

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-84 #30**

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Base of Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima, gun positions, defense installations (b) Time Over Target(s) 0830 (K) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1000, Cumulus, 8/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 5
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ Bomb Sight Used _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Rockets Dropped per Run 6 Spacing _____ Slant Range 800 - 500
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Area at eastern base Mt. Suribachi	250 x 200 Yards	4 FM-2 VC-84	(24) H3 Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor	24	Unknown
2 Same	Same	4 FM-2 VC-85	Unknown		Unknown
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw diagram, top or side view or both, as appropriate, showing type and location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

No specific target was assigned. All rockets were in the area reported to contain the defense positions. The area was also strafed. Specific damage could not be evaluated.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT

Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack and
Their Effectiveness
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics and
Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

Method of Locating, Distance
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack
Distance of Opening Fire
Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Own Weaknesses
Enemy Weaknesses
Offensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Defensive Tactics, Own
" " , Enemy
Flexible Gunnery, Own
Escort Tactics
Fighter Direction
Use of Radar
Night Fighting
Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics
Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics
Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of
Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL

Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

On 18 February 1945, at 0641 (K), a support group of 4 FM-3 and 4 FM-2 took off from U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND for D-1 operations at Iwo Jima. This group joined a similarly constituted flight from VC-35 based on U.S.S. LUNGA POINT. VC-34 VF pilots were Lt. Francis A. Holl, leader, Lt. Thomas R. Young and Lts. (jg) Howard A. Hughes and Wilber E. Ege and the VF were Lt. Thomas S. Sedaker, division leader, with Lts. (jg) Robert E. Hooks and Melvin J. Simpson Jr. and Ensign Johan D.W. Hubbeling Jr. The flight orbited on station near Iwo Jima from 0720 to 0830. Weather conditions were highly unfavorable for bombing with a ceiling of 1000 feet. At 0830 the FM-2s of VC-34 and VC-35 joined in a rocket and strafing attack on gun positions and defense installations at the base of Mt. Suribachi. Specific results were not observable although all rockets went into the designated area. Rockets were released at a slant range of 800 - 500 feet with strafing carried down somewhat lower. Under the circumstances created by the weather it became a question of getting in the best possible attack with little chance to pin-point targets which seemed well concealed. The flight returned to base at 0955.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary).

ARMAMENT

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio, Radar
Homing Devices
Visual Signals
Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION

IFF
Signals
Battle Lights
Procedures

PROTECTION

Aarmor; Points and Angles
of Fire Needing Further
Protection
Leak Proofing

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Parachutes
Life Belts, Life Rafts
Safety Belts
Emergency Kits
Rations, First Aid

NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

Compasses
Driftsights
Octants
Automatic Pilots
Charts
Field Lighting

INSTRUMENTS

Flight
Power Plant

OXYGEN SYSTEM

**CAMOUFLAGE AND
DECEPTION DEVICES**

STRUCTURE

Airframe
Control Surfaces
Control System
Dive Flaps
Landing Gear
Heating System
Flight Characteristics
At Various Loadings

POWER PLANT

Engines
Engine Accessories
Propellers
Lubricating System
Starters
Exhaust Dampers

HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

Auxiliary Plant
Lights

FUEL SYSTEM

FLIGHT CLOTHING

MAINTENANCE

BASE FACILITIES

Plane Servicing Equipment
Personnel Facilities

Equipment performance was normal.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

Robert C. FULTON, Jr., Lt., USNR

SIGNATURE

Acting Officer, VC-84

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

Douglas K. ENGLISH, Lt., (A1), USNR

SIGNATURE

Acting Commanding Officer, VC-84

RANK AND DUTY

3-3-45

DATE