

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (c) Report No. VF-94-13  
 (d) Take off: Date 25 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0730 (-9) (Zone); Lat. 32°-05'N Long. 136°-15'W  
 (e) Mission Strike vs. Kure (Dumbo-Cap) (f) Time of Return 1345 (-9) (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)		
F6F-5	VF-94	4	0	4	1 - 1000# G.P.	0243/.24

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
	N						
	O						
	N						

## 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
		N	(ZONE)			
		O	(ZONE)			
		N	(ZONE)			
		E	(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		
		N				
		O				
		N				
		E				



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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	N			
2	O			
3		N		
4		E		
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
		N		
		O		
		N		
		E		

## 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>F6F-5</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>350</b>	-	<b>3600</b>	-	-	<b>4</b>

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

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

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

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

TURN  
DIVES  
CEILINGS  
RANGE  
PROTECTION  
ARMAMENT

**None encountered.**



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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) Fukura, Awaji Island; Honshu (b) Time Over Target(s) 1000 (-9) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3000 - Stratus - 10/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 4  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type 4 Glide Bombs Bomb Sight Used Mk 8  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 3000'  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed - Probably Destroyed - Damaged -

(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 3 - Sugar Baker Loves	6000 GT	2 VF-94	2 - 1000# G.P.	1	1 S.B.L. Sunk
2 Factory at Fukura	200' x 200'	1 VF-94	1 - 1000# G.P.	1	Serious Damage
3 Bridge at Fukura	100' x 20'	1 VF-94	1 - 1000# G.P.	1 Nearmiss	Slight damage to bridge, but two small buildings nearby demolished
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).

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



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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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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

This four plane VF division departed from base armed with 1000# G.P. to attack naval shipping at Kure. However, after rendezvous over base they were detailed as CAP for Dumbo (a PEM from Okinawa), which had been assigned a rescue sector off Kure. Several attempts were made to reach the target area but due to a zero ceiling, all efforts were fruitless. The target coordinator of the Kure strike ordered all bombs jettisoned. The Dumbo-Cap maintaining station at south eastern Shikoku picked as their target of opportunity the town of Fukura on the island of Awaji. While one section maintained station over Dumbo, one section would jettison its bombs over the target. The first section dropped on three Sugar Baker Loves tied up alongside each other at a dock at Fukura. Lt. Laine scored a direct hit on the middle ship which exploded amidships. His wingman was short in his drop. The second section chose individual targets at Jukura; one a bridge which received a near miss damaging it considerably along with two small buildings; the other a moderate size factory which was slightly damaged by a very near miss.

Dumbo subsequently received instructions to proceed to Bungo Suido off south western Shikoku to pick up three survivors in a rubber raft. This mission was carried out successfully, two of the survivors being the pilot and aircrewman from VB-94, shot down the day previous on strike at Kure. The Dumbo then departed for its base and the Cap for its base.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

J.C. BRENNAN, Lt. (A), USNR  
Squadron A.C.I. Officer

APPROVED BY:

  
R. J. MORGAN, Lt. Comdr., USN  
Squadron Commanding Officer

7-27-45