded data and poor crew discipline				
5/3/1945		Maj. Darby assigned to coordinate further test activity at "I"				
5/5/1945	Aircraft 387	Pilot Maj. Shields	Bombardier Capt. Semple	mission to "A" seems to fall outside the realm of Kingman test drops so it is highlighted here alone. There is no test unit identification so it is assumed from the description that this was a 1560 H.E. unit assembled at "Y" and detonated with high order on 5/7/1945 with target location not identified. There were several instrument drops and dry runs in the days proceeding.		

5/17/1945 Maj. Shields makes a diary entry here that a separate diary and test phase record will be turned in covering the work at "I". This is conclusive that the "I" drop tests are not covered nor included in Maj. Shields Kingman diary. The Daily Diary then turns a bit retrospective for the remain few entries for May 1945.

5/16/1945 295 Capt. Bystrom Capt. Semple T-50 #9 1792 I Drop 30,000 ft.

5/14/1945 The 216th FTS took over control of the 320th Troop Carrier Squadron with this unit now reporting to Col. Heflin through Maj. Shields with Capt. Krippendorf as its Operations Officer with Lt. Mirgon as assistant.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

DATE	AIRCRAFT	PILOT	BOMBARDIER	UNIT NO.	WEIGHT	ALTITUDE TARGET	ALTITUDE S.L.	TRUE AIRSPEED	B. C.	DRIFT	ESTIMATED ERROR CIRCULAR	TARGET
6/1	258	LEWIS	WILLIAMS	1560 94 43	9400	26000	30300	303	1.25	2R	2000' @ 1200	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: 20° drag plates for observation only. Flight excellent. No yaw; no rotation.												
6/1	387	BYSTROM	MURRAY	1850 74 2	8500	28000	32300	300	6.67	6°L	600' @ 1530	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Clouds obscuring target until 15 seconds away. Full manual run.												
6/1	295	SHIELDS	BANNING	1850 73 1	8500	28000	32300	320	6.67	5°L	500' @ 1500	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Clouds obscuring target until 15 seconds away, Full manual run.												
6/1	386	DAVIS	SEMPLE	1560 45 85	9300	31880	32125	300	1.33	3°L	800' @ 1100	SB (WATER)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run. <u>AGLD</u> M9B sight.												
6/6	385	MORLAN	MURRAY	1560 95 44	9300	32050	31805	306	1.6	6°L	1000' @ 1100	SB (WATER)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Lateral bubbles slightly off to right. 20° drag plates.												
6/6	386	DAVIS	SEMPLE	1560 96 45	9300	32000	31755	300	1.539 3	6.650 6°L	500' @ 0730	SB (WATER)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run. Aiming point 500 short. <u>AGLD</u> M9B sight. 20° drag plates.												
6/8	385	ZAEN	ORMOND	1560 48 29	9400	32000	34203	341	1.4	8°R	900' @ 1330	I
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION; Full manual run. (593rd Crew)												
6/15	387	SHIELDS	SEMPLE	1792 136 19	8500	27950	32250	305	6.67 3	0.15 5°L	500' @ 0700	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run. Had to level again. Lateral bubble off 8 mils right.												
6/15	295	HARTSHORN	BANNING	1792 135 18	8500	28020	32320	305	6.67 3	0.15 9°L	100' @ 0700	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full manual run.												
6/16	295	HARTSHORN	BANNING	1792 137 20	8500	28000	32300	317	6.67 3	0.15 11°L	200' @ 1200	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot run.												
6/16	387	O'HARA	MURRAY	1850 132 3	8500	28100	32400	320	6.67 3	0.15 5°L	400' @ 1100	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run.												
6/17	295	HARTSHORN	SEMPLE	1850 134 5	8460	28000	32300	310	6.67 3	0.15 7°L	400' @ 0830	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot run.												
6/18	387	DAVIS	MURRAY	1850 133 4	8460	28040	32340	315	6.67 3	0.15 5°L	1000' @ 1130	K (HARD)
FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Manual run. Temp error. Synchronization on rate off.												
6/18	386	SHIELDS	SEMPLE	Blas: augs. 1 dropped from 35,000 f. - chute failed. 1 other not dropped								T

FINOWAN JUNE TEST RECORD (Cont'd). **CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED**
PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

