

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CVBG-33 #22
(VF-33 #67)
(VT-33 #40)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting CVBG-33 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SANGAMON (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 29 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1530(I) (Zone); Lat. 24°15'N Long. 126°48'E
 (e) Mission Strike on Airfield Area, Miyako Jima (f) Time of Return 1815(I) (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)		
TBM-3E	VT-33	5	0	5	2 X 500, 4 X 100 G.P. 7 AR-5 in. head (in 4)	219 Inst 101A2-100A2 .1 sec 157 .02 sec.
F6F-5B	VF-33	8	0	8	1 X 500, 1 X 100 G.P. 6 AR-5 in. head	1118 only 101A2-100A2 .1 sec 157 .02 sec.
F6F-5F	VF-33	1	0		N-O-B-O	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
N-O-B-O							

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-O-B-O			(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		
N-O-B-O						

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REPORT No. (VI-33)
(VI-33)

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	TEM-33	VT-33 40 mm. AA	Starboard stub wing and starboard wing tank.	Ditched-Total loss. Bu. No. 69155
2				
3				
4	TEM-33	VT-33 7.7 mm. AA	Port windshield	Replace windshield
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
1	VT-33	Lt. Fred P. WARREN	Fire in cockpit.	Second degree burns. Condition good.
1	VT-33	LEVESQUE, Edwin A., A1M20	Shock and swallowing salt water.	Good. Complete recovery.
1	VT-33	DESJARLAIS, Euclide A., A1M20	Went down with plane.	Killed in action.

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	
TEM-33	80	80	2 3/4	330	240	420	1480	-	-	4
P6B-51	80	80	2 3/4	400	220	-	6715	-	-	8
P6B-51	80	80	2 3/4	400	210	-	0	-	-	1

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

H-O-N-O

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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OVSG-33 #22
(VF-33 #67)
(VF-33 #40)

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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) Nobara Airfield, Miyako Jima (b) Time Over Target(s) 1600(I) (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 3000, cumulus, 5/10
(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 VF - Dive, VT - Glide Bomb Sight Used MR. VIII
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 0 Spacing 40 Altitude of Bomb Release 10 @ 1800
(NUMBER) (FEET) Rockets 5/R 500 to 2500 yds.

(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	Wooded Ridge	5 VF-33	10 X 500 G.P. 20 X 100 G.P.	9 20	serious
2	"	8 VF-33	4 X 500 G.P. 4 X 100 G.P.	4 4	serious
3	Underground Hangar	5 VF-33	18 X AR 26 AR	18 12	slight
4	"	8 VF-33	4 X 500 G.P. 4 X 100 G.P.	2 15	slight
5	AA Position	1 VF-33	2 AR	2	Unobserved
6	12 small boats	3 VF-33	Strafed	-	slight
7	Sugar Charlie Sugar	4 VF-33	Strafed	-	slight
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. & 2.) This ridge is east of Nobara Airfield and taxi strips extend from the runway. Plane revetments and other storage facilities have been reported in the area. Large fires were started and left burning furiously.

(3. & 4.) Situated at southern tip of Nobara Airfield. Damage on topside was observed but extent inside unobserved.

(5.) This position north of Target #1. AA was seen to fire from the point of aim but effect of hit unobserved.

(6.) Boats were in Ikema Shima Harbor north of Miyako Jima. Hits were observed but since boats were beached, unable to observe if seriously damaged.

(7.) Location, small bay about 3 miles N.E. of Hirara town - Many hits.

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

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REPORT No. **172-33 #22**
172-33 #670
172-33 #40

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

Lieut. Fred F. WARREN's TBM was hit by what he believes to have been 40 mm. AA as he was strafing AA infested ridge. Hit was in starboard wing tank causing serious fire immediately. Pilot announced he was ditching. It was necessary to travel three miles over land to the sea and ditching was accomplished two miles off shore. Fire was burning in the cockpit and Lieut. WARREN was being seriously burned about the face and right side all during his approach for the landing.

A very smooth landing was made. Pilot stepped out on the wing and LEVESQUE, the turret gunner, went out the escape hatch in the turret. DESJARLAIN, the radioman, had jettisoned the tunnel hatch prior to ditching and he did not escape. LEVESQUE swam under water to get a look into the tunnel. According to him, DESJARLAIN was strapped in his seat and unconscious. The entire fuselage was filled with water and the plane was going down.

DUMBO was contacted and picked up the two survivors in about fifty minutes. When DUMBO landed, it was fired on by coast defense gun and also on takeoff, the projectile going about seventy-five feet over the plane.

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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

TBM pilot who was burned after being hit, recommends keeping goggles down and wearing of scarf. It is also definitely recommended that tunnel hatch not be jettisoned until after plane has landed on the water and stopped. In this case, the tunnel almost immediately filled with water and with great force. Gunner in turret reports that the hinged armor plate under his thighs prevented his being injured by force of the water.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

A. W. SWARNER, Lieut., (A), U.S.N.R.

F. B. GILKESON, LtCdr., U.S.N.

29 April 1945.

A.C.I.O. VT-33

O.F. GOSHORN, Lt(jg), (A), U.S.N.R.

Commander CVNC-33

A.C.I.O. VT-33