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Form ACA-1
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[redacted]

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-94 (b) Based on or at USS SHAMROCK BAY (CVE84) (c) Report No. 35

(d) Take off: Date 4/19/45 Time (LZT) 1330 I (Zone); Lat. 25-28 N. Long. 128-00 E.

(e) Mission Direct support, Okinawa (f) Time of Return 1545 I (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER: TAKING OFF (c)	NUMBER: ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	NUMBER: ATTACKING TARGET (e)	BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
FM-2	VC-94	9		9	6 AR - Mk 7, 3.5" M, 5" H	Mk 146 base - impact

III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VC-91	6	SAVO ISLAND				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Did Any Part of Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ (YES OR NO) If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a) NO	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL LOADED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
FM-2	61	61	2.3	237	127		3600			9

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	X			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Caves & artillery positions so. of Naha, Okinawa (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1415-1500 I (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000, overcast, cumulus (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Smoke and haze obscured (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 6 (MILES)

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

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ (NUMBER) Spacing _____ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (FEET)

AR: 2 & 4 in 2 runs, glide angle 10°, slant range 1500 yds.

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

(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 Caves	150 yds.	9 / VC-94	36 AR, 2500x.50 cal.	All in area	Not observed
2 Artillery positions	300x500 yds.	9 / VC-94	18 AR, 1100x.50 cal.	"	" "
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).

(1) Probable hits on caves because of saturation attack on area.

(2) Actual installations never seen.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No 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

In the early afternoon of 19 April a support group of 9 VF from the SHAMROCK BAY and 8 VT from the SAVO ISLAND, with Lt. L.E. TERRY, VC-94, as air coordinator, attacked a cave area running for 150 yds. along both sides of a road west of Kakiten town, Okinawa. 2 glide bombing runs were made by the VT preceeded by rocket and strafing attacks by the VF. A ceiling of 2000 feet compelled the VF to make their runs in shallow dives. This, however, was compensated for by the fact that the caves were cut out of the sides of hills thus permitting relatively horizontal attacks. Actual damage could not be observed.

Becuase the weather was closing in, the planes were ordered to expend their armament in a single run on a nearby wooded area suspected of hiding artillery positions and return to base. This attack was executed with unknown results.

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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
- Armor; 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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

Grant W. KELLEHER, Lieut., USNR,
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

A.C.I. Officer.

APPROVED BY:

L. R. TERRY, Lieut., USNR,
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

4/27/45
DATE

Acting Commanding Officer.

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