DATE	AIRCRAFT	PILOT	BOMBARDIER	UNIT	T	NO.	WEIGHT	ALTITUDE TARGET	ALTITUDE S. L.	TRUE AIRSPEED	B. G.	DRIFT	ESTIMATED ERROR CIRCULAR	TARGET
✓ 6/24	387	HARTSHORN	TRUMAS	1850	141	1	10315	28090	32390	305	6.67	1°R	175' @ 1100	K (HARD)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run.													
✓ 6/25	295	TOMPSON	BANNING	1560	123	57	10315	32000	31455	318	1.3793	12°R	1100' @ 1100	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Poor coordination between pilot and bombardier. Manual run.													
✓ 6/25	295	SPEILDS	SEMPLE	1560	144	49	9364	180	-95	185	Ind.		Water drop. No sight..Good results.	SB
✓ 6/26	387	KRENER	BANNING	1560	86	47	9345	27200	27055	289	1.3793	5°L	2500' @ 1500	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Lousy run, lousy bombing, synchronized on boat - No expanse.													
✓ 6/27	295	HARTSHORN	BANNING	1560	148	85	9364	32000	31755	327	1.3793	11°R	500' @ 1000	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run.													
✓ 6/27	386	SHIKES	SEMPLE	Blast Gauge. 1 dropped from 25,000; 3 dropped at 25,000. All drops good.										T
✓ 6/28	387	KRENER	MURRAY	1560	149	66	10300	28000	31755	310	1.3793	7°L	1200' @ 1100	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION. Full manual run.													
✓ 6/29	384	DAVIS	MURRAY	1560	88	69	10285	28015	31770	314	1.3793	18°L	500' @ 1100	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: 15 ft. high in altitude. Full automatic pilot.													
✓ 6/30	384	DAVIS	VON GRAFEN	1560	150	57	10080	28000	28825	294	1.3793	4°L	50' @ 1500	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Haze. Full automatic pilot run.													
6/30	295	HARTSHORN	JAYNES	1560	151	68	10080	28030	27795	294	1.3793	2°L	500' @ 0700	SB(WATER)
	FACTORS AFFECTING MISSION: Full auto pilot run. Bubbles slightly off—fore and aft.													

CLYDE S. SPEILDS
 Major, Air Corps
 Commanding Officer

DATE	AIRCRAFT	PILOT	COMBARDIER	UNIT	T	NO.	WEIGHT	ALTITUDE AL. TARGET	DE S.L.	TRUE AIRSPEED	B. C.	DRIFT	ESTIMATED ERROR CIRCULAR	TARGET
✓ 7/1	384	KEENER	JAYNES	1560	37	71	9360	32,000	31755	311	1.60	1R	150' @ 0600	SB
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: 15" cut out on drag plates. Automatic pilot run, except elevators.														
✓ 7/2	387	THOMPSON	MURRAY	1850	154	6	8460	28050	32387	312	6.25	2½L	450' @ 1230	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot run. 50' at release. Airspeed 2 M.P.H. fast.														
✓ 7/2	384	HARTSHORN	VON GRAFEN	1560	38	70	9180	28000	32337	313	1.3793	3.5L	350' @ 1715	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot run except elevators. Synchronized slightly fast.														
✓ 7/3	384	HINDERAKER	JAYNES	1850	155	7	8460	28000	32337	312	6.25	6L	350' @ 1000	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full manual run, range bubble slightly off.														
✓ 7/3	387	DAVIS	MURRAY	1850	156	8	8470	28080	32417	314	6.25	6L	500' @ 1030	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot run except elevators. 80' high at release.														
✓ 7/4	387	DAVIS	SEMPLE	1792	152	24	8480	650	4950	220		No Sight -	Correct Displacement 100' K	
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Manual Run.														
✓ 7/4	387	HARTSHORN	VON GRAFEN	1850	138	21	8365	28020	31960	310	6.25	2L	500' @ 0500	Llama
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Auto pilot except elevators. For and aft bubble slightly off. Crab drift 180' right. Alt. 20' high at release.														
✓ 7/5	387	DAVIS	MURRAY	1852	158	3	8900	28000	32337	312	6.25	8L	500' @ 0700	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. For and aft bubbles off 6 miles forward.														
✓ 7/5	387	HARTSHORN	VON GRAFEN	1852	159	4	8875	28090	32427	319	6.25	7L	30' @ 1200	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. Alt. 90' high at release.														
✓ 7/6	295	HARTSHORN	VON GRAFEN	1560	124	50	9435	28060	32397	310	1.3793	6L	1200' @ 0600	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Manual run. B.C. same as for 11000 lbs. at sea level. 60' high at release.														
✓ 7/6	384	KEENER	JAYNES	1852	157	2	8835	28080	32427	312	6.25	3L	90' @ 0830	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators.														
✓ 7/6	387	HARTSHORN	VON GRAFEN	1792	139	22	8395	28050	31930	314	6.25	2R	800' @ 0730	Llama
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. 50' high at release. Bomb wobble badly.														
✓ 7/7	295	THOMPSON	MURRAY	1560	125	51	10400	28000	32337	307	1.37	7L	700' @ 0300	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot run. Deflection error not explained.														

