

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (CV-16) (c) Report No. VBF-94 24
 (d) Take off: Date 24 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0445 Item (Zone); Lat. 31° 39' N Long. 135° 11' E
 (e) Mission A/C Isumatsu and Mikatagahara (f) Time of Return 0915 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)		
F4U-4	VBF-94	12	0	11	1 x 500 GP 4 x 5" HVAR	Inst/.01 tail Inst/.015 base
F6F-5P	VF-94	1	0	0	Photo	
F6F-5	VF-94	3	0	0	Escort	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			N				
			O				
			N				

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)	N		
			(ZONE)	O		
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	EA		

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
(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		
			N			
			O			
			N			
			E			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 24

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Hamamatsu A/F (b) Time Over Target(s) 0645 Item (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000 Cumulus - Stratus 9/10
(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 MK 8 Gunsight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing — Altitude of Bomb Release 1500
Rockets: In pairs (NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 2 Probably Destroyed 0 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 Ammo Storage		2	2 x 500 GP	2	Unobserved
2 Aircraft		1	1 x 500 GP	1	Destroyed
3 Hangar Area		6	6 x 500 GP	6	Unobserved
4 AA Position		2	6 x 5" HVAR	1	Unobserved
5 Aircraft (1)		1	4 x 5" HVAR	1	Serious
6 Aircraft (2)		2	.50 cal.	Many	Slight
7 Aircraft (2) Dummies		2	7 x 5" HVAR	2	Destroyed
8 Coastal Town		1	1 x 500 GP 4 x 5" HVAR	1	Unobserved
9. Tenryu A/F		3	10 x 5" HVAR	4	Slight Dam. to barrack

(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).

1. East edge of field.
2. 300 feet south of ammo storage. 2 T/E.
3. South edge of field.
4. West edge of field.
5. One mile north of field. 1 T/E.
6. Southwest of field. 2 T/E. One on edge of field; one 1000' west in wooded area.
7. Center of field.
8. Unidentified.

Note: 13 rockets jettisoned on beach and coastal area.
1 bomb jettisoned in sea.

but none suitable for damage assessment.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. 644

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

NARRATIVE

Eleven VEF, accompanied by 1 F6F-5P and 3 F6F-5 escort, made landfall by navigation 5 miles SW of Hamamatsu at 10000'. Target was circled to right because of cloud cover and run was made through an opening from SE-NW. Dive was 30° from 4000' through clouds at 2000' and release at 1500-1000. Retirement was made to the NW with considerable jinking and rendezvous was effected over the water. Another rocket and strafing attack was then made from the same direction with 25° dive and release at 1000'.

Flight then proceeded to Tenryu A/F where planes made W to E strafing run (one division fired rockets) with similar tactics to those at Hamamatsu. Rendezvous was effected at sea 1 mile south of the strip.

Flight then started a reconnaissance sweep eastward, but was forced back due to bad weather. Final rendezvous was made 1 mile south of Hamamatsu Town at 6000' with photo plane and escort which had made coverage of Mikatagahara, Hamamatsu, and Tenryu (in all instances, due to low ceiling, only oblique coverage was made).

GENERAL COMMENT

1. All aircraft on Hamamatsu strip either dummies or completely unservicable.
2. As before, all the operational aircraft were well dispersed in wooded areas away from the field. Few aircraft in revetment areas.
3. Weather seriously hampered the success of this flight.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

VBF-94

REPORT No 24

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

No comment.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE P. L. GUIBORD, Lt. (jg), USNR
RANK AND DUTY
ACI OFFICER

SIGNATURE L. S. WALL, JR., Lt. CDR., USN
RANK AND DUTY
COMMANDING OFFICER

26 July 1945
DATE