

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

- (a) Unit Reporting VC-93 (b) Based on USS PERROF BAY CVE-80 (c) Report No. 73
 (d) Take off: Date 17 May 1945 Time (LST) 0600 -9(Zone) Lat. 25°12'N Long. 128°08'E
 (e) Mission Direct Support Strike on Okinawa (f) Time of Return 0945 -9(Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOS CARRIED (PER PLANE)	FUZ E. SETTING
		TAKING OFF	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	ATTACKING TARGET		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
TBM-3	VC-93	4	0	4	8-5"HR; 4-500+SAP	Inst. nose, 8 sec. delay tail fuse, Base

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VC-91	4	USS MAKIN ISLAND CVE-93
TBM-3	VC-97	4	USS SHIPLEY BAY CVE-85
TBM-3	VC-9	4	USS NATOMA BAY CVE-62

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Page 2 of 5

CONFIDENTIAL

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING.

(a) TYPE A/O	(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	
EMB-3	70	70	3.6	330	250			4

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line)

GALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY-- Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	X			
MEDIUM - Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm			X	
LIGHT - Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 73

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Fortified installation on Okinawa (b) Time Over Target(s) 0715 -9 (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 at surface
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used Mark 8
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 1000
(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 buildings	100 yards square	3 VC-93	8-5"HER; 9-500#SAP	4-5"HER 4-500#	Serious
2 Underground installations	100 x 200 yards	3 VC-93	16-5"HER; 3-500#SAP	14-5"HER 3-500#	Serious
3 Camouflaged houses	500 yards diameter	1 VC-93	8-5"HER; 4-500#SAP	8-5"HER 4-500#	Slight
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).

- Two camouflaged building or huts believed by air director to house fortified battalion headquarters were located one mile S. of Naha.
- Underground fortifications area was hit by the 500#SAP and the rockets struck buildings apparently used by the enemy on the surface.
- This one VC-93 ~~W-3~~ worked with another group which together seriously damaged the target area. The one plane placed all armament in area, scoring direct hit on a large building with one of his bombs.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Page 4 & 5 of 5

CONFIDENTIAL

Report No. 73

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

Upon being reported in by the VC-93 flight leader, Commander Support Air assigned target areas by grid reference and description. A rugged terrain, full of crags and gullies, obscured the specific targets in some instances and the area was accordingly pattern bombed. A few direct hits were obtained on visible objectives such as camouflaged buildings.

Runs were generally from N to S, 4000 to 1000 feet, at 30° glide and 280 knots, on bomb drops.

The one plane did not have the VHF channel to be used by his division and therefore was instructed to join another strike group.

XIII. MATERIAL DATA

Pilots participating were:

H. W. WILLIAMS	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR
J. B. WHITMORE	Ens.	A1	USNR
Q. F. SCHENK	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR
L. S. deVRIES	Lt. (jg)	A1	USNR

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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