

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-93 (b) Based on USS PETHOP BAY CVE-80 (c) Report No. 77
 (d) Take off Date 18 May 1945 Time (LST) 0600 -9(Zone) Lat. 25°12'E Long. 128°08'E
 (e) Mission Direct Support Strike on Okinawa (f) Time of Return 0945 -9(Zone)

II. ONE AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | | | BOMBS AND TORPEDOS CARRIED (PER PLANE) | FUZE, SETTING (g) |
|-------|----------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| | | TAKING OFF | ENGAGING ENEMY A/O | ATTACKING TARGET | | |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) |
| TBM-3 | VC-93 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 8-5"HEP; 3-500#GP | Inst. nose .01 sec. delay tail; Selective base |

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

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE |
|-------|----------|--------|------------------------|
| TBM-3 | VC-9 | 1 | USS MATOMA BAY CVE-62 |
| TBM-3 | VC-99 | 4 | USS HOGGATT BAY CVE-75 |

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 AMMO. EXPENDED | | | | (h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|------|----|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | .30 | .50 | 20MM | MM | |
| TBM-3 | 70 | 70 | 3.75 | 330 | 245 | | | | | 4 |

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

NONE.

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

(a) Target and Location Guns & supply dumps on Okinawa (b) Time Over Target 0615 -9 (zone)
 (c) Clouds Over Target None
 (d) Visibility of Target Hazy and ground fog (e) Visibility 10 miles at surface
 (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used Mark 8
 Bombs Dropped per Run 2 Spacing Selective Altitude of Bomb Release 2000 ft.

| (h) AIMING POINT | (i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE | (j) & (k) NO. A/C ATTACKING SQUADRON | (l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT | (m) NO. HITS ON AIMING PT. | (n) DAMAGE |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Gun & Supply dumps | 50 x 150 Yards | 4 VC-93 | 32-5" HER 12-500# GP | 27-5" HER 12-500# | Serious |

(o) RESULTS:

1. These positions were located on N. side of a hill 5 miles S. of Naha. A camouflaged hut on the NE corner of the ridge was hit and exploded. Several fires were started along the ridge.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATION DATA.

The strike groups from each ship were together en route to objective area but were given separate targets by Commander Support Air.

VC-93 planes executed attacks from N to S 3000 to 1000 feet, 25° glide and 200 knots maximum speed. Bombs were dropped selectively, one at a time, and rockets were expended 4 at a time.

A "Good job" was advised by the Commander Support Air after receiving information from the ground forces.

XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

Participating pilots were:

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|----|------|
| W. H. SKINNER | Lieut. | A1 | USNR |
| J. E. SHEARER | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| W. R. GAWENHOP | Ens. | A1 | USNR |
| J. J. OLIVER | Lieut. | A1 | USNR |

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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