

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),
 1000I
 (d) Take off: Date 3 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1115I (Zone); Lat. 25-20N Long 128-25E
 (e) Mission Direct Support (f) Time of Return 1340I
1545I (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)	
FM-2	VC-87	4	-	4	1x250 lb. G.P.	Instantaneous
TBM-3	VC-87	1	-	1	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	Unknown	4	Support Carrier Unit 2				
TBM-3	Unknown	4	Support Carrier Unit 2				

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	
FM-2	60	65	3.6	185	120	-	3000	-	-	4
TBM-3	60	65	4.5	330	265	-	100	-	-	1

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).

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Boat shelters and ground installations, CENTRAL OKIN-AWA ISLAND (b) Time Over Target(s) _____ (Zone) (c) Clouds Over TargetScattered cumulus at 2000 feet; .3 cover. (d) Visibility of Target Clear(e) Visibility 15 Miles (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____ (i) _____ (j) _____ (k) _____

(l) _____ (m) _____ (n) _____ (o) _____

(p) Were Photographs Taken? NO

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

The four fighters participated in a sweep against suspected boat shelters along the west coast of Central OKINAWA ISLAND. Presence of small boats in log shelters on the beaches could not be definitely ascertained during strafing runs.

The division was then directed to strike targets of opportunity at the village of NAKAMA, on the west coast of Central OKINAWA, and approximately 20 buildings, including three possible barracks, were destroyed by bombing and strafing which started numerous fires.

As Air Coordinator during the latter part of the above mission and the first phase of the succeeding direct support mission, Lt. Comdr. H. N. HEISEL directed attacks against targets at KIN, on the east coast of Central OKINAWA, bombing and rocketing possible concealed installations in a ravine near the shore, and strafed a truck one mile southwest of KIN.

Pilots and Aircrewmen participating in this mission were:

VT

Lieut. Comdr. H. N. HEISEL

D. E. FINN, AMM3c

D. M. SUTHERLAND, ARM3c

VF

Lt. (jg) J. T. ISELY

Lt. (jg) G. F. BOMELEY

Lt. (jg) C. WEISSE

Ensign E. J. LEINWEBER