

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VT-33 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SANDHORN (c) Report No. 23  
 (d) Take off: Date 17 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0330(Z) (Zone); Lat. 25-20 N. Long. 127-50 E.  
 (e) Mission Direct Support (f) Time of Return 2240(Z) (Zone)

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

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	NUMBER			(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
		(c) TAKING OFF	(d) ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) ATTACKING TARGET		
<del>VT-33</del>	<del>VT-33</del>	6	0	6	10 x 100 G.P. 8 INAR	None Ball Base Mk. 157
						AN M1031 Inst. AN M100A2 .1 sec. 102 sec.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<del>VT-33</del>							

## 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
<del>VT-33</del>			(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		
<del>VT-33</del>					



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
Reclassification  
filled out  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 23

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Enemy Front Line, Ie Shima, Okinawa Gunto (b) Time Over Target(s) 0946(Z) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target CAVU  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

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

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Slide Bomb Sight Used Mt. VIII  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)  
Rockets 0 0 2 @ 2000  
Bombs Dropped per Run 0 Spacing 17 Altitude of Bomb Release 2 @ 2500  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)  
Rockets 3/1 2000 to 1000 yds. @ 2500

(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	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
1 <u>Front line area</u>	<u>200 x 300 yards</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>60 M100 G.P. 47 HVAR</u>	<u>60 47</u>	<u>Slight</u>
2					
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. The target assigned was an area on the east side of IYUNGUU-YAMA, a low mountain on Ie Shima. Top of the mountain (558' alt.) was about the front line. The aiming point was merely an area. All bombs and rockets were within the area. Extent of damage unobservable from air. One pilot saw a 60 or artillery 5 to 6 inch gun in the area. It was firing at our troops during first dive but had ceased by second dive.

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

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
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.)

123

### 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 arrival at area, this flight of 6 TBM was assigned to attack at 0945-1000. The target assigned was area on eastern slope of Iaguwaga Yama. Instructions were for us to not hit the western slope as our troops were near the top and to make the runs from north to south or northwest to southeast, making a sharp port turn on pull out to avoid going over our own ships. At 0945 all planes went in to launch rockets at this general area. There were approximately 18 VT in the attack (3 or 4 groups). Just as the first run was completed the following attacks were called off due to delay in attack to be made by our troops.

The Air Coordinator received a new time for attack, which was 1020-1030, on same objective. One group of VT left to make landing schedule and another group of VT joined us. At this time (1000), Air Coordinator changed and we circled until time for attack. Attack was made at 1020 and all planes went in to drop bombs. The bombs were scattered over a very large area, which it is believed, endangered our own troops and just as we were pulling out, the attack was called off again. Our VT had expended our load and we returned to base at 1140.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
CLASSIFIED  
RECLASSIFY WHEN  
FILLED OUT

REPORT No. 23

**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

**H-0-N-3**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**A.W. SWANBERG, Lt., (A), USNR,**  
SIGNATURE **U.S.N., VT-33.** RANK AND DUTY

**V.D. GILBERT, Lt. Comdr., U.S. NAVY,** 17 April 1965  
SIGNATURE **Commanding Officer, VT-33.** RANK AND DUTY DATE