

VKD-5

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⑦

Report # 44

LTC(7)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VD-5 (b) Based on or at Clark Field, Luzon, P. I. (c) Report No. 114  
 (d) Take off: Date 26 March 1945 Time (LZT) 0504 Item (Zone); Lat. 15°09' N Long 120°33' E  
 (e) Mission Photo Reconnaissance of Chou-Shan Archipelago and Ketow Point, Chekiang Province, China. (f) Time of Return 1940 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)		
<u>FB4Y-1P</u>	<u>VD-5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>none</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>none</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>Biplane</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>none</u>	<u>1200 I</u> (ZONE)	<u>observed in taxiing,</u> <u>Tower Hill Channel</u>	<u>not observed</u>	<u>not observed</u>
<u>Seaplane</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>none</u>	<u>1130 I</u> (ZONE)	<u>parked on Chou-Shan</u> <u>airfield</u>	<u>not observed</u>	<u>not observed</u>
<u>S/E</u>						

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

## 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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
<u>none</u>						



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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

Three photo-Liberators flown by Lts. H. L. SALYER, USNR, (flight leader), C. M. WITT, USNR, and J. T. BROOKS, USNR, took off Clark Field, Luzon, P. I. at 0505 Item, 26 March 1945 for photo reconnaissance of Ketow Point area and Chou-Shan Archipelago, China. The target area was reached at 1100 Item after a 925 mile flight and was completely cloud free. Vertical black and white and color photographs were made of the area from an altitude of 12 000 ft. To photograph the assigned areas it was necessary for each plane to fly approximately 275 miles of flight line. The photo runs were completed at 1400 Item.

No enemy fighters were seen in the air, but three single engine planes were observed on Chou-Shan airfield and one seaplane biplane was seen taxiing in Tower Hill channel. One Sugar Charlie and one Sugar Dog were sighted in Chou-Shan harbor and numerous sailing junks were seen on the waterways of the area. Meager medium caliber AA was fired from a position near the top of Ketow Point, all bursts were inaccurate.

A valuable navigational aid was radio station XGRA broadcasting on 570 Kcs. from Shanghai. All planes returned to Clark Field by 1940 Item.

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