

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
~~RESTRICTED~~
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-84 #38**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **1- Area of troop positions, left flank beach, Iwo Jima. 2- Area containing mortars and field pieces, right flank, landing beach, Iwo Jima.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1- 1140 X 2- 1205 X** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **2000, strato cumulus, .8**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Partially obscured by clouds** (e) Visibility **10**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Glide** Bomb Sight Used _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **All** Spacing **0** Altitude of Bomb Release **1800**
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- Rockets per Run **2 & 4** Slant range **1500 to 700 (VF)**
- (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 Area containing troops, left flank, landing beach.	600 x 200 yards	4 FM-2 VC-84	(18) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All in area	Unknown
2 Area containing mortars, field pieces, left flank, landing beach.	800 x 400 yards	4 TM-3 VC-84	(32) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor	All in area	Unknown
4			(10) 100 lb GP AN-M 30.	"	"
5			(4) 500 lb GP AN-M 64.	"	"
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.)

Specific damage could not be evaluated as to either target. Bombs, rockets and .50 cal. were put into the assigned areas.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **Yes** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. VC-34 #38

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

On 20 February 1945, at 0929 (K), a support flight consisting of 4 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 took off from USS MAKIN ISLAND for D plus 1 operations at Iwo Jima. TBM-3 pilots were Lts. Brice Holaday, flight leader, and David J. Conroy and Lts.(jg) Donald E. Glasgow and Harry D. Anderson while pilots of FM-2 were Lt. Robert O. Kent, division leader, Lt.(jg) Kenneth B. Finka and Ensigns Henry Wardenga and Raymond A. Kerr. They rendezvoused with a like flight from VC85 which provided the support group leader. VC-34 VF and VT were assigned separate targets. From 1140 to 1200 FM-2s made rocket and strafing runs on troop positions at the left flank of the landing beach (147 Victor to 132 How, local grid). A ceiling of 2000 feet handicapped the VF in their runs which started at 2700 feet with rockets released at slant range of about 500 feet. Four runs were made and, rockets and strafing were all in the assigned area of about 600 x 200 yards. Positions attacked were concealed by terrain to a great extent and specific results were not observed. Light moderate, inaccurate AA was encountered. The target of the VT was an area near the right flank of the landing beach containing mortars and field pieces. All bombs and rockets went into the area. Due to the 2000 foot ceiling the bombing was almost straight and level. Three runs were made in all. Specific results could not be seen. The flight returned to base at 1235 (K).

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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

Equipment performance was normal.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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AGI Officer, VC-84

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SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
Acting Commanding Officer, VC-84

3-4-45
DATE