

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-42 (b) Based on or at USS HAWTHORN BAY (c) Report No. 148
 (d) Take off: Date 22 April 1948 Time (LZT) 1200(1) (Zone); Lat. 25-20N Long. 122-00E
 (e) Mission Direct support and Air Coordination (f) Time of Return _____ (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>TB-3</u>	<u>VF-42</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1 pl: (Air Coordinator) 8-5" H.E. rockets, 100 7 lbs</u>	<u>100 100</u>
					<u>4 pl: 4-1000 of bombs, 100 60</u>	<u>100 1000 (med.) 100 1000 (100 60)</u>
					<u>2 pl: 10-1000 of 100 30 8-5" H.E. rockets, 100 7 lbs</u>	<u>100 1000 (med.) 100 100</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>(ZONE)</u>	<u>None</u>		
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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 _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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		
			<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) Coastal area 7200 S; reported concealed positions and supplies (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) Time Over Target(s) 1400-1440 (Z) (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2000 .7 Cumulus (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 8 (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used M: 8 (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Varied (NUMBER) Spacing Varied (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (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 Target area 7200 S;		7 VC-35	10-500; 10-1000	All	Damage indicated, except for destruction of fuel dump
2 reported concealed positions and supplies		VC-35	25 rds .50 cal		
3			1700 rds .50 cal		
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).

This was strictly an area attack without ascertainment of exact damage. The pilot saw what appeared to be hidden trucks, houses and some buildings. These were strafed but damage is unknown. One large fire, with brilliant orange flames and heavy black smoke was started. This was believed to have originated from either fuel dump or a fuel dump.

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(p) Were Photographs Taken? 20 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 22 April 1945 seven F4U's of VC-88 engaged in a strike on southern Okinawa in direct support of army troops which were attempting to advance southward. Target area assigned was 7288 B in which many camouflaged positions and stores had been reported. Lt. J. D. MITCHELL was air coordinator over the area, having taken off an hour previous to the other six pilots: Lt(jg) F. C. HERRFORTH, R. J. SCHLEINER, D. C. WHITE and Flight Lieutenants W. H. STEPHENS, J. J. CRIBBING, and T. F. MONTANA.

Lt. Mitchell did spot what appeared to be camouflaged trucks, boxes and buildings in the area but could not observe the damage done. In all the area well bombed, with 16-500# GP and 18-100# GP hitting the aiming point. Lt(jg) D. C. WHITE hit either fuel drums or a fuel dump with one 100# bomb. Brilliant orange flames and heavy black smoke arose following the explosion. It is believed the bomb struck either fuel drums or a fuel dump.

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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 comment.

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APPROVED BY:

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. D. SCHAAF, LT. USN, LTJG

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

H. L. KEMP, LT. USN, Commanding

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

27 April 1945

DATE