

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 6

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Kadena Airfield Area, Okinawa Shima (b) Time Over Target(s) 1400-I (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Cumulus - 4000 - 2/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 6
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per Run Varying Spacing for 100# Altitude of Bomb Release 2500 - 100#
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

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

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
¹ Camouflaged revetments, T.A. 8588			9 - 100# Bombs		
² "P"		5	24 - 5" H.E. Rockets		
³ Kadena Airfield, 8488 "Q" & "R"	50' x 150'	VC-91	1070 - .50 cal.	Majority	Undetermined
⁴ Kadena Airfield, 8388 "L" & "M"		1	4 - 500# Bombs	Majority	Material
⁵	300' x 400'	2	10 - 100# Bombs		
		VC-91	16 - Rockets, H.E. 5"		
			550 - Rds. .50 cal.		
			250 - Rds. .50 cal.	Majority	Material
6					
7					
8					

(o) 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).

Target #1: The target was covered, but appeared to be covered-over revetments. Nothing could be seen underneath the camouflaged, but the revetments were materially strafed and hit by rockets and 100# bombs. No fires were observed, but whatever installations were camouflaged were materially damaged.

Target #2: The north end of Kadena Airfield was hit by four 500# bombs which caused several large craters and rendered this part of the strip inoperational.

Target #5: The remainder of the 100# Bombs and sixteen rockets were dropped and fired at the south end of the strip with most of them landing on the strip. Material damage was inflicted.

(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. 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

Three TBM's and four FM's were launched at 1430-I for direct support work over Okinawa Shima. They were joined by eight FM's of U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND (CVE93) and three TBM's from U.S.S. NATOMA BAY (CVE62).

Commander Air Support Control Units gave them as their first target covered-over installations east of Kadena Airstrip in the revetment area. Upon arriving at the target, no installations could be identified, but the covered-over revetments were located and runs were made on the main revetments in the area. Nine 100# bombs and twenty-four rockets were directed against the revetments, and the majority of them were scored as hits. No explosions, other than rockets, or fires were noted so it was impossible to determine the amount of damage. The FM's preceded the TBM's on each run. The runs were made from east to west, from an altitude of 6500 feet, ~~at~~ at an angle of 45° with the 100# bombs being released at 2000 feet and the 500# bombs at 3000 feet. The rockets were fired at a slant range of 1750 yards.

The pilots were next directed to hit the northern end of Kadena Airstrip. ~~Two~~ Two runs from north to south were made, and four 500# bombs were dropped, at least three of which landed on or next to the strip causing large craters and much damage.

The third target, which was the south end of the strip, was then attacked by all of the pilots. Ten 100# bombs and sixteen rockets hit the strip, and the dispersal areas adjacent thereto were thoroughly strafed. The amount of damage other than to the strip which was material could not be determined.

The anti-aircraft fire encountered at targets two and three was light and meager, and no damage was suffered by any of the planes.

Upon completion of the runs on the last target, the pilots returned to base without further incident.

The following pilots took part in this strike:

FM-2 Pilots

Lt. W. E. Ryan (Flight Ldr.)
 Lt.(jg) J. C. Habbersett
 Lt.(jg) C. A. Custer
 Lt.(jg) J. T. Sippel

TBM Pilots

Lt.(jg) J. P. McNoela
 Lt.(jg) B. K. Harmon
 Ens. H. E. Vieau

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

ARMAMENT

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bomb Releases

None.

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:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

A. W. PARKER, LT., A.C.I. OFFICER

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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

RANK AND DUTY

27 Mar 45

DATE

B. H. SPENCER, LT., A.C.I. OFFICER