

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

SECRET

(a) Unit Reporting VT-19 (b) Based on or at USS SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. 3
 (d) Date of Action 13 May 1945 (e) Take off: Time 0620(1) (GCT); Lat. 29° 58'N Long. 132° 43'W
 (f) Mission Strike, IZUMI Airfield, Kureima (g) Time of Return 1027(1) (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
<u>T62-5</u>	<u>VT-19</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2 (2) 500# G.P.</u>	<u>.025</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>T62-5</u>	<u>VT-19</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>USS SAN JACINTO</u>	<u>T62-5</u>		<u>12</u>	<u>USS HORNET, BIRMINGHAM</u>
<u>T62-5</u>		<u>120</u>	<u>USS HORNET, BIRMINGHAM, IZUMI, USS BELLAWOOD</u>	<u>T62-5</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>USS HORNET, BIRMINGHAM, BELLAWOOD</u>

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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>S/B Trainers 10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>1130(1)</u>	<u>IZUMI Field</u>	<u>Unobserved</u>	<u>Unobserved</u>
<u>S/B T7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>
<u>T/B</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>
			<u>(GCT)</u>			
			<u>(GCT)</u>			
			<u>(GCT)</u>			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) X
 (i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) X
 (j) Sun or Moon X (k) Visibility X

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>						

ENCLOSURE C

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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) IZUMI Airfield and area 8 miles west of Izumi field (b) Time Over Target(s) 0735(1) (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target None (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used 10-6 Illuminated Gunsight

Bombs Dropped per Run 2 Spacing X Altitude of Bomb Release 2500-3000

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed X Probably Destroyed X Damaged 3

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. AIRCRAFT (k) SQUADRON
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		



(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify aircraft.)

Photo # 1.
A **EM-11** engine-aft freighter (Sugar Dog--JMSF) was strafed by the planes in the flight. Hits were reported on the ship, and the enclosed photograph shows the fire after the **F6F's** retirement. **TBM's** of **VT-19** also strafed this craft immediately after the planes of the fighter squadron had completed their runs.

Photo # 2.
Shows burning train struck by this flight west of Izumi airfield.



(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photo

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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

Six (6) Hellcats of Fighting Squadron KORTY-NINE took off at 0620(1) 13 May 1945 as a part of the strike group from Task Group 58.1 to attack Izumi Airfield, Kyushu.

The approach to the target was made entirely over water, around the southern tip of Kyushu, to a point northwest of Izumi airfield. The approach was made at 12,000 feet, the final push-over was made at 9,000 feet, and the pull-out at 1500 feet. The area assigned to the flight from the USS SAN JACINTO was located in the northwest portion of the field. The attack was made from North to south along the western half of the field. Bombs were dropped among the planes parked on the field and in the building area to the southwest. The same area was heavily strafed and at least three operational planes were damaged. Ten small single-engined trainers, at least fifteen fighters and two twin-engined planes were observed on the field. No planes were seen in the revetment area on that side of the field. It was believed that at least half of the planes on the field were duds. None of the planes bombed and strafed were seen to burn. A fire was started in the building area on the southwestern part of the field, but damage was not assessed.

Return was made to the west along a railroad right-of-way. About five miles southwest of the field a train which had been under attack, and which had been fired by another air group was heavily strafed. On retiring over the water to the west, a Sugar Dog was taken under attack by the VF, followed by the planes of VF-49. The ship was left on fire. (See Photos, Page No 4)

Anti Aircraft fire was moderate and inaccurate over the target. Firing was mainly from the south and northwestern sectors of the field.

After rendezvous, the planes returned to Base at 1027(1).

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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

All equipment functioned satisfactorily.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE **Lt(jc) R.A. SMYTH** RANK AND DUTY

AOI Officer

SIGNATURE **Lt. Comdr. G.M. ROUZEE** RANK AND DUTY

Commanding Officer

DATE