

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting CV28-24 (b) Based on or at USS SANDER (CVE-29) (c) Report No. 22-45
 (d) Take off: Date 23 May 1945 Time (LZT) 0730(Z) (Zone); Lat. 24° 42' N Long. 126° 30' E
 (e) Mission Strike Air Facilities, Ichiangai Jima (f) Time of Return 07-1100 (Zone) 07-1200

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>P2F-3</u>	<u>VF-24</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1 - 500# C/P Bomb</u>	<u>Instant nose .51 tail</u>
<u>T2M-3</u>	<u>VF-24</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10 - 100# C/P Bombs 4 - 5" H.E. Rockets</u>	<u>Instant nose .51 tail .025 delay base</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>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</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 _____
 (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		
<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 TB-3	VT-24	.30 cal. A/A and barrier crash	Port brake lining	Accidental striking. Bu. No. 66383
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
	None			

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	
TB-3	129	129	4.5	325	277		8000			8
TB-3	129	129	3.5	335	220	400	1000			8

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

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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) Miyara Airfield (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 0840(I) (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3000' - 3500' 10/10 cover
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear to slight haze below base (e) Visibility 15 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used VT-None VP-Mk 8 Gunsight (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run VF-One VI-111 Spacing - - - Altitude of Bomb Release VF-1500'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed One 2/3 Probably Destroyed None Damaged 10 3/3

(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 A/A and Dispersal Area	Miyara	8 VF-24	8 - 500# Bombs		
2 Dispersal Area	Miyara	8 VF-24	700 rds. .50 cal.		
3 Truck	Miyara	2 VF-24	1000 rds. .50 cal.	Hazy	Destroyed-Burned
4 Runway	Miyara	4 VF-24	40 - 100# Bombs		
5 Dispersal Area	Miyara	4 VF-24	40 - 100# Bombs		Direct hit burned one plane
6 Dispersal Area	Miyara	8 VF-24	32 - 5" Rockets		
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)

- VF-1.** The VF bombs hit varied targets, two on the runways which left craters, the other six on the dispersal areas NE and SE of the main runways.
- VF-2.** The dispersal area south of the airstrip was subjected to several strafing runs. About ten single engine planes were strafed, but none would burn.
- VF-3.** This target was well strafed and the truck burned.
- VF-4.** About 50% of the bombs hit the runway, leaving craters.
- VF-5.** All bombs landed in the area which was east of the airstrip. One bomb hit a brush covered plane and set it afire. This was verified by a VF pilot who flew down low over the burning plane.
- VF-6.** This area was north of the landing strip. Results were unobserved.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No 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
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- 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 weather over the target was closed in tight up to 3000'. Below that there was a slight haze but not sufficient to hinder bombing accuracy to any great extent.

The coordinated attack, led by Lt. D. W. COOPER, USN, Commanding Officer of VT-24, started with the fighters bombing Miyura airfield to silence any possible A/A positions that might open up on the VT as they followed with their bombing runs. VF bombs were released at 1800' in glide bombing runs. They then strafed a dispersal area in which were observed ten single engine planes. These planes were subjected to several strafing runs. Some were observed to have been previously damaged, and others may possibly have been dummies. One truck was burned by VF.

VT split into two divisions for its bombing run. One division dropped on the runway, scoring about 50% hits, while the other division dropped on the dispersal area to the east of the strip. One of the bombs on the latter run scored a direct hit on a brush covered plane in that area, setting it afire. The fighters flew low over this plane and verified it as a burning plane. The bombing runs were started at 3500' and releases made at 1500'. Both divisions combined for a rocket attack on a brush covered dispersal area just slightly north of the field. The rockets were fired at this target at an angle of 15° - 20° with unobserved results.

During the attack, moderate medium A/A and light weaver A/A was encountered.

Upon return to the carrier, the TBM piloted by Ensign James A. DAY was landed without incident, but when taxiing out of the arresting gear he was given the brake signal by the plane director, the port brake failed to respond to pressure applied by Ensign DAY and the plane spun around on the starboard wheel on which wheel the brake held, and the plane slipped partway into the catwalk damaging one wing, and wing strut, bomb bay doors, fuselage, and prop. Upon examination of the plane, it was found that a .30 or .50 caliber shell had all but severed the brake lining of the port brake. There were no personnel casualties.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
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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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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DATE