

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CVNO 33-11
77 33-11
77 33-89

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting CVNO-33 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SANDWICH (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 21 APRIL 1945 Time (LZT) 0930(Z) (Zone); Lat. 24-17 N. Long. 124-42 E.
 (e) Mission Strike on airfields (f) Time of Return 5:00 (Z) (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

| TYPE (a) | SQUADRON (b) | NUMBER | | | BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) | FUZE, SETTING |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| | | TAKING OFF (c) | ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d) | ATTACKING TARGET (e) | | |
| <u>VB-38</u> | <u>VF-33</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>2x500, 4x100 G.P.</u> | <u>None AN 203A2 Inst.</u> <u>Tail AN100A2 .1 sec.</u> <u>Base Mk. 157 .02 sec.</u> |
| <u>P67-21</u> | <u>VF-33</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>6 AR with 5 in. Head</u> <u>100 gal. napalm</u> | <u>None AN 203A2 Inst.</u> <u>Tail AN100A2 .1 sec.</u> <u>Base Mk. 157 .02 sec.</u> |
| <u>P67-21</u> | <u>VF-33</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>6 AR with 5 in. Head</u> <u>1x500, 1x100 G.P.</u> | <u>None AN 203A2 Inst.</u> <u>Tail AN100A2 .1 sec.</u> <u>Base Mk. 157 .02 sec.</u> |

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

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE | TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE |
|--------------|----------|--------|------|------|----------|--------|------|
| <u>VB-38</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>VB-38</u> | | | <u>(ZONE)</u> | | | |
| | | | <u>(ZONE)</u> | | | |
| | | | <u>(ZONE)</u> | | | |

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
(YES OR NO)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance 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>VB-38</u> | | | | | |
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. VF 741
VF 729

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Airfields, Miyako Jima (b) Time Over Target(s) 0640(Z) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 5000, cumulus, 5/10
(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 VF - Dive, Napalm dropped in level flight, VT - Dive Bomb Sight Used Mark VIII
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run VF:0, VT:Salvo by type 32 Spacing 32 Altitude of Bomb Release VT: 1500 yds.
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged One

| (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 Revetted concrete structure | 100' x 100' | 6 VF-33 | 4x500, 2x100 GP 27 AR-5" Head | 4 Unobserved | Slight |
| 2 " " | " " | 8 VF-33 | Strofe, 2 Napalm 36 AR-5" head | 0 14 | None Slight |
| 3 Runway | 300' x 5500' | 6 VT-33 | 8x500, 3x100 G.P. | 11 | " |
| 4 " " | " " | 8 VT-33 | 4x500 G.P. Strofe | 4 | " None |
| 5 Revetment Area | 40' x 50' | 4 VF-33 | 6 AR-5" Head Strofe | 1 | None Serious |
| 6 Installations in wooded area | - - - | 6 VF-33 | 2x100 G.P., 6 AR 2x100 gal. Napalm | 1 G.P. 4 AR 2 Nap. | " |
| 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.)

1 This is a reinforced concrete structure, partially sunk in ground, covered with 6 to 8 feet of dirt and surrounded by revetment. Might be command post, ammunition dump or A & R. Rockets seemed to have little if any effect. Only damaging effect of bombs was by those hitting between revetment wall and building proper. SAP bomb recommended. Building is located east of south end Nobara runways on Miyako Jima.

3a NE - SW Runway of Hibara Airfield, Miyako Jima. All bombs were hits and each pitted the runway.

5 Consisted of 2 revetments, 200 yards south of eastern runway. A SE plane was seriously damaged in one revetment with rocket and strafing.

6 Situated 300 yds. SE of east runway of Nobara field. Area believed to contain hangars and other buildings. Large fires were burning furiously when planes departed.

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

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REPORT No. **STES #11**
VF #41
VF #29

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

Strike group rendezvoused and proceeded to target. AN/APN-4 radar again proved invaluable in quickly locating target. When the objective is one of several small islands the use of this gear often makes a successful mission possible when otherwise too much time would be wasted to permit any planning of runs.

Attack was coordinated with one division of VF and the four VF diving steeply on the target area hitting the main target and any surrounding AB. The NAPALM division of VF dove from above and behind the other planes in order to get more speed and to arrive over the target in level flight as the preceding planes finished their runs. A second run was necessary in order to drop two of the Napalm tanks. Two of the four tanks did not ignite. A third run was made to crater the runways.

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REPORT No. ~~VT 11~~
VT 141
VT 129

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

One TM brought back a 500 lb. bomb as it would not release. Trouble was a shorted out solenoid. A new shackie has been installed.

Another TM brought back three rockets. One was a dud and the other two, Ordnancemen had failed to insert the plugs prior to take-off.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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RANK AND DUTY

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RANK AND DUTY

R. B. GILKESON, LT(jg), U.S. NAVY, 21 April 1945.
S.C.I.O., VT-33.
RANK AND DUTY DATE