

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **ACA-1-60**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) MAMUROGAWA airfield (b) Time Over Target(s) 0845(I) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1500 feet Nimbo cumulus 10/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by showers (e) Visibility 5
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide, minimum altitude Bomb Sight Used Mk.8 Illuminated gunsight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing x Altitude of Bomb Release 800
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 15 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 16

(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)
Grove of trees NE of field.	300 x 300	1 VF-49	1 - 500# G.P.	1	Two planes (SE) burned.
Wooded area west of field.		2 VF-49	2 - 500# G.P.	2	Two Zekes burned.
Wooded section, SE corner of field.		1 VF-49	1 - 500# G.P.	1	4 SE destroyed.
Aftships on small engines-aft freighter (JMST-Sugar Dog) 38°31'; 141°29'.		1 VF-49	1 - 500# G.P.	1	Blown up and destroyed.
6 Building in Okachi Town.		1 VF-49	1 - 500# G.P.	1	Unobserved.
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Us

Three photographs are hereto attached. Photograph Number One included on this page shows a plane fired in small grove near Mamurogawa airfield. Photographs Number Two and Three are included in attached sheet. Photograph number Two shows two heavily camouflaged single-engined planes west Northwest of the field. Photograph Number Three shows pine grove northeast of the field in which are seen many hidden planes(indicated by arrows).



(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, V



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 2



PHOTOGRAPH NO. 3

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

4

REPORT No. ACA-1- 60

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

At 0707(I) ten fighter planes and seven torpedo planes of Air Group FORTY-NINE were launched from the USS SAN JACINTO to strike Mamurogawa airfield in northern Honshu. After crossing the Japanese coast it was found that a thick broken overcast extended inland, with visibility gradually lessening as the mountain range along central Honshu was approached. Little pre-strike information had been available about Mamurogawa and it was found to be a small, earth surfaced field with one hangar and one other building, with foundations laid for the construction of three more hangars. The field appeared to be so poor a target that Lt. L.A. Gundert and his wingman were sent down to investigate the advisability of an attack. Four camouflaged planes were discovered along a road extending from the southeast corner of the field. A strafing run was made and one plane was burned by Lt. Gundert. Lt(jg) Jamouzian saw his bullets going into another of these planes, but he could not make it burn. The division regained altitude and made another run on the same planes. One of the three remaining planes was thrown on its back by a bomb dropped by Lt(jg) Jamouzian and the other two, which were probably very close to the first, were certainly heavily damaged by the bomb blast. Recovery was made at extremely low level and a number of camouflaged planes were seen immediately north of the first four planes discovered. In all, over sixty planes were found around the field, mainly in a grove to the north and along the western and southern boundaries of the strip. These were brought under very heavy attack by the entire strike group and it can be safely said that more than half were destroyed and the majority of the rest damaged. Lt(jg) Jamouzian burned five single-engined planes and destroyed two more with rockets. Lt(jg) C.A. Bricknell burned two Zekes in the southwest corner of the field by strafing. Lt. Gundert destroyed in all, four singles by a bomb hit, and burned one other single. Sixteen planes were damaged by the fighter group which also included Lt(jg) R.W. Millbourn. No anti-aircraft fire was encountered despite the great number of minimum altitude runs made over the field, each pilot averaging at least twenty passes. The planes were so heavily camouflaged that some planes from other Air Groups kept insisting over the air that no planes were there. Photographic evidence bears out the pilots' estimate of planes seen.

Lieut. C.H. Peters, commanding officer of VT-49 and the flight leader, detached Lt. R.J. Schlosser's division (photographic) with instructions to photograph Tsuruoka, Obanzawa and Mamuragawa airfields. The thick overcast above 1500 feet made it difficult to get photographic coverage. Lt. Schlosser lost radio contact with the flight leader and no one in his division was able to make contact. During this period of time when the division was orbiting a fuel storage building was blown up by Lt(jg) W. Collins by direct rocket hit. When it became apparent that radio contact between the groups could not be obtained, this division returned to the east coast, near Sendai airfield. At this point a battery of heavies threw up a number of bursts of flak very near the flight, but no damage was caused. South of Sendai town a locomotive and about nine cars were strafed and rocketed and the locomotive left ablaze. A wide sweep was made around Sandai and a run was made from north to southwest against that field. No operational planes were seen, so the installations were strafed and rocketed. One small, previously undamaged hangar was left on fire. Another attempt was made to photograph the assigned fields and a course was taken above the overcast to the west coast. The Japan Sea was reached just south of Sakata town and from there

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

5

REPORT No. ACA-1- 60

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

**One engine kept cutting out, otherwise,
All equipment performed normally.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. A. SMYTHE, Lieut., USNR

G. M. ROUZEE, Lieut. Comdr., USN

10 August 1945

SIGNATURE R. O. I. Officer

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE Commanding Officer, VF-49

RANK AND DUTY

DATE