

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

- (a) Unit Reporting VC-93 (b) Based on USS PERROF BAY CVE-80 (c) Report No. 79
 (d) Take off: Date 18 May 1945 Time (LST) 0930 -9 (Zone) Lat. 25°12'N Long. 126°05'E.
 (e) Mission Direct Support Strike on Okinawa (f) Time of Return 1330 -9 (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	FUZE, SETTING
		TAKING OFF	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	ATTACKING TARGET		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
TBM-3	VC-93	2	0	2	8-5"HEER; 3-500#GP	Inst. nose & .01 sec. delay tail; selective base

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VC-9	6	USS NATOMA BAY CVE-62
TBM-3	VC-99	4	USS ROBERT BAY CVE-75

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	70	70	4.0	330	250				2

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

LIGHT - Machine gun bullet, 6.5mm-13.2mm - - - - - MODERATE

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XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES.

(a) Target and Location: Artillery, Okinawa. (b) Time Over Target: 1200-9 (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target: 200, Cumulus, 9/10

(d) Obscured by clouds and haze. (e) Visibility: 1/2 miles at surface.

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used: Mark 8

Bombs Dropped per Run. Salvo Spacing: -- Altitude of Bomb Release 1500 feet.

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

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) & (k) NO. A/C ATTACKING SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING PT.	(m) NO. HITS ON AIMING PT.	(n) DAMAGE
1. Artillery on- ridge	100x50yds.	2 VC-93	8x5" H.E. Rockets 6x500# GP Bombs		Unobserved

(o) Results:

1. Artillery was located on a ridge just east of Naha field. Bombs and rockets dropped on this enroute to base. Weather prevented observation of results.

(p) Were Photographs taken? No.

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

After difficulty in finding a target close to our troops described by the Commander Support Air, the flight lead was given to VC-93 leader who had located the objective. Repeated dummy runs were made to designate this but the weather and nearby duplication of terrain made certainty of this correctness of target impossible by the Commander Support Air, until insufficient time remained before return to base. The Commander Support Air admitted his confusion and requested expenditure of all armament on the ridge, as set forth in item XI. The weather limiting visibility to about 1/2 mile, was unfit for the support strikes close to our lines.

XIII. Material Data:

Pilots participating were:

Lt(jg) Q. F. Schenk, Al, USNR Ensign P. R. Baumgartner

Report Prepared By

Approved By

Date

R. L. WINTER, Lieut. (A)L, USNR, ACIO. C. P. SMITH, Lt. Comdr. USN 18 May 1945
G. O. VC-93