

CAG-49/A16-3/A9-6
(GMR;sg)

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
AIR GROUP FORTY NINE

Serial: 005

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
15 August 1945.

S-E-C-R-E-T

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to
VT-49/A16-3/A9-6
Ltr. Serial 003 of
15 August 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : Commander-in-Chief U.S. Fleet.
Via : (1) Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.
(2) Commander Carrier Division THREE and Commander
Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT ONE.
(3) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
(4) Commander THIRD Fleet.
(5) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Reports--period 10 July through 13 August
1945.

1. Forwarded.

G. M. ROUZEE

Enclosure (PP)

VT-49/A16-3/A9-6
(CNF:mu)

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
TORPEDO SQUADRON FORTY-NINE

Serial: 003

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
15 August 1945.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Aircraft Action Reports--period 10 July through
13 August 1945.

3.
as follows:

During the period, assessed Damage to Enemy was inflicted

- (a) Aircraft Destroyed on Ground 36
Aircraft Probably Destroyed 10
Aircraft Damaged on Ground 14
- (b) Shipping Sunk ----1 SD
Shipping Probably Sunk----2 SCS, 1 SD
Shipping Damaged----1 CA(Aoba), 1 FU, 6 SD, 1 Lugger,
1 Sampan.
- (c) Ground Targets Destroyed--1 Medium A/A position, 2 reveted
ammo. buildings, 2 hangars (burned), 1 oil tank (burned)
2 locomotives, 4 warehouses (3 burned), 1 barracks build-
ing (burned), 9 miscellaneous buildings (1 burned).
- (d) Ground Targets Damaged--1 Heavy A/A position, 1 probable
Airframe plant (fire), 2 large Air Depot buildings, 1 coal
tipple, 1 locomotive, 1 warehouse, 15 miscellaneous build-
ings, shipping docks, double railroad trackage.

4. This list is limited to observed effective bombing and
damage shown in photographic coverage. Particularly on airfield targets
many hits in target areas were observed where damage was not assessed,
probably accounting for additional planes.

Carl H. Peters

cc:

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CinCPac (3) Adv. Copies
JicPoa (1) Copy Direct
ComAirPac (1) Copy Direct
CO U.S.S. SAN JACINTO (1) Adv. Copy
ComCar AirGrp FORTY-NINE (1) Copy

VT-49/A16-3/A9-6
(CNF:mu)

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
TORPEDO SQUADRON FORTY-NINE

Serial: 003

c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
15 August 1945.

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Via : (1) Commander Carrier Air Group FORTY-NINE.
(2) Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SAN JACINTO.
(3) Commander Carrier Division THREE and Commander
Task Group THIRTY-EIGHT POINT ONE.
(4) Commander Task Force THIRTY-EIGHT.
(5) Commander THIRD Fleet.
(6) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Aircraft Action Reports--period 10 July through 13 August 1945.

Reference: (a) CominCh Serial 7152 of 29 October 1942.
(b) PacFlt Conf. Ltr. 1CL-45 of 1 January 1945.
(c) Fast Carrier Task Force Instructions (FC-TFI-2)--para. 5400.
(d) Carrier Division THREE Instructions (CD3I)--para. 5310.

Enclosures: (A) through (Q) Aircraft Action Reports #15 through #31,
Strikes against Airfields and Installations, Naval
and Merchant Shipping, and Coastal objectives in the
Japanese Home Islands.

1. In accordance with references (a), (b), (c) and (d), Enclosures (A) through (Q) are forwarded herewith.

2. The following Operating Statistics summarize the actions reported in the period covered:

Operations Statistics--AGA-1's #15-31.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Personnel Lost or Wounded | None |
| Planes Lost in Combat | None |
| Planes Lost Operationally | One |
| Planes Damaged in Combat | Eleven |
| Total Target Sorties Flown | 136 * |
| Total hours for these Sorties | 615.6* |

*In addition, 5 strike planes which took off and for operational reasons did not reach targets, flew 9.5 hrs. Also not counted in the above are several negative Searches and Anti-Sub Patrols, flights recalled or weathered out of any attack, Weather, Ferry and training flights.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VT-49 (b) Based on or at USS SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. 15
 (d) Take off: Date 10 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0703(-9) (Zone); Lat. 34-10 N Long. 142-30 E
 (e) Mission Bomb A/C at Tsukuba West, Tokyo Area (f) Time of Return 1109(-9) (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) | | |
| TBM-3 | VT-49 | 8 | 0 | 8 | 6-260# Frags AN/Mk 81 | Tail-Non-delay Nose-T50-E-1 |
| | | | | | | |

