

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-97 (b) Based on or at INDO NARASAR STRAITS (CVR-91) (c) Report No. 14
 (d) Take off: Date 17 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0730 (Zone); Lat. 25-30N Long. 128-20E
 (e) Mission Strike OKINAWA (f) Time of Return 1120 (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>VB-3</u>	<u>VC-97</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4VT-10-1000 G.P.</u> <u>3VT 4-5000 G.P.</u> <u>7VT 8-5" H.E. Rockets</u> <u>1000 rds 50 & 400 rds 30 Cal.</u>	<u>.01</u> <u>.01</u> <u>.02 Tail Fuze</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>				(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)
 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) See Below (b) Time Over Target(s) 0840-1030 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 6/10 Cloud Cover at 1500-2000 ft. over target #2.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear over #1, #2 partially obscured - clouds (e) Visibility 15
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used ---
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 5 Spacing 20 Altitude of Bomb Release 2500
(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. HIT On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Troops, supplies TA 8474 F.K.	400 yds X 200 yds.	7VT VC-97	12-500#, 40-100# 30 R.P.'s, 160 rds 75 rds 30 cal Ammo.	50 See "0"	See "0"
3 Troops TA 7878 C.W.	400 yds X 200 yds.	7VT VC-97	15 R.P.'s, 350 rds 50 cal, 300 rds 30 cal.	30 See "0"	See "0"
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 number, above, size and final marks, if necessary.)

The above was area bombing. As in many cases where this type bombing is done, no specific results were observed by those participating in the mission.

Ref: Air Support Charts, OKINAWA, of 64th Engr. Top. Bn. USAFPCBC, Dec. 1944.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple
Photos attached taken of area by photo plane on 15 April 1945.

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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

Lt. Comdr. M. T. WHITTIER, USNR, led this group of Avengers in a strike against objectives on OKINAWA.

The first target designated consisted of troops, supplies and storage houses in a valley located in TA 8474 F.K. Bombing and rocket runs were made against these; the approaches being made from about 6,000 feet and the bombs released at about 2,500 feet - the rockets at about 1,200 feet. All bombs and rockets were seen to hit in the target area, and smoke was seen coming from the places hit. There were no other observable results, but CASGU gave the strike group a "Well Done".

The second attack was one made with rockets against retreating enemy troops in TA 7878 V.W. The rocket attack was accompanied by strafing. Hits were observed in the target area, but no results were observed. On this second target, there was a 6/10 cloud coverage at 1500 to 2000 feet.

Ref: Air Support Charts, OKINAWA, of 64th. Engr. Top. Bn.
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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 Comments.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

W. H. BRADEN Jr. Lieut. USNR, AGI Off.

**M. T. WHITTIER Lt. Comdr. USNR,
Commanding Officer.**

17 April 1945

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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DATE



OKINAWA 4-15-75 NAHA TOWN, AFTER INVASION, VIEW LOOKING SOUTH WEST



OKINAWA 4-15-45 YONTAN AIRFIELD, VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST