

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **VC-91 #62**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Troop, Artillery Positions, Oil Dumps, Okinawa.** Time Over Target(s) **1230/1410** (Zone) **10**
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **Cumulus - 2500 - 6/10**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **Fair** (e) Visibility **10**
(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 **1** Spacing **---** Altitude of Bomb Release **1200**
Rockets " " " **4** Slant Range **1000** yds. Angle **30**
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

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

(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 Artillery in 10 positions TA7368M.	5 ineh.	2 VC-91	4 - 500# G.P.s 16 - 5" HE ARs.	All in area	Serious
2 Oil Dump in TA 7268 M.	10 60 gal Drums	2 VC-91	890 - Rds. .50 cal.	Majority	2 drums set afire.
3 Mounds & caves (troops) 8269 GH	----	1 VC-91	2 - 500# G.Ps. 7 - 5" HE Ars. 400 - Rds. .50 cal.	All on ridge.	Undetermined
4 Mounds & caves (troops) 8369 NI	----	1 VC-91	2 - 500# G.Ps. 8 - 5" HE ARs.	All on ridge.	Undetermined
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. Air Coordinator reported that the artillery in 8 of the 10 positions (on top of a sand dune) were knocked out by the attack. VC-91 pilots said the guns already appeared out of commission; no Jap activity was seen nearby.

Target #2. Two of ten 60-gallon fuel drums were set afire by strafing.

Targets #3 & #4. Each pilot selected his own target from pair assigned, reporting all their bombs and rockets hit their respective area. Damage could not be determined.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **No** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. **VC-91 #62**

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

The third division of four VT's from the MAKIN ISLAN D took off at 1130 to support ground troops on Okinawa, rendezvousing and making the trip to the area with 4 VT from the SHIPLEY BAY, four from PETROF BAY, and one each from the SARGENT BAY and NOTAMA BAY, the latter two being Air Coordinators.

At Point Jig the VC-91 division was split into two divisions, one joining the SHIPLEY and SARGENT planes, to work on the Marine side of the island; the other teaming up with the PETROF and NATOMA planes, to operate on the Army side.

The first group was assigned as target artillery positions on top of a sand dune at TA 7368 M, and for once the pilots could see the artillery -- about ten five-inch guns; the pilots said, however, that the guns looked already out of commission. The SARGENT Coordinator marked the target with a smoke rocket, and the six planes then began their attack in a loose column formation, nor to south.

Because of overcast, runs had to be started from 2500 feet, at angles of 25 degrees and pullout at 1200 feet. The two 500-pound bombs were dropped singly, followed by four rocket runs, firing two per run from 1000 yards slant range and 20 degrees. All of the bombs and rockets hit the close to the artillery positions, but hits on specific positions could not be determined because of smoke. However, the Coordinator reported all guns knocked out by the attack.

At the conclusion of that attack, the division leader Lt.(jg) Butler and his wingman, Lt.(jg) Smith, made a strafing run on an oil dump, (consisting of about 10 60-gallon drums) in TA 7268M. Two drums were set afire.

About the time Butler and Smith were finishing their work, the second VC-91 section, Lt.(jg) Kane and Ensign Griesinger, began an attack on the target assigned their group - mounds and caves in TA 8269GH and 8369NK, where troop movements had been reported, some 1000 yards south of Yonabaru. This group's attack was made along the same lines as that of the Butler-Smith group, runs being started from 2500 feet because of the low ceiling.

Kane attacked the first of the two target areas and Griesinger the second, in what amounted to saturation type attacks. Target visibility was only fair, but numerous bomb and rocket hits were observed at least close to the caves and mounds. However, the pilots could not ascertain definite damage, or determine whether any caves had been closed.

A few rounds of 40 mm AA was seen east of Naha, but did not disturb the planes.

The four pilots were:

- Lt.(jg) D. K. Butler
- Lt.(jg) A. L. Smith
- Lt.(jg) D. G. Kane
- Ensign D. F. Griesinger.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. VC-91 #62

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

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

1. One rocket became unplugged, probably during catapult take-off,
and failed to fire.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

E. H. SPENCER, LT., A.C.I. OFFICER
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

F. M. BLANCHARD, LT., C.O.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

14 May 45
DATE