

**CONFIDENTIAL**

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VD-1 (b) Based on or at Yontan Field, Okinawa, R. I. (c) Report No. 28A-45  
 (d) Take off: Date 21 June 1945 Time (LZT) 0545 Item (Zone); Lat. 26° 23' N Long 127° 45' E  
 (e) Mission Photography of Kyushu (f) Time of Return 1150 Item (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)		
<u>PB4Y-1P</u>	<u>VD-1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>none</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>P47N</u>	<u>418 FG</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>Ie Shima</u>	<u>F5H</u>	<u>VH4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Korana Retto</u>
	<u>TAF</u>			<u>F5B</u>	<u>28th</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Yontan Okinawa</u>
	<u>10th Army</u>				<u>Photo Rocco</u>		
					<u>7th AAF</u>		

## 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
<u>none</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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 \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (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		
<u>none</u>						

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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. none				
2				
3				
4				
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
	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 AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
FB4Y-1P	350	350	6.1	2700	1800	none				2

**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
- TURN
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

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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

Two photo-Liberators of Fleet Air Photographic Squadron One, with Lieut. C. W. CLAMPITT flight leader, took off from Yontan Field, Okinawa, R. I. on 21 June 1945 at 0545 Item for reconnaissance photographs of Kyushu Island.

Five photo-Lightnings of the Twenty-eighth Photo Reconnaissance Squadron of the Seventh Air Force participated in this action photographing the southern end of Kyushu. A FBII Dumbo aircraft of VM4 was assigned to orbit in the vicinity of Take Shima. Tactical Air Force of the Tenth Army provided eighty-four P47N aircraft to escort and cover the photographic plane. Twelve P47N aircraft were assigned to escort each photo-Liberator; twelve to escort the photo-Lightnings and four to cover the Dumbo. Eight P47N aircraft were assigned to fly high roving cover over the formation. Thirty-six additional P47N aircraft were assigned to relieve the fighters covering the photo-Liberators and Dumbo after one hour on station, thus providing a longer period for photography.

Rendezvous with the escorts was made at the south end of Izena Shima in the Ryuku group at 0600 Item. From there the formation proceeded direct to the target area. The initial flight lines were at 32 - 30' North from west to east over the entire width of Kyushu. The photo-Liberators arrived on station at 0830 Item and photographed the initial flight lines to a distance fifteen miles inland. Heavy cloud cover inland from this point prevented further successful photography. Plane No. 26 developed a leak in the oxygen system at 0845 Item and both planes reduced altitude and set course for base. Heavy moderate and accurate antiaircraft fire was encountered on the return flight near Miyakono-jo. Window was used to disrupt gun laying radar. No damage was sustained. No enemy interceptors were observed by the photo-Liberators. Both planes landed at Yontan at 1150 Item.

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