

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (c) Report No. VBF-94 23  
 (d) Take off: Date 24 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0545 Item (Zone); Lat. 31° 34' N Long. 135° 11' E  
 (e) Mission Destroy A/C 01, Tenryu, Kaizu (f) Time of Return 1115 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)		
F4U-4	VBF-94	8	0	8	1 x 500 GP Nose: Inst. 4 x 5" HVAR Tail: Inst/.015 base.	Tail: .01 delay
F6F-5	VF-94	3	0	3	None	
F6F-5P	VF-94	1	0	1	None	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			N				
			O				
			N				
			E				

## 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)	N		
			(ZONE)	O		
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	E		

(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).

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



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) A/C - OI, Yaizu (b) Time Over Target(s) 0730 Item (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000-3000 Cumulus stratus 10/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear under cover (e) Visibility 6-10  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED 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  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)  
**Rockets: In pairs** 1000

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 5 Probably Destroyed 3 Damaged 4

(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 Tenryu hangar area		4	2 x 500 GP .50 cal.	2	Slight
2 Tenryu A/F		4	4 x 500 GP 14 x 5" HVAR	Unobserved Unobserved	
3 A/C at OI (8)		4	.50 cal.	Many	3 prob. destroyed 4 serious damage
4 5 A/C Yaizu		4	1 x 500 GP 15 x 5" HVAR	1 9	5 destroyed
5 Bldg. area Yaizu		1	1 x 500 GP	1	Serious
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).

1. Area previously leveled.
2. Bombed thru overcast.
3. SE corner 8 Judys; 1 T/E. 3 Judys probably destroyed, 3 damaged, 1 T/E damaged.
4. These planes appeared servicable on 1st run, but completely knocked out after attack. Fire started in supposed ready ammo supply SW of #4 target.
5. Bomb landed in buildings, NE corner of SW-NE strip.

Note: 3 rockets returned.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes **but not suitable for assessing damage.** 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

## NARRATIVE

VBF-94 accompanied by 3 F6F-5's and 1 F6F-5P navigated to coast of Honshu 50 miles SW of Tensyu A/F at 6000'. After landfall, flight proceeded NE to Tanryu where a bombing attack was made from west to east from 4500' in a 25° dive with release at 1500'. Retirement was low over water and a running rendezvous effected 1½ miles off shore.

One division was unable to break through the cloud cover and having lost the rest of the flight in the clouds jettisoned bombs and rockets through the overcast. After brief and unsuccessful reconnaissance, this division returned to base.

Meanwhile remainder of flight proceeded around coast to Yaizu A/F where bombing and rocket run from 4000' out of the clouds was made NW to SE, again in a 20-25° dive; release at 1000'. Retirement with considerable jinking was made down to the deck and out to sea where flight rendezvoused. Four strafing runs were then made from NW to SE, following which flight proceeded to Oi where two strafing runs were made from 1000' down to the deck. Defilade was effectively used in retirement. Several passes were then made at Tenryu. After rendezvous at sea, and then planes rendezvoused five miles off coast at Tanryu with photo plane and escort which had made coverage of Tenryu, Fuju, Kaizu, and Oi (due to ceiling only oblique coverage was made).

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**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

**No comment.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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**ACI OFFICER**

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**COMMANDING OFFICER**

**26 July 1945**  
DATE