

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (CV-16) (c) Report No. VBF-94 25  
 (d) Take off: Date 7-24-45 Time (LZT) 1015 Item (Zone); Lat. 31° 35' N Long. 135° 20' E  
 (e) Mission Strike on Hamamatsu A/C (f) Time of Return 1500 Item (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>F4U-4</u>	<u>VBF-94</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1 x 500 GP 6 x 5" HVAR</u>	<u>Inst/.01 Inst/.015 base</u>
<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>VF-94</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1 x 500 GP 6 x 5" HVAR</u>	<u>Inst/.01 Inst/.015 base</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			<u>N</u>				
			<u>O</u>				
			<u>N</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
			(ZONE)	<u>N</u>		
			(ZONE)	<u>O</u>		
			(ZONE)	<u>N</u>		
			(ZONE)	<u>E</u>		

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 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		
			<u>N</u>		
			<u>O</u>		
			<u>N</u>		
			<u>E</u>		

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 25

## 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 (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1	F4U-4	VBF-94	Hit by bomb burst A/C ahead	Under side fuselage and wings
2				
3	F4U-4	VBF-94	Probably enemy AA	Unknown
4				
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
3	VBF-94	Lt. Ralph E. Boggs	Probably enemy AA	Missing in action.

## VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(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				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
F4U-4	227	227	4.75	385	275		3800			10
F6F-5	227	227	4.75	400	325		3200			4

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		X		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm			X	
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm			X	

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

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

- TURNES
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 25

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

**Factories, Warehouses, and Locomotives - Hamamatsu-Maisaka Area**

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1215 Item (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target Solid overcast at 2000' Tops 5000-6000'  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Hazy (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 5 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used MK 8 Gunsight (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 - 500# (NUMBER) Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 1200 (FEET)  
Rockets: In pairs

(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 RR Bridge		1	1 x 500# GP	1	Serious
2 Road Bridge		1	1 x 500# GP	0	None
3 Factory		4	1 x 500# GP 14 x 5" HVAR	14	Serious
4 Factory		1	2 x 5" HVAR	1	Slight
5 Factory		3	2 x 500# GP 8 x 5" HVAR	2	Serious
6 Warehouse		1	4 x 5" HVAR	2	
7 Warehouse		3	2 x 500# GP 6 x 5" HVAR	6	Serious
8 Locomotive		3	10 x 5" HVAR	5	Destroyed
9. Locomotive		2	8 x 5" HVAR	4	Destroyed

(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. Across Hamana Ko entrance.
2. Across Hamana Ko entrance.
3. Just east of RR bridge #1.
4. 1/2 mile SE of #3.
5. Warehouse east of #1 and just south of RR tracks.
6. Opposite #5 and on north side of RR tracks.
7. Large warehouse north side of RR tracks 2-3 miles east of Hamana Ko.
8. South side of RR opposite #7 warehouse.
9. Just south of and parallel to #8.

Note: 2 bombs jettisoned in ocean.  
2 rockets jettisoned.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 25

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) Time Over Target(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zone) \_\_\_\_\_  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target \_\_\_\_\_  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target \_\_\_\_\_ (e) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(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. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Locomotive - Hamamatsu		4 VF-94	8 x 5" HVAR 1800 rd .50 cal	4 Many	Destroyed
2 Warehouses (3) Hamamatsu	50 x 200 each	1 VF-94	1 x 500# GP	1	Destroyed
3 Warehouses (3) 2 mi. W of Hamamatsu	50 x 150 each	1 VF-94	6 x 5" HVAR 500 rd .50 cal	5 Many	Destroyed
4 Power Plant Hamamatsu	300x300	1 VF-94	1 x 500# GP	1	Destroyed
5 Power Plant 1 mile E of Maisaka	150x200	1 VF-94	4 x 5" HVAR 500 rd .50 cal	2 Many	Fire - serious damage
6 Warehouse - 1 mile E of Hamamatsu	100x200	1 VF-94	1 x 500# GP	1	Destroyed
7 Barracks Maisaka	30x100	1 VF-94	4 x 5" HVAR 500 rd .50 cal	2 Many	Slight damage
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 25

## 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

### NARRATIVE

10 VBF, accompanied by one division of VF, made a landfall at Tenryu, Honshu at 12000' by navigation. Unable to reach their primary target (A/C at Hamamatsu A/F) due to a ceiling below 1000', the flight returned to the coast, then headed westward to attack targets of opportunity from the town of Hamamatsu to Hamana Ko. The VF division attacked targets primarily in Hamamatsu itself while the VBF made section runs on targets west of the town.

Runs were from all around the clock, although the greater portion in the factory and railroad terminal area were from south to north. Dives started from 2000' at 25°, with release at 800'.

In a section run against a RR bridge across Hamana Ko, at which Ensign Griffin aimed a bomb while he went after an AA position firing from beside the bridge, Lt. Ralph E. Boggs, USNR, was last seen to pull out of his dive toward the sea. It is believed Lt. Boggs was hit by AA from the position attacked.

Rendezvous with VF was effected 5 miles south of Hamamatsu at sea.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

VBF-94

REPORT No 25

**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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

P.L. GUILFORD, Lt. (jg), USNR  
SIGNATURE      ACT OFFICER      RANK AND DUTY

L.S. WALL, JR., LT. CDR., USN  
SIGNATURE      COMMANDING OFFICER      RANK AND DUTY

26 July 1945  
DATE