

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-30 (b) Based on or at USS BAGINAW BAY (c) Report No 136  
 (d) Take off: Date 15 April 1946 Time (LZT) 1500 (T) (Zone); Lat. 24-00N Long 128-15E  
1730 (Fighter Sup  
 (e) Mission Fighter sweep and TCAP - Miyako Island (f) Time of Return 1846 (TCAP) (Zone)

## II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	NUMBER			(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
		(c) TAKING OFF	(d) ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) ATTACKING TARGET		
<u>FM-2</u>	<u>VC-30</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8-5" H&amp;H rkte, Mk 7 str</u>	<u>Mk 157</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>FM-2</u>	<u>VC-30</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>USS PETROF BAY</u>				

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

(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
			(ZONE)	<u>NONE</u>		
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

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

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER		
			<u>NONE</u>		

CONFIDENTIAL

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. **130**

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

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1		NONE		
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

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

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
		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 AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
(sweep) F4U-2	68	68	2.5	230	110		3000			4
(TCAP) F4U-2	68	68	3.5	230	145		1550			4

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

- \_\_\_\_\_ TURNS
- \_\_\_\_\_ DIVES
- \_\_\_\_\_ CEILINGS
- \_\_\_\_\_ RANGE
- \_\_\_\_\_ PROTECTION
- \_\_\_\_\_ ARMAMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **138**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Airfields - Hirara Shima (b) Time Over Target 1555-1655(1) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Clear  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target slight haze (e) Visibility 10  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Rocket Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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 Planes and revetments		5 F4U-2 VC-88	26 rcts. 2850 rds .50 cal.	12 rcts strafed	4 planes damaged 2 revetments damaged
2 AA positions		2 F4U-2 VC-88	4 rcts. 400 rds .50 cal.	3 rcts strafed	one med. destroyed one med. damaged
3 Buildings in wooded area		2 F4U-2 VC-88	12 rcts. 300 rds. .50 cal.	All	Unobserved
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).

- #1 One MELL, located between southwest end of southwest-northeast runway and south end of south-north runway at Hirara, strafed and hit. Group of S/E planes, 10 to 15 in number at northern end of Hirara strafed and rocketed; at least two believed damaged. One S/E plane in a revetment was hit by rockets and strafing and damaged.
- #2 One medium AA position at Hirara was silenced when hit directly with 2 rockets and left burning. Destroyed. Another medium AA position, not seen to fire, was hit by 1 rocket damaged.
- #3 A group of buildings spotted in a wooded area was rocketed with unobserved results.

CONFIDENTIAL

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

REPORT No. 154

## 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 18 April 1945 eight F4U-7 of VC-33 were engaged in a strike on airfields at Miyake Shima. One division, part of a fighter sweep group, was composed of Lt(jg) J. M. O'CONNOR, E. A. WHITE, P. A. O'BRIEN and G. J. HOLLAND. A second division, on SCAP over the island but joining in the strike, was composed of Lt. R. H. PECK and Ensigns G. W. TRIPLETT, R. D. CARRIERS and E. L. GANNON. F4U-7s of VC-33 participated also in the fighter sweep.

Aircraft on the ground, in revetments, were the principal targets and at least 4 aircraft, including one B-24 and 3 S-1 aircraft at Hirara airfield were damaged by the combined efforts of Lt(jg) O'CONNOR, WHITE, O'BRIEN and Holland. O'Connor also silenced and destroyed a medium AA position at Hirara with two direct hits with rockets and strafing. Holland damaged an AA position, believed medium also, at Nohara with one rocket hit and strafing. O'Brien damaged a revetment as well as the plane in it with rockets and strafing. Peck's division attacked revetments without visible results; two of them fired their rockets into a wooded area where buildings were noted but no damage was observed.

Following the strike O'Connor's division returned to base. Peck's division resumed SCAP over the island, returning to the carrier an hour later.

Anti-aircraft fire of all types were encountered during the attack: heavy, meagre, inaccurate, medium meagre accurate and light, meagre, accuracy unknown. None of VC-33 planes were hit. One F4U-7 of VC-33 was hit, however, and forced to make a water landing. Another F4U-7 of VC-33 called in position of the plane. O'Connor, hearing the call, relayed it to Lt(jg) Harris of VC-33, leading a fighter division which was escorting a P-51 rescue plane. The Dunbar, led to the spot, effected a successful water landing and picked up the pilot.

CONFIDENTIAL

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

REPORT No. 156

**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

**No comment.**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**H. D. SCHMIDT, Lt. USNR, ACIO**

**E. L. KERRYP, Lt. USNR, Commanding**

**25 April 1945**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE