

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group -24 (b) Based on or at USS SARDIS - At Sea (c) Report No. 19-45
 (d) Take off: Date 11 May 1945 Time (LZT) 0700 I (Zone); Lat 23°-53' N Long 126°-42' E
 (e) Mission Attack Air Facilities, Miyako (f) Time of Return 2030 I (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
<u>TBM-3</u>	<u>VF-24</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>10 - 100# G/P bombs</u> <u>2 - 5" H.E. rockets</u>	<u>Instant nose</u> <u>.01 tail fuze</u> <u>.025 delay base</u>
<u>TBF-5</u>	<u>VF-24</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2 - 5" H.E. rockets</u>	<u>Base fuze only</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</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
<u>None</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

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

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	GUNS USED		
<u>None</u>						

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Hirara and Nobara airfields (b) Time Over Target(s) 0745 I (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4000' 3
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear to Hazy (e) Visibility 15
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type VT glide Bomb Sight Used VT - 3000
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing -- Altitude of Bomb Release 3000'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged Two

(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 VT E-W runway	Nobara	7 VF-24	42 - 100# bombs I-.01	-	-
2 VT E-W runway	Hirara	7 VF-24	28 - 100# bombs I-.01	-	-
3 VF Dispersal area	Nobara	7 VF-24	14 rockets .025 B	-	-
4 VF Dispersal area	Nobara	8 VF-24	Straffed and 16 rockets B.O.	-	-
5 VF Dispersal area	Hirara	8 VF-24	Straffed	-	-
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).

VT - 1 More than 50% of the bombs cratered this runway.

VT - 2 Essentially all of the bombs released at this point landed on the runway causing craters.

VT - 3 This dispersal area, a wooded section, is located about 200 - 300 yards south west of the west end of the E-W runway on Nobara. Many hits in the area were scored but results could not be observed.

VF - 4 The same dispersal area as noted above was attacked with unobserved results.

VF - 5 All dispersal and revetted plane positions were subjected to repeated strafing. Two brush covered planes in a revetment were sprayed with hits but would not burn. Other results unobserved.

(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

Eight F6Fs and eight TBMs took off on this flight and shortly after take off, one of them made a deferred emergency landing aboard the ship due to engine trouble as a result only seven TBMs and eight VF attacked the target.

VI bombing runs started at 6500' releases in salvo at 3000'.

VI rockets at 40° angle and 1500 yards slant range.

The fighters could not carry bombs on this strike due to the lack of wind for a catapult launching.

The wooded dispersal area south of Hobarra was thoroughly strafed, several pin point positions were hit particularly hard but due to thick foliage, results were unobserved.

Several previously damaged planes at Hirara were strafed again before the search for operational planes had ended. Two camouflaged S/S planes in a revetment E1 of Hirara were caught in Ensign Alvin COOPER's sights, were hit, but did not burn.

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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:

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P. H. CHANONNET, Jr. Lt. U.S.N.
Acting Commander

24 May 1945

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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DATE