AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

) Mission_	Swee	o - Minam	i Daito	Shima			(f) Time of	Return 0815 It	(Zone)
					IIS REPORT.				
TYPE	SQUADRON	TAKING	NUMBER	ATTACKING	вомв	S AND TORPEDO	FUZE, SETTING		
(a)	(b)	OFF (c)	ENEMY A/C	TARGET (e)		(f)	·	(g)	
FN-2	Y00-1	12		12	6 x 5° H	E.Rocket	8	NE 157 Base	
TBK-3	Y00-1	1							
d':	1-								
III. OT	HER U. S.	OR ALLIED	AIRCRAFT	EMPLOYE	O IN THIS OP	ERATION.		7	
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		BASE	TYPE		N NUMBER	BASE	
•						<i>(.</i> 1 · . 1 · .	11 (0-1)		
IV. EN	(b)	T	(4)		By Own Aircra	BOMBS TOP	(f) RPEDOES CARRIE OBSERVED	D; CAMOU	(g) FLAGE AND RKING
TYPE	OBSERVED.	NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	TIME ENCOUNTER	ENC ENC	OUNTER	GUNS	OBSERVED	MA	RKING
	,		(20	NE)					
			(ZC	NE)		•			
			(Z(ONE)					
	1								
		A:: (s)		,					
	ent Enemy A y Part of		1,	,	· Clauda				
Did An (i) Encour	y Part of iter(s) Occ	ur in Clouds?	(YES OR NO	, lf so, Desc	cribe Clouds	(BASI		AND TENTHS OF COV	ER)
Did An Encour Time o (j) of Sun	y Part of iter(s) Occ f Day and B or Moon _	ur in Clouds? rilliance	(NIGHT, BR	IGHT MOON; DA	Y, OVERCAST; ETC.)	(k) Vi	sibility	ER)
Did And Encourage Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of iter(s) Occ f Day and B or Moon _	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	IGHT MOON; DA)	(k) Vi	Only).	(d)
Did And Encourt Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance	(NIGHT, BR	IGHT MOON; DA	IN AIR (By)	(k) Vi	Only).	IILES)
Did And Encour Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d) DAMAG
Did And Encourt Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d)
Did And Encours Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d)
Did And Encours Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d)
Did And Encours Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d) DAMA(
Did And Encourt Time of Sun V. EN	y Part of Iter(s) Occurrence of Day and Bor Moon	ur in Clouds? rilliance CRAFT DEST	(NIGHT, BR	DAMAGED	IN AIR (By))wn Aircraft	(k) Vi	Only).	(d)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. 100-1/103

VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
7H-2	V0C-1	Enemy AA - medium	Engine	Destroyed. \$741.96
2 TM_2	VOC-1	Enemy AA - 7" med.	Ungine	Destroyed. #73611
3 7 14_2	V00-1	Bnemy AA - medium	Fuselage & Canopy	Replaced canony tachometer
4 PM_2	V0C-1	Enemy AA - medium	Engine and accessory	Replacements
5 4			section. Starboard wi	ng.
6 TM-2	Y00-1	Enemy AA - light	Starboard wing	Slight damage.
7			,	
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

VII DERSONNEL CASHALTIES (in aircraft listed in 11 only identify with planes listed in VI by Nos at left)

a) O.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
2	TOC-1	Lt(jg) William Homer Bethes, Al. MENR.	Snemy AA fire	Missing in action
3	V0C-1	Lieut. Martin George	72	Lecerations of right
		O'Heill, Al, USHR.	Enemy AA fire	arm below shoulder.

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				NO. OF PLANES
TYPE A/C	MILES	RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	- AV. FUEL LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETURNING
TH-2	65	75	3	230	140		3750			10
TBM_3	65	75	4.2	330	230					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				I

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.VOC-1/103

Target(s) and Locati	on(s)	leito Shime	(h			
		-		Time Ove	er rarger (s	(Zone
and over larget		(BASE IN FE	ET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF	COVER)		
Visibility of Target_	(CLEAR, HA	ZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURE	D BY CLOUDS, ETC.)	(e) \	Visibility	(MILES)
Bombing Tactics: Typ	oe	(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE	Bor	nb Sight Us	sed	(TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per Ri	un(NUMBE	Spacing_	(FEET)	_ Altitude	of Bomb Re	
Number of Enemy Ai	rcraft Hit on Gro	ound: Destroyed	Probably	Destroyed_		Damaged
(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	H BOMBS AND AMMI	UNITION ING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
Emplacement	Med.	700-1	26 x 5" H.B.	Rocket	9	2 AA emplacemen
Warehouse - Kita	200' x	V0C-1			h	Burned
AA - Kita	Heavy	Y0C-1			12	l AA emplacement
						emplacement hit.
	Clouds Over Target_ Visibility of Target_ Bombing Tactics: Type Bombs Dropped per R Number of Enemy Ai AIMING POINT AIMING POINT	Clouds Over Target Visibility of Target Bombing Tactics: Type Bombs Dropped per Run (NUMBE Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Gro AIMING POINT DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	Clouds Over Target Clouds Over Target (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURE Bombing Tactics: Type (CLEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE (NUMBER) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed (I) NO A/C ATTACKING (I) SQUADRON (II) NO A/C ATTACKING (IX) SQUADRON	Clouds Over Target (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF (Sibility of Target (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) Bombing Tactics: Type (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) Bombs Dropped per Run (NUMBER) Spacing (FEET) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed Probably (I) NO A/C ATTACKING BOMBS AND AMMERICAL AND	Clouds Over Target (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER) Visibility of Target (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) Bombing Tactics: Type (REVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bombs Dropped per Run (NUMBER) (NUMBER) CLEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Rombs Dropped per Run (NUMBER) (FEET) Altitude Probably Destroyed (I) NO A/C ATTACKING ROMBS, AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	Clouds Over Target (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER) Visibility of Target (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (CLEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bombing Tactics: Type (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (NUMBER) Spacing (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Re Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed Probably Destroyed (I) NO A/C ATTACKING (II) NO A/C ATTACKING (III) NO A/C ATTACKING (IV) SQUADRON EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT NO HITS ON AIMING POINT ON HITS ON AIMING POINT

ve location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

Primary target was designated as aircraft on Minami Daito Shima. The field was found to be inoperational and only 4 planes were seen. These, believed to be Tonys, were lined up on the field, apparently as decoys. These were strafed by several planes. Two rocket and strafing runs were made on Minami - two AA emplacements were hit. One run was made on Kita Daito - one large AA emplacement was destroyed and a second hit by rockets. A large warehouse was hit by four rockets and burned.

REPORT No. 100-1/103

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

OWN TACTICS

Night Fighting

Recognition, Aircraft

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Use of Jamming

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

During a fueling retirement period from the Okinawa operation the squadron was ordered to make a fighter sweep of Minami Daito Shima. Twelve FM-2's took off at 0520. One TBM-3 was launched to provide navigational aid.

The flight arrived over the target at 0630. Finding the air-field inoperational and cratered, the flight selected secondary targets for attack. Aircraft which was designated as the primary target was observed as only four in number probably Tonys and apparently decoys. They were strafed during the attack without visible effect.

The first run was made by divisions and coordinated. Push over was from 7000 feet with recovery above 1000 feet. Rockets were launched at AA emplacements and the vicinity of the airfield was strafed. Two AA positions were hit with rockets and probably destroyed. Upon recovery Lt(jg) Denison was hit in the engine by AA fire and made a forced landing approximately seven miles due east of the island. He was later rescued by Dumbo.

Upon a second run upon the same island Lt(jg) Bethea was hit by anti-aircraft fire approximated as of 3" calibre. The plane exploded and dove into the water 800 yards off the southern end of the island, burning when it hit. The pilot had no opportunity to get out of the plane. On the same run, a burst into the canopy of Lt. O'Neill's plane caused lacerations of the right arm.

The third run was made on Kita Daito Shima where a large warehouse was set afire by four rocket hits scored by Lt(jg) Foley and a heavy anti-aircraft position was destroyed by 6 rocket hits by Lt(jg) McKeever. Anti-aircraft fire was received by Lt. Comdr. Bringle and Lt(jg) Skelly. Lt. Cdr. Bringle was hit in the engine losing throttle control and power. The engine cut in again after several doubtful minutes and he proceeded back to base. The jammed throttle settings governed the speed of the plane at 170 knots indicated. Landing was accomplished, regulating speed by flipping the ignition switch on and off.

REPORT No. VOC-1/103

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:

support plane. The inability of the plane to build up speed in a dive to permit safe recovery contributed in no small degree to the damage sustained. All hits were received during recovery. The limited fire power for strafing purposes has also been a continual deficiency.

The FK-2 again demonstrated its inappropriateness as a

W. F. BRINGLE, Lt. Comdr., USH.

18 April 1945

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE