

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

I. GENERAL.

(a) Unit Reporting VC-87 (b) Based on or at USS MARCUS ISLAND (CVE-77)
 (d) Take off: Date 29 March 1945 Time (LZT) 1330I (Zone); Lat. 25-51N Long. 128-48E
 (e) Mission Direct Support (f) Time of Return 1720I (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

Type Squad.	Number	Taking Off	Engaging Enemy A/C	Attacking Target	Bombs and Torpedoes Carried (per plane)	Fuze, Setting
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
TBM-3 VC-87	4	-	-	4	4x500 lb. G.P.	Inst.nose;.025 delay tail.
TBM-3 VC-87	4	-	-	4	10x100 lb. G.P. 8x5" HE Rockets	Instantaneous Non-delay base

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

Type Squad.	Number	Base	Type Squad.	Number	Base
FM-2 VC-88	4	USS SAGINAW BAY (CVE-82)			

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

None.

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

None.

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

None.

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

None.

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 Ammo. Expended				(h) No. of Planes Returning
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
TBM-3	30	35	3.6	330	159	910	2350	-	-	8

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).

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

Ground Installations on Southeast

- (a) Target(s) & Location(s) Coast of OKINAWA ISLAND (b) Time Over Target(s) 1520-1635I (Zone) (c) Clouds Over Target 1000 Feet - solid overcast
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially Obscured by Smoke (e) Visibility 8 Miles
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used _____ Bombs Dropped Per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (g) No. of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None
- (h) _____ (i) _____ (j) _____ (k) _____ (l) _____ (m) _____ (n) _____ (o) _____
- (p) Were Photographs Taken? YES Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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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).

Group was assigned to strike targets in villages and along beaches on Southeast coast of OKINAWA ISLAND. Low ceiling prevented effective bombing of available targets as well as observation of results. Numerous small buildings and huts were destroyed and burned by rockets, bombs, and strafing in the villages of KOCHIMA, KAKINOHANA, YAHIKU and TOYAMA.

Many entrenchments, prepared gun positions and underground installations were observed and used as targets for bombing and rocketing. A large fortified cave was bombed with unobserved results.

The area was under bombardment by Naval surface units at the time of the attack, and the resulting restrictions added to the difficulties imposed by unfavorable weather upon effective bombing.

Pilots and Aircrewmembers participating in this mission were:

Lieut. Comdr. H. N. HEISHL	D. E. FINN, AMM3c
	D. M. SUTHERLAND, ARM3c
Lieut. J. D. CORNWELL	O. H. LUITEN, AMM2c
	W. J. E. BINSWANGER, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) V. H. LEINICKE	J. D. SHUFELT, AM2c
	C. M. McLAUGHLIN, ARM2c
Lt.(jg) F. J. T. STOCK	T. E. BROGAN, AMM2c
	W. A. MASTALERZ, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) G. T. BUTCHER	J. FOLEY, AOM3c
	P. H. CLIFTON, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) H. H. ELLIOTT	E. L. VENTURINI, AMM2c
	C. E. CAMERON, ARM2c
Ensign M. E. WORTMAN	P. E. COOK, AMM3c
	T. J. SZPONT, ARM3c
Ensign C. F. WIESENDANGER	J. A. STURGESS, ARM2c
	W. C. LORGE, AMM3c

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability).

No Comment.

Report Prepared By:

Approved By:

R. E. JOHNSON, Lieutenant, USNR.
ACI Officer

H.N. HEISEL, Lt. Cdr., USN.
Squadron Commander

3-30-45.
Date