

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

VBF-94

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (c) Report No. 17
 (d) Take off: Date 15 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0830 Item (Zone): Lat. 40° 42' N Long 144° 35' E
 (e) Mission Bihoro (Hokkaido) Destroy A/C (f) Time of Return 1345 I (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)		
P4U-4	VBF-94	10	--	10	7 x 500 GP 1 x 250	Nose: Inst. Tail: .01
					4 x 5" HVAR 2 x 5" HVAR	Nose: MK 149 Inst. Tail: MK 159 .015 delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			N				
			O				
			N				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	(c) No. ENGAG. OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	O		
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	E		
			(ZONE)			

(a) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) ---
 Did Any Part of
 (b) 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
 of Sun or Moon --- (b) 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	GUNS USED		
			N			
			O			
			N			
			E			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK IS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 17

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Nemuro Abashiri (b) Time Over Target(s) 0945 I (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Base 500', tops 2000' 10/10 below base
(CASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10-15
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBTSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

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

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing -- Altitude of Bomb Release 1500-2000'
 Rockets: In pairs (NUMBER) 1 (FEET) -- 100-1500'

(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 Sugar Dog harbor of Bekkai	100 tons	2	.50 Cal 1 x 500 GP	Many 0	Slight - smoked
2 1 Locomotive at Shibetsu		4	.50 cal.	Many	Seriously damaged.
3 Bldg. area in town opposite #1		2	6 x 5" HVAR	5	None
4 Bridge - RR Shari	200 x 20	2	8 x 5" HVAR	1	Slight
5 Bridge - Highway Shari	200 x 30	1	4 x 5" HVAR	1	Slight
6 Storage area 1 Mile E of Shibetsu		4	3 x 500; 1 x 250 GP 2 x 5" HVAR	3	Unobserved
7 Fishing boat	100'	6	.50 cal.	Many	Riddled and halted
8 Lumber Mill		2	.50 cal.	Many	Serious

(h) 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. Inside harbor 45° 36' N, 145° 16' E.
6. Airfield 1 mile East of Shibetsu.
8. 3-4 miles southwest of Kami Shari - fired.

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

CONFIDENTIAL

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

NARRATIVE:

Ten VBF navigated to the coast of Hokkaido (Akkeshi Bay) at 7000'; flew due north past Kenobitsu where they were unable to penetrate under or over the solid front to the north and northwest. They headed northeast to Shibetsu; followed the coast to Rausi, and then crossed the mountains at 9000' where they went down below the base clouds at 500'.

At that point 6 A/C broke off toward Tofutsu while 4 A/C proceeded northwest past Abashiri. The 4 A/C reconnoitered the coast line as far as Saromako, but found no suspected seaplane station in that vicinity. They returned to Abashiri where an attack was made on installations in the town and small shipping in the harbor. Bombing run was from east to west from 2500', 30° dive (because of low base) with release at 500'. Rocket runs were from 2000', 30° dive, release at 150'. Strafing runs from many directions were made on these targets. The A/C then returned on a reciprocal to Shibetsu where rendezvous was effected with the rest of the flight three miles north of the town.

The six A/C reconnoitered for fields in the Abashiri-Tofutsu area - found one at Kami-Shari - attacked and destroyed a train east of Tofutsu, attacked bridge at Shari and a lumber mill five miles southwest of Kami-Shari with bombing and rocket tactics similar to those used by the other division. After a reciprocal to Shibetsu, a rendezvous was effected and the strike then proceeded south attacking the town of Shibetsu, ships in the harbor opposite the town, ships at Nemuro, and then returned direct to base.

COMMENT:

1. Lt. (jg) E.V. Seleen encountered at 200' altitude both at Abashiri and Nemuro 2-3' in diameter, white parachutes trailing streamers at the end of which appeared to be fastened a small dark object. 25 were encountered at Abashiri and 25-50 at Nemuro. No contact was made with these objects. Note: These are probably identical to the anti-aircraft parachute fragmentation bombs reported encountered previously at Iwo Jima.

2. Several new airfields were confirmed and the information has been forwarded thru the proper channels.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

OPNAV 16-V No. S37
Form ACA-1
Sheet 5 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

VBF-94
No. 17

CONFIDENTIAL

XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

No comment

REPORT PREPARED BY:

Paul L. Hubbard
Signature Rank & duty
Lt (jg) ACI Officer

APPROVED:

L. S. Wall, Jr. JUL 19 1945
Signature Rank & duty Date
L. S. WALL, JR.
LT. CDR., U.S. NAVY
Commanding Officer