

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VO-93 (b) Based on or at USS RUDYARD BAY CVE-80 (c) Report No. 39
 (d) Take off: Date 13 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1400 -9 (Zone); Lat. 25°11' N. Long. 128°20' E.
 (e) Mission Strike on Ishigaki Field, Miyama Retto (f) Time of Return 1825 -9 (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>FM-2</u> | <u>VO-93</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>6-5" HBR; 2-500# GP</u> | <u>Base; instantaneous</u> |
| <u>FM-3</u> | <u>VO-93</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>6-5" HBR</u> | <u>Base</u> |

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

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE | TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------------------|------|----------|--------|------|
| <u>FM-2</u> | <u>VOG-1</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>USS HANCOCK ISLAND CVE-77</u> | | | | |
| <u>FM-2</u> | <u>VO-96</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>USS RUDYARD BAY CVE-81</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 |
|----------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |

(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 _____
 (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 | GUNS USED | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 39

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 | TBM-3 | 20 mm AA enemy | Center right wing below | Repairable locally |
| 2 | TC-93 | | Hole 2" at base and | |
| 3 | | | 1" at to in diameter | |
| 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 |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | TC-93 | No injury to any personnel | In plane designated above. | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

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 | |
| TBM-2 | 290 | 210 | 4.5 | 175 | 125 | | 6,000 | | | 4 |
| TBM-3 | 250 | 210 | 4.5 | 330 | 295 | | | | | 8 |

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

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

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- TURN
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 39

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Island Field, Island, Tanager, Nettie (b) Time Over Target(s) 1550 (Zone) 9
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 8000 stratus 8/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20 at surface
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type GLIDE Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing Altitude of Bomb Release 2500
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 1 Probably Destroyed 1 Damaged 3

| (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 5 Operations buildings | 30 x 30 ft. | 12 VC-93 | 18-5*HR; 6-500#; 1500-50 cal | 9-5*HR 3-500# | 3 Destroyed 4 damaged seriously |
| 2 | | 4 | 12-5*HR; | 6-5*HR | 2 damaged |
| 3 Medium AA Runway and air-craft revetments | 75 yds dia. | VC-93 12 | 2-500#; 1500-50 cal 42-5*HR; | 1-500# 20-5*HR | 1 destroyed 8 Damaged |
| 4 | Various | VC-93 | 8-500#; 3000-50 cal. | 4-500# | seriously |
| 5 | | | | | |
| 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).

- Buildings were one story and scattered about over airfield area.
- Several medium AA layouts put up a volume of fire during first and following runs. Four planes diverted from the revetment objective to silence them.
- Inoperational and dummy aircraft were placed on the runways, in the field, and in revetments where they could easily be seen. These were hit but are not counted herein. On subsequent runs aircraft, having been observed in hidden camouflaged revetments were subjected to attack. A few bombs were placed to crater the runway.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT No. 39

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

The division of six (6) carriers, temporarily called from the Okinawa operation to neutralize the fields of Yaeyama Retto launched a strike composed of two groups, each subdivided into two flights. Able and Baker flights were in one group, and Charlie and Dog in another. This report covers Able and Baker regarding strike tactics, but only VC-93 planes regarding damage, etc.

En route to the target, after distance cleared the communications channel, the Commanding Officer, VC-93, as flight leader, briefly outlined a simplified tactical procedure. VF, by divisions, were to recede the VT, by sections, in high, fast runs from west to east to permit recovery over the water, with rendezvous at 5000 feet, five (5) miles east of the target. It was also agreed to keep wing tanks at equality by switching tanks every 45 minutes en route. Radio discipline was emphasized.

At the objective area the attack was executed in the form specified. VF runs were generally from 6000 to 1000 feet, at 35° and 270 knots followed by VT glides from 7500 to 2500, at 30° and 250 knots. Retirement was from 1500 to 700 feet with frequent changes in course and altitude.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 39

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

Pilots participating in this flight were:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|----|------|
| C. P. SMITH | Lt. Comdr. | | USN |
| R. C. SULLIVAN | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| K. C. BROWN | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| R. R. PARSONS | Ens. | A1 | USNR |
| W. H. SKINNER | Lieut. | A1 | USNR |
| L. W. JEFFREYS | Ens. | A1 | USNR |
| R. M. AKID | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| J. F. TUTTLE | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| W. J. O'HEEREN | Ens. | A1 | USNR |
| B. H. BEAM | Lt. (jg) | A1 | USNR |
| J. J. OLIVER | Lieut. | A1 | USNR |
| R. C. AYLESWORTH | Ens. | A1 | USNR |

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

R. L. WINNER, Lieut. SA1 USNR, AG10

SIGNATURE

C. P. SMITH, Lt. Comdr. USN, CO, VC-93

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

4/13/45