

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential

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~~SECRET~~
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No VC-84 #54

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). 1- 1820 (K)

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) # See below (b) Time Over Target(s) 2,3,4 - 1400 (K) (Zone)

(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

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

(d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 10
(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 All Spacing 0 Altitude of Bomb Release 2000 - 1500
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

Rockets per Run - VT All Slant range 1000 feet VF - All Slant range 2500 - 1500 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 (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 Target area No. 1	600 x 200 yards	4 FM-2 VC-84	(24) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All	Unknown
2		4 FM-2 VC-96	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
2 x Target area No. 2	200 x 200 yards	2 TM-3 VC-84	(5) 500 lb GP AN-M 64. (16) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All	Unknown
3 x Target area No. 3	400 x 200 yards	1 TM-3 VC-84	(10) 100 lb GP AN-M 30	All	Unknown
4 x Target area No. 4	200 x 200 yards	1 TM-3 VC-84	(10) 100 lb GP AN-M 30 (8) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All	Unknown
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.)

Specific results could not be observed. Bombs and rockets were seen to go into designated gun positions in the areas as well as to fall within the general target areas attacked.

Targets and locations:

1. Sulphur Mine Refinery area, Iwo Jima.
2. Area containing gun positions and AA 600 yards north of Airfield No. 3, Iwo Jima.
3. Area containing gun positions $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Sulphur Mine Refinery, Iwo Jima.
4. Area containing gun positions adjoining Sulphur Mine Refinery on the west.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes 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

A support flight consisting of 4 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 took off from USS MAKIN ISLAND at 1100 (K), on 25 February 1945, D plus 6, for Iwo Jima. TBM-3s were piloted by Lt. Richard I. Haley, division leader, Lts.(jg) Marvin L. Doliana and William H. Bartles and Ensign Glenn A. Terry. Lt. George Shaw-Corthorn led the FM-2s, the other pilots being Lt.(jg) Duane C. Miller and Ensigns Richard D. Tietjen and Bernard Hobson. They joined with 4 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 of VC-96. The VF were split off after orbiting on station about an hour and directed to attack the Sulphur Mine Refinery (200 Charlie Dog Easy on local grid) with rockets and strafing. Starting at 1320, 2 runs were made with rockets and strafing. Rockets were released at slant range of from 2500 to 1500 feet and strafing carried on down to low level. Results were not observed, although the area was well covered. VT continued to orbit until shortly before 1400. Radio communication which had been good at the start of the time on station had become poor because of crowded channels. At 1350 attack was started on the target areas assigned. No attempt is made herein to include attacks by VC-96. Lt. Haley and Lt.(jg) Doliana dropped (3) 500 lb. G.P. bombs on gun and AA positions (235 Uncle on local grid) about 600 yards north of Airfield No. 3. Runs were made from 3500 feet with release at 1500 feet. Sixteen rockets were released at slant range of about 1000 feet. Light, meager, inaccurate AA was met resulting in minor damage to one TBM-3 from a hit on the blast tube of the starboard gun. Ensign Terry dropped (10) 100 lb. G.P. bombs on gun positions in an area (219 Uncle Victor on local grid) 1/2 mile east of the Sulphur Mine Refinery, scoring hits on positions on along a ridge. His run was similar to the bombing run on the first target of the VT. Lt.(jg) Bartles dropped (10) 100 lb. GP from 2000 feet and fired (8) rockets from slant range of 100 feet on a gun emplacement area (202 Baker on local grid) adjoining the Sulphur Mine Refinery on the west. While specific results were not seen all bombs and rockets fell in the areas aimed at. The flight joined up and returned to base at 1415 (K).

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. VC-34 #54

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 500 lb. bomb hung up due to faulty release mechanism which was repaired on return. Difficulty in radio communication was laid to crowded channels rather than defects in equipment. Otherwise performances of material was normal.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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3-9-45

SIGNATURE
AGI Officer, VC-34

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE
Acting Commanding Officer, VC-34

RANK AND DUTY

DATE