

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-34 #47**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Area on north side Airfield No. 2, Iwo Jima, containing artillery positions.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **0900 (K)** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

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

(d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **20**
(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 **All** Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release **2500**
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

Rockets per Run **2 and 4** Slant range **VF 3000 VT 2000**
(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed **0** Probably Destroyed **0** Damaged **0**

(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 Portion of above area	200 x 200 yards	4 FM-2 VC-34	(24) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor	18	Unknown
2		4 FM-2 VC-34	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
3 Portion of above area	200 x 350 yards	4 TBM-3 VC-34	(24) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	23	Unknown
4			2 with (2) 500 lb GP AN-M 64.	All	Unknown
5			2 with (10) 100 lb GP AN-M 50.	All	Unknown
6		4 TBM-3 VC-90	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
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).

Specific results were not observable, however hits as noted above were made in the area reported to contain the artillery positions, most of which could be seen by the pilots. It was common experience during these operations that the positions themselves were often not visible although the target area was spotted.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **Yes** 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

A support flight consisting of 4 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 took off for Iwo Jima from USS MAKIN ISLAND on 24 February 1945, D plus 5, at 0715 (K). Lt. David J. Conroy leading the VT had with him Lt.(jg) Harry D. Anderson and Ensigns Horace D. Harper and Terence B. McManus. Lt. George Shaw-Corthorn led the VF division and had with him Lt.(jg) Duane C. Miller and Ensigns Bernard Hobson and Richard D. Tietjen. The flight rendezvoused with 4 TBM-3 of VC-90 which furnished the group leader and 4 FM-2 of VC-85. The target assigned the group was an area on the north side of Airfield No. 2 containing artillery emplacements. Attack was commenced at 0900 (K) with VF strafing and firing rockets into one part of the area (199 Oboe on local grid). Runs were started at 7000 and rockets fired at slant range of 3000 feet. VT followed with one rocket run first and then a bombing run on the cliffs in the adjoining part of the target area (200 King Peter on local grid). Rockets were released at slant range of 2000 feet. Bombing run was started at 6500 feet with release of 100 and 500 lb. G.P. bombs at 2500 feet and pullout at 2000 feet. The Air Coordinator advised that almost all rockets and bombs had gone into the target area. The planes returned to base at 1015 (K).

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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

Bomb release mechanism did not work in one TBM-3, rockets in another TBM-3 failed to fire and 3 guns of one FM-2 failed to fire after the first run. Defects were remedied on return. Otherwise equipment performed in normal way.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Douglas K. ENGLISH, Lt., (A1), USNR

3-7-45

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AGI Officer, VC-84

Acting Commanding Officer, VC-84