

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET
I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-49 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. ACA-1-29
 (d) Take off: Date 10 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0407(I) (Zone); Lat. 36°10'N Long. 142°30'E
 (e) Mission Sweep and Photo Recon-SHIMODATE, Tokuba West and (f) Time of Return 0608(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)		
<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>VF-49</u>	<u>16</u>		<u>14</u>	<u>8 planes carried 2 260# frag bombs.</u>	<u>MK 100A 2 Non delay</u>
					<u>7 planes carried 6 5" MVAR rockets, 2 of 8 planes with bombs returned due to mechanical difficulty.</u>	<u>MK 159 Base Fuze .012 delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</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>None</u>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) X
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? X If so, Describe Clouds X
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon X (k) Visibility X
(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		
<u>None</u>						

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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 <u>None</u>				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
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
	<u>None</u>			

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	
<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>4hrs. min</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>325</u>			<u>200 (average per plane)</u>		<u>16</u>

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No Airborne enemy aircraft observed.

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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) _____ (b) Time Over Target(s) 0556 (I) (Zone) _____
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target None _____
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear _____ (e) Visibility 15 _____
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive _____ Bomb Sight Used Mk. 8 Illuminated gunsight _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 2 _____ Spacing * See below _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 5,000 _____
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 _____ Probably Destroyed 0 _____ Damaged 0 _____

	(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
			(k) SQUADRON			
1	Airfield Shimodete		2 VF 49	4 260# Frags	4	None observed
2	Southern revetment area		4 VF 49	8 260# Frags	8	None observed
3						
4						
5	* Bomb release manual and spacing about one second					
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).

Three photographs, marked Exhibits A, B and C are hereto attached showing the Western and Northern revetment and dispersal areas, and three of the planes on the field, which are believed to be dummies. Shimodete Airfield

A and B stereo pair showing northern revetment area;
C - northwestern portion of field with revetments

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



SAN JACBT FV JULY 10 45 0525(9) 7 12" 5000 SHIMODATE IAF HONOLULU ONE

SECRET "A"

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 1

SECRET



SAN JACINTO FL, JULY 10, 47

EXHIBIT "B"

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 2

SECRET



SAN JACBT F

EXHIBIT "C"

PHOTOGRAPH NUMBER 3

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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

Lt. Comdr. G. H. Rousee led sixteen Hellcats from the USS SAN JACINTO on a fighter sweep against Shinodote field, Honshu. The flight left base at 0407(I), 10 July 1945. The course to the target from the landfall south of Miyakawa airfield closely followed the route suggested by the Flak Intelligence section of Task Group Thirty-Eight Joint Force. The initial point for the attack was reached southwest of the target and a coordinated sweep was made against the two revetment and dispersal areas Northwest and southeast of the field and the landing area. The northern revetment area and the northern section of the field were rocketed, and the remainder of the target was frag bombed. The push over point was at about 14,000 feet, and the bombs and rockets were dropped and discharged from 6000 to 3000 feet. It was impossible to determine the extent of damage inflicted, but the area was thoroughly saturated. About seven planes were observed on the field, but they were all believed to be dummies. About four operational planes were seen in the revetment areas and they were used as an aiming point. The great number of planes which had been reported on the field prior to the strike were not found, although the target did not seem to be alerted. No anti-aircraft fire was observed from the target area or enroute to the field. The four planes of the photographic mission did not take part in the original sweep against Shinodote. This division made a photographic run on Tsukuba West prior to the Shinodote attack, and followed the other planes in a rocket attack on the dispersal area immediately surrounding the hangars on the latter field. The mission retired to the north of the Hitashi and rendezvoused a short distance off the coast in that area. Several of the planes on the photographic mission had not discharged their rockets at Shinodote field due to the absence of suitable targets, and were directed to strike the airfield at Wito. The rockets were fired into the dispersal area of that field but results were not observed. The photographic plane obtained ninety per cent coverage of both Tsukuba West and Shinodote airfields. The photographs showed a great number of well concealed planes in the revetted areas of Tsukuba West but few operational planes were found in the Shinodote area. No airborne enemy aircraft were seen on the mission. Retirement was made east of Wito and the flight pancaked at 0808(I).

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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

**One plane developed an oil leak forcing a return to base.
One Rocket was hung up, otherwise all equipment performed normally.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. A. SMYTHE, Lieut., USN
A.C.O., Officer.

RANK AND DUTY

G. H. ROUMS, Lieut. Condr., USN,
Commanding Officer, VP-49

SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

10 July 1945

DATE