AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

COMPIDENTIAL

The state of the s	f: Date	14 May 1	945	Time (LZT	0600-I	_(Zone);	Lat.	18. 1. Long. 1	PO 00. 2
Mission			pport, Ok	inawa.			(f) Time of	f Return093	O_I (Zone
		FT OFFICI	ALLY COVE	RED BY TH	IS REPORT.				
TYPE	SQUADRON	TAKING	NUMBER	ATTACKING	BOMBS	AND TORPEDO		FUZE, SET	TTING
(a)	(b)	OFF (c)	ENEMY A/C	TARGET (e)	CARRIE	D (PER PLAN	C)	(g)	
					- mat	/ Yh	T WAR A	Inst Mose A	N-M-103A
BM-3	AC37	3	0	2	2 - 500			A NAME OF STREET STREET, STREE	
					8 - 5" H.	E. ARS.	MCI/MCT	.02 base Mi	157.
BM-3	VC-91	1	0	1	Same exce	pt 7 AR	8.		
4									
		OR ALLIED	AIRCRAFT	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRO	NUMBER	BASI	E
TYPE	SQUADRON	NOMBER	USS PETR	OF BAY					
BM-3	VC_9	1	USS NATO	MA BAY (Coordinator)			
11/ 5	NITALY AID	DAET ORSI	EDVED OR F	NGAGED (F	By Own Aircraft	Listed in	II Only).		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)		(e) TION OF		(f)	D: CAMOL	(g) JFLAGE AND
TYPE	OBSERVED	NO ENGAGING	G TIME ENCOUNTERE	D ENC	DUNTER	GUNS	PEDOES CARRIER OBSERVED	M/	ARKING
one			(ZON	E)					
-									
			(ZON	(E)					
						•			
			(ZON						
Appare Did Ar Encour Time of	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon —	rilliance	(ZON	I.f so, Desc	ribe Clouds overcast; etc.) IN AIR (By Ow		(k) Vis		MILES)
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	sibility	(d)
Appare Did Ar Encour Time of of Sun	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc	OVERCAST; ETC.)		(k) Vis	Only).	(d) DAMAG
Appare Did Ar Encour Time of of Sun	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d) DAMAG
Appare Did Ar Encour Time of of Sun	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d) DAMAG
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d)
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d) DAMAG
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d)
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d)
Appared Did Are Encourted Time of Sun V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	(d) DAMAGE
Did Ar Encour Time of of Sun	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and B or Moon	ur in Clouds rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	I.f so, Desc THT MOON; DAY DAMAGED	OVERCAST; ETC.)	n Aircraft	(k) Vis	Only).	MILES)

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REPORT No. VC-91 160 VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE (a) (b) (d)
WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit) (e)
EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE,
(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed) TYPE OWN A/C SQUADRON None 5 6 8 9 10 14 VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left). (a) (b) (c) (d) SQUADRON (e) NAME, RANK OR RATING CAUSE CONDITION OR STATUS Ibno VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING (c) MILES AV HOURS AV FUEL AV. FUEL CONSUMED (9) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED (h) RETURN IN AIR NO OF PLANES LOADED .30 .50 20MM MM TBM-3 3.30" 301 100 200 IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line). CALIBER NONE MEAGER MODERATE INTENSE HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm

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

SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)



CONFIDENTIAL.

					REPORT No. VC-91 #60
XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY	SHIPS OR	GROUND OBJEC	CTIVES (By Own Aircraft	Listed in II Only).	

(a) -	Target(s) and Location	(S) Troops &	Morter Positi	UNDER ATTACK) Time Ov	er Target(s)	O715-I (Zone)
(c) (Clouds Over Target	Cumulus -	3000 ft - 6/10 (BASE IN FEET	T, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)		
(d) '	Visibility of Target	Clear, HA	ZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e)	Visibility	10 (MILES)
(f) E	Bombing Tactics: Type	Olido	(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)	Bomb Sight U	sed	(TYPE)
Roc	Bombs Dropped per Ru	4 & INMBE	SpacingSpacing	Altitude	of Bomb Rel	ease(FEET)
(g)	Number of Enemy Airo	craft Hit on Gro	ound: Destroyed	Probably Destroyed.	9	_ Damaged
	(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
	lastern slope of ill (Troops, mor	tar	VC-91	8 - 500 GFs. 22 - 5" HE ARS.	All	Serious
2K p	ositions) TA 271 LMM.	•			(1 dud G	7
3			3.0			
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						

mortar positions, was blasted with seven 500-pound bombs and 22 rockets. Results could not be observed but the ground troop observer told them: "Very well done - you couldn't have put them in any better by hand".

Photographs of Damage, WhenTaken, Should Be Attached By Staple. (p) Were Photographs Taken?_

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).

COMFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 10-91 460

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

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

Support to Army troops attacking Hill 371 just north of Yonabaru town was provided by four VT of VC-91 which took off from the MAKIN ISLAND at 0600 on 14 May. When they finished the Ground Observer relayed word to the pilots that the "Bombing was very well done. You couldn't have put them in any better by hand. The troops are very pleased."

Lt.(jg) Howard led the VC-91 planes, which flew to an orbit point off the west coast of south Okinawa in company with a dozen other VT from the Carrier Group but operated alone over the target area after receiving its assignment.

eastern slope of a hill and a pocket in the hill at TA 8271 LMM, which was reported as full of Jap troop and mortar positions. Howard made one dummy run over the area, rocking his wings when he thought it was directly below him. Informed by the Ground Observer he was right, he made a second run, dropping his first 500-pound bomb on the spot. Again he was right, and his division followed him in.

It was precision bombing, for our troops were only some 300 yards north of the target. Runs were made east to west. Cloud cover forced the pilots to limit their pushover altitude to 3000 feet, from which they entermed ed a 40-degree glide and released at 2000 feet. The two 500-pounders were dropped singly. They followed with rocket runs, firing two and four rockets per run at 800 yards slant range from 40 degrees.

All eight bombs hit the target area, although one failed to detonate. All 22 rockets also landed in the area, although again one was a dud. Howard was unable to get his rockets to fire. For a change the pilots were able to see targets — trenches and foxholes — but smoke and dust prevented them from observing the results of their attack. However, the Ground Observer's report left them satisfied the enemy had suffered some damage.

No AA fire was encountered directly over the target area, but six or eight rounds of 40 mm bursting close under their planes jarred the planes during an early retirement run near Terekon, TA 8766 "0". They avoided that region on subsequent retirements.

Pilots were:

Lt. (jg) M. D. Howard Lt. (jg) E. E. Younglove Ens. W. F. Hancock Ens. L. L. Lundquist

COMPIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 70-91 460

ARMAMENT Guns, Gunsights Turrets

rm ACA-1' neet 5 of 5

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary).

- 1. One pilot was unable to fire his 8 rockets. Cause undetermined: All equipment tested and found satisfactory on return to carrier; rockets were placed on another plane and fired satisfactorily on subsequent flight.
 - 2. Another rocket failed to fire because of defective Man motor.
 - 3 .- One rocket failed to detonate.
- 4. One bomb set on .025 delay tail (AN-M-101A2) fuze failed to detonute; probable defective fuze.

APPROVED BY:

F. M. BLANCHARD, LT., C.O.