





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 23

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Hyakurigahara A/C & hangars (b) Time Over Target(s) 1430 Item (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2000 Stratus 4/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 15  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used MK 8  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release 2000  
Rockets: In pairs (NUMBER) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 1 Probably Destroyed 1 Damaged 17

(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 Hangar area		9 VBF-94	9 x 500 GP 2 x 5" HVAR	2	Serious
2 A/C W revetment and dispersal area		3	16 x 5" HVAR .50 cal	9	2 Unobserved 9 A/C (5S/E, 2T/E, 2 unidentified)
3 A/C II revetment and dispersal area		2	10 x 5" HVAR .50 cal	6	3 S/E damaged 1 T/E destroyed
4 A/C SE revetment and dispersal area		2	8 x 5" HVAR .50 cal	3	5 A/C (3S/E, 1T/E, 1 uniden) damaged
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).

- 5 hits around hangars and on apron causing serious damage to area although previous VBF strike had scored heavily on same area. (See VBF-94 report #22).
- 8 damaged. 1 S/E probably destroyed.
- 1 T/E destroyed in flames.

Note: Most of A/C were damaged by strafing though nearby rocket hits in revetments must also have caused damage.

(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

### NARRATIVE

VBF-94 flight, accompanied by 1 F6F-5P and 3 F6F-5 escort, proceeded to target area by navigation to Japan coast 5 miles south of Hokoda, thence on course 295° to south of Hyakurigahara where bombing, rocket, and strafing runs were made from priority courses based on flak analysis recommendations. Strafing attacks were pressed home to extremely low level and were responsible for the greater part of the damage to aircraft, the majority of which, it is important to point out, were located outside the revetments.

Rendezvous was effected after each run and final rendezvous off Chosi Point was effected with the photo and escort planes which had made vertical coverage at 10000' of Hyakurigahara A/F and, in addition, obliques at 3000' of Hokado, Mito, Kitaura (SS), Tsukuba, Tsukuba West, and Konoike.

### GENERAL COMMENT

In view of the lack of air opposition, the feeling is quite prevalent that a concentrated, combined strike on one airfield at a time (after the initial sweeps or photo planes have determined the location of grounded air potential) with certain planes specifically assigned the job of keeping AA silenced during the operations would result in the overall destruction of a greater number of aircraft. At the same time sufficient aircraft could provide a protective cover against enemy fighter opposition, if such developed.

The suggestion is made in the light of future operations rather than any criticism of the one just completed. Naturally there was no way of knowing just what the Japanese Air Force's reaction would be to the operation.

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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

No comment.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

P.L. GUIBORD, Lt. (jg), USNR

SIGNATURE

ACT OFFICER

RANK AND DUTY

L.S. WALL, JR., LT. CDR., USN

SIGNATURE

COMMANDING OFFICER

RANK AND DUTY

20 July 1945

DATE