





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

**SECRET**

REPORT No. **11**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Wharf and Barracks, Bakli, Hainan I.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1145** (Zone) **-9**  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **None**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **20 Miles**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Glide Bombing** Bomb Sight Used **None**  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **Four** Spacing **Select** Altitude of Bomb Release **4500**  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed **None** Probably Destroyed **None** Damaged **None**

(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 Wharf in Bakli Bay at Bakli Town	200' X 8'	1 VT-45	Four	One	Moderate
2					
3 Barracks at Bakli Point, Hainan I.	1000' X 800'	1 VT-45	Four	Four	Moderate
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 bomb was seen to hit this small wharf. It is doubtful whether the wharf had any military significance, but as the planes were ordered to bomb Bakli Town area by the strike leader, the wharf was chosen as the target most likely to injure enemy activities and least likely to destroy non-enemy civilians.

2) A group of small buildings which may be barracks are located on the Bakli Point, the southern terminus of Bakli Bay. One VT-45 plane attacked these in conjunction with three VT-4 planes for reasons similar to those stated in (1) above. All four bombs dropped in the target area and one of the small buildings was hit and was on fire after the attack though it is impossible to tell which of the four attacking planes made the hit.

(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

On this strike the SAN JACINTO was ordered to send its two TBM-1c planes equipped with wing tanks to attack shipping in Hoihow Bay on the northern coast of Hainan Island and to attack aircraft and aircraft facilities on the ground if no shipping was found in conjunction with VF-45 planes and with torpedo and fighter planes from the U.S.S. LANGLEY and U.S.S. ESSEX. No shipping targets were found, and after a search of 490 miles the planes were ordered to attack whatever targets they could find in the Bakli Town area and return to base. This flight was notable mainly for the extreme distance covered, 850 miles.

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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

This flight demonstrated the added range of TBM-1c planes when equipped with auxiliary wing tanks. The flight lasted 6 hours and 36 minutes and it covered 850 miles against head winds the greater part of the time. The suction system for drawing gasoline from these auxiliary wing tanks is not completely reliable. One of the planes was able to use one of its wing tanks for only 15 minutes because suction failed at the end of that period and could not be restored. In spite of this the plane returned from the flight with 20 gallons of available gas unused.

REPORT PREPARED BY

*Malcolm I. Ruddock*  
**Malcolm I. RUDDOCK, Lt.(jg) USNR,**

SIGNATURE

**A.G.I. Officer**

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY

*J. G. Piegari*  
**J. G. PIEGARI, Lieut., USNR,**

SIGNATURE

**Commanding Officer**

RANK AND DUTY

**19 Jan. 1945**

DATE

FILE

A16-3/(11)

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
THIRD FLEET

rlm

00132

Serial:

**SECRET**  
**S-E-C-R-E-T**

MAR 9 1945

5th Endorsement on  
CVT45 Secret ltr.,  
serial 064, dated  
21 January 1945.

From: Commander THIRD Fleet.  
To : Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.  
Via : Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January  
through 16 January, inclusive, 1945.

1. Forwarded.

W. McMILLAN,  
By direction.

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
TASK GROUP FIFTY-EIGHT POINT THREE

FB2-1/A16-3/VGA

Serial: 0026

S-E-C-R-E-T

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to:  
CVT45 Secret ltr.  
VT45/A9-8, ser. 064  
of 21 January 1945.

3 FEB 1945

From: Commander Task Group FIFTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.  
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Via : (1) Commander Task Force FIFTY-EIGHT.  
(2) Commander FIFTH Fleet.  
(3) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through 16 January, inclusive, 1945.

1. Forwarded.

C.R. BROWN,  
Chief of Staff.

cc:  
CVT45.

U. S. S. SAN JACINTO

10/njb

S-E-C-R-E-T  
OVL30/A16-3  
Serial: 007

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, California,  
22 January 1945.

SECOND ENDORSEMENT To:  
VT-45/A9-8 Cfll-acc  
Secret Ltr. Ser:(064)  
dated 21 January 1945.

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Via: (1) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.  
(2) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.  
(3) Commander Third Fleet.  
(4) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through  
16 January, Inclusive, 1945.

1. Forwarded.

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UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
AIR FORCE  
FIGHTING SQUADRON FORTY-FIVE  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

In Reply  
Refer To:

VF-45/A16-3/A9  
Serial: (005)

S-E-C-R-E-T

21 January, 1945

FIRST ENDORSEMENT: to  
VF-45 Secret Ltr. file  
A9-8/Af11-acc, serial  
(064) dated 20 January  
1945.

From: Commander CVL Air Group FORTY FIVE.  
To : Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Via : (1) Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.  
(2) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.  
(3) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.  
(4) Commander Third Fleet.  
(5) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through  
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G. E. SCHECTER.

VT-45/A9-8  
Ofll-acc

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
AIR FORCE  
TORPEDO SQUADRON FORTY-FIVE

Serial: 064

c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

21 January 1945.

**SECRET**

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet.

Via : (1) Commander Carrier Air Group FORTY-FIVE  
(2) The Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.  
(3) Commander Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT THREE.  
(4) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.  
(5) Commander Third Fleet.  
(6) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January through  
16 January, inclusive, 1945.

References: (a) CominCh Serial 7152 of 29 October 1943.  
(b) PacFlt Confid. Ltr. 1GL-45 of 1 January 1945.

Enclosures: (A) Aircraft Action Report #4, VT-45, Strike on Aparri  
Airfield, Luzon, 6 January 1945.  
(B) Aircraft Action Report #5, VT-45, Strike on Baseo  
Airfield, Batan Island, 7 January 1945.  
(C) Aircraft Action Report #6, VT-45, Strike on Clark  
Field, Luzon, 7 January 1945.  
(D) Aircraft Action Report #7, VT-45, Strike on Rokke S.E.  
and Tsuina Airfields, Formosa, 9 January 1945.  
(E) Aircraft Action Report #8, VT-45, Strike on Shipping  
on French Indo-China Coast, 12 January 1945.  
(F) Aircraft Action Report #9, VT-45, Strike on Shipping  
and Oil Depots, Saigon, French Indo-China, 12 Jan. 1945.  
(G) Aircraft Action Report #10, VT-45, Strike on Shipping  
At Takao and Toshien, Formosa, 15 January 1945.  
(H) Aircraft Action Report #11, VT-45, Strike on Shipping,  
Aircraft or Facilities, Hainan Island, 16 January 1945.

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosures (A)  
through (H) are forwarded herewith.

J. G. PIEGARI.

Distributions:  
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CinePac (3) Adv. Copy  
JicPac (1) Copy Direct  
ComAirPac (1) Copy Direct  
CO USS SAN JACINTO (1) Copy.

FILE

A16-3/(11)

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THIRD FLEET

Serial: 00132

rlm

**SECRET**  
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MAR 9 1945

5th Endorsement on  
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**To :** Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.  
**Via :** Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

**Subject:** Aircraft Action Report - Strikes from 6 January  
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By direction.

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THIRD FLEET

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MAR 9 1945

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AL6-3/(11)

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W. McMILLAN,  
By direction.

These reports have been previous received.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

VR-45 USS SAN JACINTO

Smith.

No immediate proposal.