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

KINGMAN JULY RECORD (Cont'd)

DATE	AIRCRAFT	PILOT	BOMBARDIER	UNIT	T	NO.	WEIGHT	ALTITUDE TARGET	ALTITUDE S.L.	TRUE AIRSPEED	B. C.	DRIFT	ESTIMATED ERROR CIRCULAR	TARGET
✓ 7/8	295	O'HARA	BANNING	1560	126	49	10100	28050	32,387	316	1.3793	0	400' @ 1200	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Fore and aft bubble slightly off. Full automatic pilot run. Alt. 50' high at release.														
✓ 7/9	295	KEENER	JAYNES	1560	127	54	10200	27960	32297	314	1.3793	4L	300' @ 0800	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Range bubble 18 miles forward. Alt. 40' low. Automatic pilot except elevators.														
✓ 7/11	295	MORLAN	BANNING	1560	128	55	9835	28120	32457	316	1.3793	5R	1200' @ 1930	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full manual run. Slight wobble in flight.														
✓ 7/11	387	ZAHN	ORMOND	1560	129	72	10400	28000	32337	316	1.25	1L	1500' @ 0600	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Mission 393rd crew. Manual run. Used wrong trail. Mis-computed I.A.S.														
✓ 7/12	295	BYSTROM	BANNING	1560	130	73	10200	28000	32337	316	1.3793	1L	800' @ 0300	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. Lateral bubble 7 miles left.														
✓ 7/14	386	KEENER	JAYNES	1850	140	23	8450	5000	9337	27	6.6	3L	125' @ 0600	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: None														
✓ 7/16	295	BYSTROM	BANNING	1560	161	75	10100	28000	32307	315	1.3793	1L	500' @ 0530	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Manual run.														
✓ 7/17	346	ZAHN	ORMOND	1560	C-38		9780	26100	31700	316	1.25	1L	600' @ 0100	I
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: 393rd crew - Pumpkin drop. Manual run, T.A.S not computed correctly, 320 M.P.H.														
✓ 7/18	347	COSTELLO	DOHNEY	1560	C-31		9800	26000	31600	327	1.25	5L	3000' @ 0900	I
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: 393rd crew. Pumpkin drop. Automatic pilot run. Both clutches engaged. Didn't get his corrections out. Computed T.A.S. 17 M.P.H. too fast, used 10 miles too much trail.														
✓ 7/21	295	KEENER	JAYNES	1560	162	76	9825	28000	32337	300	1.3793	5R	700' @ 0930	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators, lateral bubbles 27 miles right. Clouds obscuring target on run.														
✓ 7/21	387	MANN	THOMAS	1560	164	80	9895	30000	29755	302	1.3793	6R	200' @ 0300	SB
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot run.														
✓ 7/21	384	BYSTROM	BANNING	1560	163	79	9600	32000	31755	313	1.3793	5R	800' @ 0845	SB
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Manual run. Bubble (lateral 26 miles right)														
7/23	384	MORLAN	THOMAS	1560	166	82	9650	32040	31795	308	1.3793	2R	700' @ 0600	SB
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot. Alt. 40' high at release. Target obscured at -10°.														

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
 FEB DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

KINGMAN JULY TEST RECORD (Cont'd)

DATE	AIRCRAFT	PILOT	BOMBARDIER	UNIT	T	NO.	WEIGHT	ALTITUDE TARGET	ALTITUDE S.L.	TRUE AIRSPEED	B. C.	DRIFT	ESTIMATED ERROR CIRCULAR	TARGET
✓ 7/24	384	BYSTROM	THOMAS	1560	131	74	10130	27980	32317	308	1.3793	1½L	500' @ 1300	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Full automatic pilot run. Alt. 20' low at release. A.G.L.D. sight used.														
✓ 7/25	295	KEENER	JAYNES	1560	165	81	10070	25025	29362	300	1.3793	2L	200' @ 0245	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. Alt 85' high at release. Clouds prevented bombing higher														
✓ 7/26	295	KEENER	JAYNES	1560	167	83	9980	28000	32,337	315	1.3793	2L	250 @ 0910	K
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators.														
✓ 7/30	387	BYSTROM	THOMAS	1560	168	84	10420	32000	31755	310	1.3793	1R	1500 @ 0600	SB
FACTORS EFFECTING MISSION: Automatic pilot except elevators. No explanation available for this short bomb. All data looked good.														

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PER DOC REVIEW JAN. 1973

Clyde S. Shields
CLYDE S. SHIELDS,
Major, AC.,
Commanding Officer,
Flight Test Section