

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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REPORT NO. **5**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Kushira A/F, Kyushu** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1200 I** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **3,000' base, cumulus, 4/10 cover**
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **12 - 15 miles**
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Dive** Bomb Sight Used **MK VIII**
- Bombs Dropped per Run **2** Spacing **None** Altitude of Bomb Release **5,000 - 5,500 ft.**
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed **0** Probably Destroyed **1** Damaged **2**

(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
1 AA positions E of A/F	100x300 yds.	4 312	8x500 GP	8	Serious
2 Barracks area N of A/F	300x400 yds.	4 2 312 322	8x500 GP	8	Serious
3 Dispersal area S of A/F	100x500 yds.	7 312	16 rockets (regular) 14x500 GP	16 14	Serious
4 Kasebaru Town	Whale town	15 312	9,000 rds. Cal. 50	All	Unobserved
5 Barracks & warehouse area S A/F	200x300 yds.	7 322	42 rockets 2,000 rds. Cal. 50	42 All	Serious
6 Powerhouse at Nishinonote	100x150 ft.	2 322	4 HVAR 5" rockets 4 regular rockets	3	Serious
7 Water tank W edge Imajo A/F	30' diam.	2 322	1,000 rds. Cal. 50	Many	Serious
8 Operational A/C at Imajo A/F	Point	2 (2 passes) 322	2,500 rds. Cal. 50	Many	Serious

(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 location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

9. Trawlers at Sata Misaki	2 - 40 ft.	4 323	1,500 rds. Cal. 50	Many	Serious
10. Buildings at Sata Misaki	Points	4 323	1,500 rds. Cal. 50	Many	Unobserved
11. Buildings S of Kanoya A/F	Points	4 323	3,000 rds. Cal. 50	Many	Unobserved

- Four hits were observed directly in batteries positions.
- Two hits on large T shaped barracks - much debris seen.
- One hit in revetment followed by column of intense black smoke.
- Three HVAR 5" rockets made direct hits causing large internal explosion in powerhouse followed by blue flame.
- One Lily, one Tony and one Zeke received many hits - Zeke was left smoking.
- Two 40' trawlers received many hits - one was left smoking.

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

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~~RESTRICTED~~
(Reclassify when
filled out)

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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

This Group mission rendezvoused at Point Letter with the 4 escort divisions at 7,000', the 4 VFB divisions at 6,000' and the 3 rocket divisions at 5,500'. The flight was on course direct to target at 1,000'. With a helping tail wind the IP was reached by 1200. The IP was 15 miles SE of Kushira A/F. At this point the 3 echelons were at 15,000', 14,000' and 13,500' respectively. From this point the bombing and rocket planes made a long swing N and E around target peeling off to the left just NW of target and making run across target on a heading of 135°. The VFB's made their final pushover at 12,500' starting a 55° dive with release at 5,500' attaining an IAS of 360 knots. These same planes continued to dive at 30° on retirement strafing Kasebaru with 9,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition from altitudes of 5,000'-3,000'.

The VF's with rockets peeled off behind VFB's at a point W of A/F and on 090° heading from 9,000' in a 40° glide at 340 knots.

The flight rallied SE of target off the coast of Kyushu and headed for home.

Eight A/C of the cover strafed buildings and two trawlers at Sata Misaki and the planes which had carried rockets strafed the powerhouse at Nishinoemote and the six operational aircraft and water tank at Inujo A/F enroute to base having completed a successful mission vigorously.

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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

A few of the pilots observed that quite a few of the proximity fused bombs dropped on this mission appeared to explode on ground contact rather than above the ground.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

H. B. CANNON

RANK AND DUTY

**Capt. S-2
USMCR**

SIGNATURE

N. E. DICKEY

RANK AND DUTY

**Col. CO
USMC**

15 Jul 45
DATE