

OPNAV-16-V-#537
Form ACA-1
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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

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REPORT No. **52-45.**

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	
TBM-3	150	150	3.4	410	245					5

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			X	
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm			X	

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

Jim K Newy 3/26/86

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Hangars, shops, SAEKI Seaplane Station.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1321(I)** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **None**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **15**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Glide** Bomb Sight Used **None**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **4** Spacing **30** Altitude of Bomb Release **4000-5000**
(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 Large Seaplane hangar.	200' x 200'	2	8-500lb.G.P.	1	Serious.
2 Misc. bldgs. in Seaplane hangar area.		VT-82			
		3	12-500lb.G.P.	Not observed.	Not observed.
		VT-82			
3					
4					
5					
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).

Direct hit on previously undamaged seaplane hangar started large fire. Other fires in congested area indicate serious damage to seaplane servicing facilities.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? _____ 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

TASK ORGANIZATION**Pilot**

Lieut. A. N. Turner
Lt.(jg) R. L. Mini
Lt.(jg) D. B. Barber

Lieut. D. Robertson
Ensign R. M. Schouboe

Gunner

A. J. Rynkiewicz, AMM3c
E. K. Adams, AMM3c

J. A. Driscoll, AOM2c
A.M.J. Hussey, Jr., AOM3c

Radioman

B. J. Collins, ARM3c
L. A. Walker, Jr., ARM2c
E. R. Danis, ARM2c

J. J. Doyle, ARM3c
A.J. Delaporta, Jr., ARM3c

Strike EASY against Saeki Airfield looked like a rough assignment. It was a long jaunt up the east coast of Kyushu...the fourth strike of the day for VT-82 and the second for most of the pilots.

Originally, Saeki had been scheduled as a secondary target, and no detailed plan of attack for the four airgroups of Task Group 58.1 had been worked out in advance. On arriving in the area, however, the target coordinator from the Hornet directed Bennington and San Jacinto planes to concentrate on the seaplane area while Hornet and Belleau Wood went after the land plane facilities.

Favored by good weather, Lieut. Turner led the VT-82 planes in a high-speed attack from Southwest to Northeast. The glide was commenced at 12,000 feet and bombs were released at approximately 5000 feet, so pullout could be effected safely above the effective range of fire from automatic weapons on the ground.

Ensign Schouboe scored a direct hit on one of the two largest seaplane hangars, and Lt.(jg) Barber's string was seen to explode parallel to a row of large buildings, close enough to cause serious damage. No other individual drops were observed, but the entire group of seaplane hangars and shops was completely obscured by heavy smoke as the planes retired, so it is safe to say that operations of the seaplane base would be drastically curtailed, temporarily, at least.

This particular field, however, appears to be one of a very few on Kyushu which had not been heavily damaged by previous attacks, and a single strike of this size could not put it permanently out of action.

Black flak puffs were seen at 3000 feet, and a moderate amount of tracer was observed, but no planes were damaged, and return to the ship was routine.

Jimmy K Newby 3/26/86

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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

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

No comment.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

C. BERRIEN, Lieut., USNR, A.C.I. Officer.

E. E. DeGARMO, Lt. Comdr., USN, Comm. 5/17/45.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE