

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

OPNAV-16-223
Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 1

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting **VC-84** (b) Based on or at **USS MAKIN ISLAND, at sea** (c) Report No. **VC-84 #155**
 (d) Take off: Date **28 April 1945** Time (LZT) **1- 0543 I** (Zone); Lat. **24° 06'N** Long. **126° 11'E**
2- 1120 I
3- 1452 I
 (e) Mission **Strike to neutralize Miyako Jima airfield, Sakishima** (f) Time of Return **1- 0927 I**
Gunto in support of Okinawa Jima operations. **2- 1510 I** (Zone)
3- 1755 I

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)		
TBM-3	VC-84	12	0	12	6 with 2 500 lb GP AN-Mk 64 6 with 10 100 lb GP AN-M 30	Nose - instantaneous Tail - .025 sec. delay
					10 with 8 rockets, Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	Nose - instantaneous Tail - .025 sec. delay
FM-2	VC-84	19	0	19	18 with 8 rockets, 1 with 6 rockets as above	Nose - none Tail - instantaneous

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VC-84	4	USS SHAMROCK BAY				
FM-2	VC-91	4	USS SAVO ISLAND				
FM-2	VOC-2	4	USS FANSHAW BAY				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). **None**

(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)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(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 _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). **None**

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

OPNAV-16-223
 Form ACA-1
 Sheet 2 of 5

REPORT No. **VC-84 #155**

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 TBM-3	VC-84	Cause unknown.		
2		Plane seen to start		
3		second run on target from 7000 feet,		
4		peeling off in 70° dive to left then		
5		snapping back to right lessening to 60°		
6		starboard wing came off, plane rolled over		
7		on its back and crashed; 4 rockets seen to		
8		be fired hurriedly just before wing came off,		
9		gas seen coming from right wing tank after		
10		wing came off; aileron on wing that came		
11		off was shredded; no AA observed at time.		
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
1	VC-84	Donald E. Glasgow, Lt.(jg)	see above	Dead
1	VC-84	Glenn F. Cota, AMN2c	"	"
1	VC-84	George Douvos, AMN2c	"	"
1	VC-84	Harry M. Hansen, PhM1c	"	"

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	
TBM-3	65	70	3.4	330	195		430			11
FM-2	65	70	3.4	233	150		10970			19

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

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

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
 at various altitudes

- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **VC-84 #155**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) See below (b) Time Over Target(s) See below I (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Didn't affect attacks
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 25
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 2500
(NUMBER) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 7
Rockets per run VF 2 VI all Slant range 2000

(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 Buildings, revetments target 1		8 TM-3 VC-84 (7 FM-2)	20 500 lb GP AN-Mk 64 40 100 lb GP AN-M 30 97 rockets, Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor; no rds. 30 & 50 cal. unknown	All in area	Several buildings destroyed, other specific results unknown
2					
3 Shops, area 2 & barracks	200 x 400yds 150 x 50 ft.	4 FM-2 VC-84	24 rockets as above; unknown no. rds. 50 cal.	"	Unknown
4 Buildings, shops, planes in revetments in target area 3		4 TM-3 8 FM-2 VC-84	4 500 lb GP as above, 20 100 lb GP as above, unknown no. 30 & 50 cal.	"	"
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.)

In target area 3 the planes rocketed and strafed did not burn. 1 large fire was started in a probable fuel dump. In all areas there was good coverage.

Targets -

- 1- Nobara airfield, southwest end of field buildings area, probable repair, warehouse, storage, Revetments east side field. 0655 and 0730.
- 2- Nobara airfield. Shops, southwest end field. Barracks, northeast coast, south of Shimajiri. 1230 and 1315.
- 3- Hirara airfield, buildings, shops west side field. Planes probably non operational in revetments, fuel storage.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. VC-84 #155

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

In its final combat operations before being relieved VC-84 participated in strikes on Miyako Jima, Sakishima Gunto on 28 April 1945. 3 support flights were launched from USS MAKIN ISLAND at 0543 I, 8 TM-3 and 7 FM-2, returning at 0927 I, 4 FM-2 at 1120 I, returning at 1510 I, and 4 TM-3 and 8 FM-2 at 1452 I returning at 1755 I. The support groups of the first and third flights were led by Lt. English and Lt. Noll. In each case a canned mission was worked out in advance for use in the event that on the spot observation brought no more fruitful targets. In planning the missions consideration was given to target priorities, targets reportedly by task units on prior strikes, and best approaches and get away for AA. In both cases the canned mission was used at least in major part. The first support group consisting entirely of VC-84 planes, hit buildings, probable repair and workshops and storage on the west side of Nobara field. Revetments on the east side were also strafed. 1 bombing and rocket run were made by VT. At the start of the second run, from 7000 feet, Lt. (jg) Glasgow's plane was seen to peel off in a 70° dive to the left then snap to the right lessening the angle to 60°, 4 rockets were released hurriedly then the starboard wing was seen to come off, in falling its ailerons were seen to be shredded. The plane rolled over on its back, gas coming from the right tank, and crashed. No one was seen to get out and low circling over the scene of the crash revealed only a mass of flames. The second group of 4 FM-2 rocketed shops at the southwest end of Nobara field and strafed barracks on the northeast coast south of Shimajui, without observable results.

The final group hit buildings and shops the west side of the field and planes in revetments. The latter did not burn but 7 were damaged by strafing and were possibly operational. A large fire was started in a fuel dump on the west side of the field. Bombing runs were started at 7000 feet with release at 2500 and pullout at 1500. Rocket slant range was 2000 feet. Strafing runs were carried down to 100 feet from a start at 4000 feet.

Pilots -

1st support flight - VT - Lt. Douglas K. English, support group leader, Lt. Brice Holladay, Lt. Richard I. Haley, Lts.(jg) William H. Bartles, Donald E. Glasgow, Harry D. Anderson, Ensign Deane A. Welle, Terence B. McManus.

VF - Lt. Thomas S. Sedaker, division leader, Lt.(jg) Robert E. Hooks, Ensign C.K. Lasher, Ensign Johan D.W. Hubbeling, Lt.(jg) Alfred E. Monahan, division leader, Lt.(jg) Raymond B. Howard, Ensign Bernard Hobson.

2nd flight - Lt. Robert O. Kent, flight leader, Lt.(jg) Kenneth B. Finka, Ensign Raymond A. Kerr, Henry Wardenga.

3rd flight - Lt. Earl R. Attebury, division leader, Lt.(jg) Rex S. McDaniel, Ensigns Harold E. Chapman, Eric W. Kattwinkel, Lt.(jg) James G. Babb, division leader, Ensign John R. Stropfel, Edsel C. Varney, R.K. Browne.

VT - Lt. Francis A. Noll, support group leader, Lts.(jg) Howard A. Hughes, Wilbur E. Ege, Ensign Wesley H. Richards.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
~~RESTRICTED~~
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. VC-84 #155

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 TBM-3 lost its starboard wing. It was seen to peel off to the left in a run from 7000 feet at 70° then snap to the right lessening the angle to 80°. 4 rockets appeared to be fired hastily and then the starboard wing came off. As it fell the wing's ailerons were observed to be shredded. The plane rolled over on its back, gas coming from the right tank and crashed. It had already made a bombing run, releasing 10 100 lb GP and was then carrying 8 rockets. No AA was observed.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Robert C. FULTON, Jr., Lt., USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
ACI Officer, VC-84

Douglas K. ENGLISH, Lt., (A1), USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
Commanding Officer, VC-84

5-4-45
DATE