

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- (a) Unit Reporting VO-93 (b) Based on or at USS PETROF BAY CVL-80 (c) Report No. 49
- (d) Take off: Date 18 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0520 -9 (Zone); Lat. 24°43' N. Long 131°25' E.
- (e) Mission ICAP-Duaba Cover and Special Strike-Mines! Delta Shima (f) Time of Return 0910 -9 (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>FM-2</u>	<u>VO-93</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>None</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

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)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

- (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)
- (j) Time of Day and Brilliance _____
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		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No. 49

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				
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

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	
P-40	75	75	4.0	242	150			3500		12

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		X		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm			X	
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm				X

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
 - TURNING
 - DIVES
 - CEILINGS
 - RANGE
 - PROTECTION
 - ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 49

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) AA on Island Delta Area (b) Time Over Target(s) 0740 - 9 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2400 Cumulus 6/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target None (e) Visibility 5 at surface
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ 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					
2	AA positions scattered	4 F0-93	3500--50 caliber		Unobserved except two large black smoke fires started in woods.
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).

1. AA positions of all kinds were scattered along the southern beaches of the island. In strafing these two supply dumps were probably set afire.

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

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REPORT No. 49

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

The carrier division was near Minami Daito Jima being refueled. A dawn strike had been made on this island by planes from the USS MARCUS ISLAND CVE-77. Two of these planes were shot down by AA and one survivor was in the water about 4 miles south of the island.

Two divisions were requested to orbit the island, relieving the planes then on station, as protection from AA, and as director for a Dumbo then en route.

One division broke and single plane runs were made on the various beach AA positions. The other division orbited the island, directed the Dumbo in, and protected it from AA fire, as much as was possible. Heavy AA was fired at the Dumbo during the successful rescue operations. No planes were hit during this action.

An unsuccessful but continual search, while in the area, was made for survivors from the other downed plane.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
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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

Pilots participating in this flight were:

R. C. SULLIVAN	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR	
G. E. WESSELL	Ens.	A1	USNR	Strafed AA and set fires
G. J. VIGRANT	Ens.	A1	USNR	
D. E. BARTLELL	Ens.	A1	USNR	
T. J. METIER	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR	
G. L. THOMAS	Ens.	A1	USNR	Orbited island and Dashed under AA fire
J. F. TUTTLE	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR	
Q. F. SCHUNK	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR	
D. H. SHERLOCK	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR	Remained over Cardiv as local CAP
R. H. ALLISON	Ens.	A1	USNR	
G. F. DENNETT	Lieut.	A1	USNR	
R. E. PARSONS	Ens.	A1	USNR	

REPORT PREPARED BY:

R. L. WINTER, Lieut. Al, USNR, ACIO

SIGNATURE *

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

C. P. SMITH, Lt. Comdr. USN, CO, VC-93 4/18/45

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE