

Jimmy K New 3/26/86

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 40

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Ships - KUCHINOYERABU ISLAND (b) Time Over Target(s) 1035(I) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2000' - 2500' Overcast
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Very Hazy (e) Visibility One
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide to Steep Bomb Sight Used none
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 2 and 1 Spacing Salvo Altitude of Bomb Release 500 - 800'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (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 <u>See (0) below</u>					
2					
3					
4					
5					
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).

20-25 Ships 75'-200' long (SC's, SD, Luggers) attacked in 6 runs by 8 a/c. 11 - 250# G.P. Bombs dropped in area. All a/c strafed. Four direct bomb hits observed plus many hits with .50 caliber. One bomb hit in center of approximately 15 ships lashed together. Explosion resulted 500' in diameter - flames 150' high - brown. Thought to be loaded with ammunition. Due to nature of attack and target, specific hits cannot be enumerated. Pilots conservatively estimate 6 ships sunk and 4 seriously damaged. All were wood construction and several fires were started which may have destroyed or damaged others.

Radar Station approximately in center of Kuchinoyerabu Island destroyed in 3 strafing attacks by 8 a/c.

(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

Two 4 plane divisions led by Lieutenant R.E. BRITSON were launched to strike shipping which had been reported in anchorage at tiny KUCHINOY-ERABU Island in Northern Nansei Shoto. Distance out was 242 miles, and when arriving at the target area 20-25 ships were sighted in the anchorage. Weather conditions were decidedly unfavorable for attack and some of the runs were started from up in the cloud layer. All 8 pilots made 6 bombing and strafing runs on the ships. One direct hit in a group of 15 ships resulted in an explosion with flame 500' in diameter and 150' high. Being of wooden construction several fires were burning fiercely in addition to 6 destroyed and 4 damaged. A radar station located in the center of the island north of the anchorage was destroyed by 3 severe strafing runs.

Very meager light AA fire was encountered from the hills back of the anchorage.

The flight returned to base without further action.

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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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

W.D. LYON, Lieut., (A), USNR
 SIGNATURE **A.C.I. Officer** RANK AND DUTY

E. W. HESSEL, Lieut. Comdr., USN
 SIGNATURE **Commanding Officer** RANK AND DUTY

3/27/45 DATE