

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-00 (b) Based on or at USS Langa Point (CVE 94) (c) Report No. VC00-20
 (d) Date of Action 22 June 1946 (e) Take off: Time 1515(I) (GCT); Lat. 25.10 Long. 124.00
 (f) Mission Direct support - Okinawa ginsu (g) Time of Return 1700(I) (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>TBM-3</u>	<u>VC-00</u>	<u>4</u>			<u>3 500# GP bombs 6 5" HE rockets</u>	<u>Inst. nose .025 delay tail</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>TBM-3</u>	<u>VC-1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>USS Wake Island</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>None</u>			<u>(GCT)</u>			
			<u>(GCT)</u>			
			<u>(GCT)</u>			
			<u>(GCT)</u>			

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

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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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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1				
2				
3				
4		<i>None</i>		
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
		<i>None</i>		

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM MM.	
<i>TB-3</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>3: 45"</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>.30</i>	<i>.50</i>	<i>20MM</i>	<i>MM.</i>

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

ENEMY AA

HEAVY *Heavier*

MEDIUM *None*

LIGHT *None*

Not engaged

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

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(a) Location of Target(s) cave - Okinawa Shima (b) Time Over Target(s) 1515(1) GCT

(c) Weather and Clouds Over Target 12000 - strato-cumulus - .5

Visibility of target: clear (e) Visibility unl

(d) Sun or Moon _____

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	1	Cave	4 VT VC-98	12 500# CP bombs 24 5" HE rockets	2000
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

Target was a cave in target area 7858II which appeared from the air to be a large hole in the ground. It was reported that it was the focal point and outlet of a number of subterranean passages evidently used as supply dumps. Air coordinator reported several hits (from which the pilots, in comparison, deduced 8) and several near misses which would indicate that serious damage was caused.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? no Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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
- Release
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

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 12 June 1945 four TBI-3's, under the command of Lieut. W. T. KUHAN, took off from USS Lunga Point, rendezvoused with four VT from VOO-1, based aboard Wake Island, and proceeded to Okinawa Shima on a direct support mission.

They circled for one hour and fifteen minutes and were then directed to a target in target area 7308H, arriving on target at 1515. This appeared to be a large hole in the ground but was actually the focal point for a number of subterranean passages evidently being used for the storage of supplies.

The group made 3 runs on the target dropping on 5000 lb bomb with .025 delayed tail fuse on each run. Glides were commenced at 5000 feet and made at a 30 degree angle with release at 2000 feet.

Following the bombing, all planes made 3 runs on the same target and then retired from this target at 1600. VC-38 planes returned safely to base and were taken aboard at 1700.

Pilots reported that it was difficult to assess damage done to the target because enemy activity was obviously underground. Air coordinator reported excellent bombing, with several hits and near misses scored.

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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

No material failures reported.

Forwarded:

**G. A. T. WASHBURN,
Captain, U. S. Navy,
Commanding Officer,
U. S. S. Lunga Point (CVE #4).**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

C. F. DUCANDER, Lieut., USNR-ACIO
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

R. SIMMS, LtCdr., USN, Commanding
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

14 June 1945
DATE