

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-71 (b) Based on or at USS MANILA BAY (CVE-61) (c) Report No. 9  
 (d) Take off: Date June 20 1950 Time (LZT) -9(1) (Zone); Lat. 25° 01' N Long. 127° 29' E  
 (e) Mission Strike on Miyako Shima (f) Time of Return 1730 (Zone)

## II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
<b>FM-2</b>	<b>VC-71</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6 HVAR's</b>	<b>Mk 159 Mod 1, base fuse .015 sec. delay, nose fuse fired safe.</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

## 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) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. **9**

## 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	
<b>FM-2</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>143</b>			<b>1900</b>		<b>8</b>

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

- \_\_\_\_\_ TURNS
- \_\_\_\_\_ DIVES
- \_\_\_\_\_ CEILINGS
- \_\_\_\_\_ RANGE
- \_\_\_\_\_ PROTECTION
- \_\_\_\_\_ ARMAMENT

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 9

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Dispersal Area, Nobara; N/S runway Hirara and planes nearby. Boats and bldgs. at Ikema; Barracks, Karimata (b) Time Over Target(s) 1530-1630 (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target Base at 5000', Scattered Cumulus. <sup>2</sup>  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND LENGTHS OF COVER) <sub>10</sub>

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility Unlimited (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type 45° Dive (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) <sup>R.P.</sup> Bomb Sight Used Mk 8. Gunsight (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 2-4 (NUMBER) Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ (FEET) <sup>Slant range</sup> Bomb Release 3500' (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ Probably Destroyed 1 Damaged 2

(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 Dispersal Areas at South of E/W runway at Nobara	400X200 yds	8 VC-71	32 R.P.'s, Ammo. ✓	20	Probably considerable
2 Intersection of Runways at Hirara	400 yds. sq.	4 VC-71	13 R.P.'s ammo ✓	9	"
3 Planes in revetment near Hirara	Twin-engine	8 VC-71	Strafed	numerous	1 probable 2 damaged
4 Boats and Bldgs. in Ikema	Bldgs - small boats - 50'	8 VC-71	2 R.P.'s; strafed	"	Probably moderate
5 Barracks buildings in Karimata in NE Miyako	each 150' long approx.	8 VC-71	1 R.P.; strafed	"	1 group of buildings left burning.
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

**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

Upon arrival over Miyako Shima, the flight leader selected for the first target the camouflaged and wooded dispersal area to the south of the west end of the E/W runway of Nobara. The two divisions made their attack from about 7000' going into a 45° dive, releasing R.P.'s at a slant range of 3500' and pulling out at about a 2000' altitude. The area was well covered with at least 20 R.P.'s and installations or supplies in the vicinity probably received considerable damage, although no explosions or large fires were noted. Meager inaccurate medium AA was observed coming from Nobara town.

The flight then rendezvoused over a reef off the NE shore, and went into a dive attack which began over the N end of the N/S runway of Hirara Airfield. One division released 13 R.P.'s into the intersection point of the 3 runways with 9 estimated direct hits. The other division having expended almost all its rockets on the first target, proceeded to strafe planes observed in revetments off the east end of the E/W runway. One twin engine bomber, probably a Sally or Helen, was given a thorough working over and probably destroyed. Other camouflaged planes in revetments in the same area were also strafed, with probable damage to at least two.

On pullout from this attack on Hirara two pilots, flying at low altitudes, observed what appeared to be very heavily defended areas located about 2 or 3 miles due east of Hirara Airfield. The installations appeared to be cement pill boxes, numerous AA installations and low well constructed buildings, all camouflaged and also hidden from planes at higher altitudes by trees.

Following these attacks the flight flew to Ikema Island where 2 small boats were strafed and 2 R.P.'s fired at buildings with probable damage. By way of retirement along the north east coast of Miyako, barracks buildings near Karimata town were strafed and the last R.P. fired into them. When last observed one group of these barracks buildings was seen to be burning brightly.

No AA was observed during the course of any of these attacks except over Nobara town, nor were any operational difficulties encountered.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

OPNAV-16-V-#537  
Form ACA-1  
Sheet 7 of 5

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

**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:

APPROVED BY:

J. MILBANK, LT(JG) USNR, AC1

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

EDELEN A. PARKER  
Lieut. Comdr, USNR

SIGNATURE

Commanding Officer

25 JUNE 1945

DATE