

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
Declassify when
(Reclassify when
filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. **10**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Artillery Installation-Okinawa (b) Time Over Target(s) 1000-1055 (7)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3500 Broken Cumulus 3/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear below 3500 (e) Visibility 12
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used Mark VIII
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing Select Altitude of Bomb Release 1200
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

(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 <u>Grid 8275, 3, C, D, E</u>	<u>2000x600'</u>	<u>11 VT-12</u>	<u>43 x 500# GP bombs</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>Extensive</u>
2					
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.)

The target area was a series of gun installations on the side of a hill in the southern part of Okinawa. All of the bombs fell in the immediate target area and at least three of the gun positions were observed to be destroyed. In one case a large section of the rifle barrel and other parts of the mechanism were thrown high in the air by the explosion. For other evidence of damage see Item XII

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes 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

In most respects this mission was a standard support strike with planes reporting in to and being directed to the target by Commander Air Support Control Unit (CASCU). However, in results achieved and observations of damage done it was worthy of comment.

An unusual degree of accuracy was attained (1) by very good target spotting by the Target Coordinator, and (2) by starting the glide and dropping the bomb at low altitudes. Each defensive position was pin pointed to the extent that bombs were dropped on specific gun installations rather than general area bombing.

Lieutenant Curtis Hamilton was leader of the torpedo planes and when the Air Group Commander's radio failed to function the attack lead and communication's guard were also turned over to him.

CASCU was quite enthusiastic about the attack and when it was completed wanted to know the name and home town address of the leader. He stated over the radio that the strike was excellently conducted and added that men in the trenches stood up and cheered every time an enemy gun position was blasted. These particular guns had been giving the infantry plenty of trouble and the men were jubilant to see them eliminated.

Glide attacks were started at a level of 3500 feet, just below the cloud base and bombs were released between 1000 and 1500 feet. Fuses were set with 4 to 5 second delay permitting the planes to go in close and retire without danger of bomb blast.

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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

All material functioned satisfactorily with the exception of one Mark IV shackle that failed to release and the bomb was later jettisoned.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.M. REEDY, Lt(jg), USNR
SIGNATURE ACT Officer. RANK AND DUTY

THOMAS B. HILLISON, Lt-Comdr, 17 April 1945
SIGNATURE USN, Commanding RANK AND DUTY DATE