





**AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT**

**COPY!**

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. **9**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Okinawa Island** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1500(I)** (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **1500, strato-cumulus, 9/10 cover at Yontan, unlimited at others**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **Unlimited**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Glide** Bomb Sight Used **MK. VIII**  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run **4** Spacing **100** Altitude of Bomb Release **2 - 500**  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

**Rockets S/R 1000 yds.**

(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 Gun Positions	- - -	5 VT-33	12 X 100 G.P.	Unobserved	Unobserved
2 Building Area	- - -	5 VT-33	10 X 100 G.P. 20 HVAR	8 11	Serious
3 Plane Revetments	- - -	5 VT-33	22 X 100 G.P. 20 HVAR	8 Unobserved	Serious Unobserved
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 target is on tip of a peninsula on eastern coast of Okinawa. The positions were like semi-caves near the crest of a hill. CASCU designated this spot as a target. All positions appeared to be empty. So many planes were attacking the target that number of hits and amount of damage could not be assessed. Preceding strike group had also hit the same target.
- Building area north of Yontan Airfield. Hits did not demolish the structure but serious damage was done. Building would not be usable without major repairs. No fires were seen burning. Small buildings surrounding the large building were also hit. Bomb hits on the frame buildings did more damage than rockets. The whole building area was quite large.
- Revetments surrounding Yontan Airfield appear to be for planes. These runs were made on the covered ones, some earthen covered and others with round rafters and net of tree branches. Rockets did considerable damage to the earthen covered ones while a 100 G.P. dropped in the others blew the covering off or open enough to see inside. Seriously damaged planes were in some but no planes burst into flame. Some of these planes have been seen in these and other revetments for at least the past five (5) days. Some of them definitely appear to be dummies and it is believed that others were damaged some time ago and left there as decoys. These decoys and dummies are very effective, at least to the extent of attracting strafing and bombing planes whenever they make attacks on the field.

(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

The original Air Plan for this date provided that planes of this squadron would fly TASP. The change was made by dispatch the night before and changed caused no difficulty.

Lieut. YOUNG and the four (4) other planes joined up with the remaining planes of the attacking group near the launching point.

The first target appeared to be a fruitless target. It had been hit by the previous strike group and they reported that the positions were empty.

The Air Coordinator called to the area planes that were not in his assigned group and as a result and so many planes diving on the target at the same time that pilots of this squadron, at least, were diverted from giving desired attention to the aiming point and results of drops.

**COPY:**

**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:

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**A.C.I. Officer VT-33** RANK AND DUTY

**F.B. GIBSON, Lt. Comdr., USN**

**Commanding Officer VT-33** RANK AND DUTY

**Commanding CVEG-33**

**31 March 1945**

DATE