

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

I. GENERAL.

(a) Unit Reporting VC-87 (b) Based on or at USS MARCUS ISLAND (CVE-77)(d) Take Off: Date 30 March 1945 Time(LZT) 1000I (Zone); Lat. 25-24N Long 127-57E(e) Mission Direct Support (f) Time of Return 1335I (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

Type	Squad.	Number			Bombs and Torpedoes	Fuze, Setting
(a)	(b)	Taking Off	Engaging Enemy A/C	Attacking Target	Carried (per plane)	(g)
		(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	
TBM-3	VC-87	4	-	4	4x500 lb. G.P.	Inst.nose;.025 delay tai
TBM-3	VC-87	4	-	4	10x100 lb. G.P. 8x5" HE Rockets	Instantaneous Non-delay base

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

Type	Squad.	Number	Base	Type	Squad.	Number	Base
FM-2	VC-88	12	USS SAGINAW BAY (CVE-82)				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

None.

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

None.

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II Only).

None.

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

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 Ammo. Expended				(h) No. of Planes Returning
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
TBM-3	55	50	3.5	330	155	-	750	-	-	8

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				X
LIGHT - Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm				X

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

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

Gun Positions & Buildings

(a) Target(s) & Location(s) NAHA, OKINAWA ISLAND (b) Time Over Target(s)

1055-1230I (Zone) (c) Clouds Over Target Variable, 2000-4000 feet, .6 cover

(d) Visibility of Target Partially Obscured by Smoke (e) Visibility 10 Miles

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Varied Bomb Sight Used Bombs Dropped Per Run

Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release (g) No. of Enemy

Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged

None .

(h)	(i)	(j) No. A/C	(l)	(m)	(n)
Aiming Point	Dimensions or Tonnage	Attacking Squad.	Bombs & Ammo. Expended, each aiming Point	No. Hits On Aiming Pt.	DAMAGE (None, slight, serious..etc.)
Heavy AA Positions (Empty)	-	4 VC-87	10x100 lb. G.P. 4x500 lb. G.P.	6 2	Moderate
Probable Warehouse	100'x100'	2 VC-87	4x500 lb. G.P.	1	Destroyed
Power Plant	75'x100'	1 VC-87	4x5" HE Rockets	4	Undetermined

(o) RESULTS:

2. Lt.(jg) R. L. KOUNS scored a direct hit with 500 lb. bomb on an "L" shaped structure believed to be a warehouse, and in addition to substantial blast damage, started intense fire which was later observed to be destroying the building.

(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.)

Primary target assigned to group was a group of six heavy anti-aircraft positions on the north edge of NAHA, OKINAWA ISLAND. Lt. Comdr. H. N. HEISEL and Lieut. J. D. CORNWELL glide bombed the target, scoring two 500 lb. and six 100 lb. bomb hits causing damage difficult to assess due to smoke. Others attacked buildings in NAHA town, Lt.(jg) R. L. KOUNS destroying a warehouse with a direct 500 lb. bomb hit and Lt.(jg) V. H. LEINICKE damaging a probable power station with four direct rocket hits.

Lt.(jg) J. E. COUSINS destroyed a small concrete building on the north side of the town with a direct bomb hit. Undetermined damage resulted from bombing, rocketing and strafing of numerous buildings in that part of the town still intact from previous bombing attacks and Naval bombardment.

Pilots and Aircrewmembers participating in this mission were:

Lt. Comdr. H. N. HEISEL	D. E. FINN, AMM3c
Lieut. J. D. CORNWELL	D. M. SUTHERLAND, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) V. H. LEINICKE	O. H. LUITEN, AMM2c
Lt.(jg) F. J. T. STOCK	W. J. E. BINSWANGER, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) J. E. COUSINS	J. D. SHUFELT, AM2c
Lt.(jg) G. T. BUTCHER	C. M. McLAUGHLIN, ARM3c
Lt.(jg) S. E. LINK, Jr.	T. E. BROGAN, AMM2c
Lt.(jg) R. L. KOUNS	W. A. MASTALERZ, ARM3c
	W. A. GRITZNER, AOM2c
	N. F. WILLIS, ARM3c
	J. FOLEY, AOM3c
	P. H. CLIFTON, ARM3c
	A. E. PEARSON, ARM2c
	A. C. STULTS, AMM1c
	J. A. KOCHANEK, AMM1c
	J. P. GORDON, ARM1c

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability).

No comment.

Report Prepared By:

Approved By:

R. E. JOHNSON, Lieutenant, USNR.
ACI Officer

H.N. HEISEL, Lt.Cdr., USN.
Squadron Commander

3-31-45.
Date