

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting **VC-98** (b) Based on or at **USS Lunga Point (CVE 94)** (c) Report No. **VC98-32**  
 (d) Take off: Date **18 June 1945** Time (LZT) **1630(I)** (Zone); Lat. **24.42** Long. **127 .00**  
 (e) Mission **strike - Sakishima Gunto** (f) Time of Return **1920(I)** (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)		
<b>FM-2</b>	<b>VC-98</b>	<b>8</b>			<b>6 5" HE rockets 1600 rds .50 cal. ammo</b>	
<b>TBM-3</b>	<b>VC-98</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>8 5" HE rockets 10 100% GP bombs</b>	<b>Inst. nose .01 delay tail</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>TBM-3</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>USS Fanshaw Bay</b>				

## 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
<b>None</b>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(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 \_\_\_\_\_ (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		
<b>None</b>						

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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				
2				
3				
4		<b>None</b>		
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
		<b>None</b>		

### 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	
<b>FM-2</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>2: 50"</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>150</b>					<b>3</b>
<b>TBM-3</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>2: 50"</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>50</b>				<b>4</b>

### 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

SPEED, CLIMB,  
 at various altitudes  
 TURNS  
 DIVES  
 CEILINGS  
 RANGE  
 PROTECTION  
 ARMAMENT

**Not engaged**

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RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
pulled out)

(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) **Ishigaki Shima-Sakishima Gunto-  
Ishigaki Airfield** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1730(I)** (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **Cumulus 1800 .4**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

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

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **glide** Bomb Sight Used **NK 8 gun sight**  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run **10** Spacing **150** Altitude of Bomb Release **3500**  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed **none** Probably Destroyed **none** Damaged **none**

(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 <b>Airfield</b>	<b>approx. 4500x270</b>	<b>8 VF VC-98 4 VT VC-98</b>	<b>40 100# GP bombs 80 5" HE rockets</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>neutralized air field</b>
2 <b>buildings</b>		<b>" "</b>	<b>Strafing Strafing</b>	<b>not det- ermined</b>	<b>not determined</b>
3					
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)

**The air field at Ishigaki Town was well hit with 40 100# GP bombs.  
Buildings adjacent to runways were strafed and rocketed with undetermined results.**

(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  
" " , 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

On 18 June 1945, at 1630, eight FM-2's and four TBM's under command of Lieut. E. R. BECKWITH were launched from Lunga Point and rendezvoused with four TBM's from Fanshaw Bay for a strike mission against Ishigaki Airfield on Ishigaki Shima, Sakishima Gunto. Bombers made one run dropping bombs in salvo on the runway. Runs were made at an angle of 40° from 12000 feet, releasing at 3500 feet. Fighter planes strafed and rocketed buildings adjacent to runways with undetermined results.

**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 material failures reported**

**Forwarded;**

**G. A. T. WASHBURN,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer,  
U. S. S. Lunga Point (CVE 94)**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**C. F. DUCANDER, Lieut., USNR-ACIO**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**R. SEMMES, Ltcdr., USN, Commanding**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**20 June 1945.**

DATE