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

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE | TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE |
|----------|----------|--------|-----------------|------|----------|--------|------|
| F6F-5 | VF-49 | 7 | USS SAN JACINTO | | | | |
| F6F-5(P) | VF-49 | 1 | USS SAN JACINTO | | | | |

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 |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| None airborne | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |

(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)
 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 | | |
| None encountered. | | | | | |
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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. **15**

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 None | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
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| 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 | | | |
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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 | |
| TBM-3 | 174 | 180 | 4.1 | 401 | 242 | | | 295 | | 8 |
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IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

| CALIBER | NONE | MEAGER | MODERATE | INTENSE |
|---|------|----------|----------|---------|
| HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over | | X | | |
| MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm | | | | |
| LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm | | X | | |

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- _____ TURNS
- _____ DIVES
- _____ CEILINGS
- _____ RANGE
- _____ PROTECTION
- _____ ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 15

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tsukuba West A/F (AAF#1472)
140-01E, 36-10 N, Tokyo, Area. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0850(-9) (Zone)

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

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 15 Miles. (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used 4-None
4-Mark VIII (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run All * (NUMBER) Spacing 150'-300 Knots (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 6,000 to 4,500 (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged -

| (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 Dispersal Loop No. of field | 7,000 ft X 3,000 ft | 3 VT-49 | 16-260# Frags VT fuzed | All in Area | Not observed. |
| ² N.E. quarter of field | 2,000 ft X 1,000 ft | 3 VT-49 | 15-260# Frags VT fuzed | All in Area | Not observed. |
| ³ S.E. revetment area. | 1,500 ft X 2,000 ft | 2 VT-49 | 11-260# Frags VT fuzed | 7 in Area | None (Photos). |
| 4 | | | | | |
| 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).

* One plane-4; One-3; One-5; over target. Others dropped on return to coast.

(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. 15

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

Torpedo Squadron FORTY-NINE returned to action on the long anticipated strikes against Tokyo airfields on 10 July. Eight planes were launched shortly after 0700 in company with 4 VF-49 fighters and a photo division, with the understanding that either of two fields assigned to San Jac might be hit, depending upon the reports of the Air Group Commander, on his way back from the first sweep of the day. Radio contact with him determined the flight leader to concentrate on Tsukuba West, which reportedly had more planes visible than the other primary targets.

Eleventh hour changes of the flak defense enroute to the target area, lying 26 miles from the coast North of Inube Saki, indicated a circuitous approach from the Southeast, and landfall was made, with about 12,000 feet altitude, between Katori and Yachimata airfields, were the heavy A/A would barely be out of range. Although it was a 50 mile run over land to Tsukuba this way, the lack of flak damage and absence of airborne opposition proved out this route.

A sharp turn was made to the airfield when nine miles to the South South West, and bombing dive commenced at about 10,000 feet.

Lieutenant Peters, Lt(jg) Bartlett and Ensigns Coffey and Seckinger responsible for the North revetments, dropped their VT-fuzed frags in the assigned areas, although from the higher altitude required for arming and the wide dispersal and concealment of aircraft practiced by the Japs made individual plane observation difficult. Only one was seen by these pilots, and his drop made at it, although photos showed at least 25 planes in these revetments.

Empty revetments along the edge of the fields offered no game to the others, Lieut. Livingston and Ensign Poulson made their drops along the eastern edge of the field, where at least one plane was spotted.

The expected heavy A/A made only a token appearance, but the flashes of small calibre weapons were seen by several. All was sufficiently inaccurate to get no hits.

A likewise flak-free retirement, after a running rendezvous to the east, brought the entire flight through without damage.

In this strike, three fighters and a photo plane with a reconnaissance job to do reduced to four the actual target cover afforded the eight Avengers. Had there been a considerable amount of A/A, the dilution of strafing on the A/A would have been considerable, even with no airborne interception. The very addition of one more plane, a VF(P), thereby cut the cover at the target where A/A can not be circuited, by almost 40%.

Pilots were naturally disappointed not to be able to see their hits, due to the frag type and the VT fuzing, and the photos taken did not cover the bombed areas after the strike.

S-E-C-R-E-T

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. 15

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

Window, in the absence of an RCM installation expected, was liberally used whenever the course approached heavy A/A positions, weather or not known to be radar controlled. Ineffective continuously pointed fire, possibly from undiscovered positions, was observed near the coast on both legs, following the window.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Charles N. Fuller, Lt(jg), USNR., ACIO
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

Carl H. Peters, Lieut(A1), USNR., Comdg.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

10 July 1945
DATE