





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
Release by  
filled out  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-85 - 131**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **2 Villages, Okinawa** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1250-1450 (1)** (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **5200 Stratus 10/10**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **Hazy** (e) Visibility **6 - 8**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Glide** (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) **Gun Bomb** Sight Used **Mk VIII** (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run **2 - 5** (NUMBER) Spacing **40** (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release **2000** (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ Probably Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

(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 <b>Building</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>3 TBM-3 VC-85</b>	<b>11 x 100# GP 10 x 5" HE Rockets</b>	<b>Not Known</b>	<b>Destroyed</b>
2 <b>Village</b>	<b>25 Buildings Standing</b>	<b>4 TBM-3 VC-85</b>	<b>27 x 100# GP 20 x 5" HE Rockets</b>	<b>Several</b>	<b>10 Bldgs. Destroyed</b>
3			<b>Total Ammunition</b>		
4			<b>1420 x .50 cal</b>		
5			<b>1350 x .30 cal</b>		
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **NO** 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.)

## 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

Four TBM-3s, led by Lieutenant Kenneth C. STOWELL, USNR, took off from parent ship, USS LUNGA POINT (CVE-94), to attack assigned targets on Okinawa in support of our ground forces.

The group rendezvoused with five FM-2s of VC-9, the senior pilot of which acted as Air-Coordinator. However, he developed radio trouble and then Lieutenant Stowell took over and directed the attacks.

First target was a village on the east coast of Central Okinawa where the enemy was reported to have a command post. Only one building was standing in the town. It was destroyed by bombs and rockets on one run.

The second target was the town of Ora, suspected of being a communications center. Here all remaining bombs and rockets were expended. Ten buildings were destroyed and several damaged.

No enemy opposition developed and all planes returned safely to base.

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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

One TBM-3 radio antenna broke loose in a dive, and the wheels came down on the pull out. Also, both wing guns failed.\*

One TBM-3 had 2 rockets hang fire and fail to launch.\*\*

Two TBM-3s had one hang bomb - both were jettisoned manually.

The bomb bay was checked and found to be in order.

\* The hydraulic charger control unit was found to be faulty and was replaced.

\*\* Due to faulty pig-tail on one rocket which shorted out both rockets.

FORWARDED: G. A. T. WASHBURN,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer,  
U.S.S. LUNGA POINT (CVE-94).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

W. E. KEARNS, Lieut., USNR, AGSO

FRED C. HERRIMAN, Lt.Cdr., USN, C.O.

6 April 1945

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

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DATE