





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**Confidential**  
**RESTRICTED**  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-84 #38**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Area of troop concentrations and mobile units about 600 yards inland from Tachina Point, Iwo Jima.** (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) **1445 (K)** (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target **2500, strato cumulus, .5**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **Partially obscured by clouds** (e) Visibility **8**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(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 <b>Area above</b>	<b>600 x 200 yards</b>	<b>4 FM-2 VC-84</b>	<b>2880 rounds .50 cal.</b>	<b>All in area</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
2		<b>4 FM-2 VC-85</b>	<b>Unknown</b>	<b>All in area</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
3		<b>4 FM-2 VC-96</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
4		<b>5 TM-3 VC-90</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>"</b>
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.)

**Specific results could not be observed. Small fires were started and a truck was hit by strafing.**

(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

**Four FM-2 were launched by USS MAKIN ISLAND on 28 February 1945 at 1230 K for D plus 9 target combat air patrol over Iwo Jima. The division consisted of Lt.(jg) Donald E. Skewis, leader, Rex E. McDaniel, James G. Babb and Ensign Eric W. Kattwinkel. After being relieved on station the flight together with 4 FM-2 of VC-95 and 4 of VC-96 was turned over to an Air Coordinator for use in strafing an area (215 Baker George Love on local grid) about 600 yards inland of Tachiwa Point, containing troops and mobile units. Runs were led by the Air Coordinator from 5000 feet breaking through the overcast and carrying strafing on down to 500 feet. Small fires were started and a truck was strafed by Lt.(jg) Babb and Ensign Kattwinkel. Following the strafing 3 THM-5 of VC-90 bombed the area. The flight landed aboard at 1535 (K).**

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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

**Performance of equipment was normal.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**Robert C. FULTON, Jr., Lt., USNR**

**Douglas K. ENGLISH, Lt., (A1), USNR**

**3-9-45**

SIGNATURE  
**ACI Officer, VC-84**

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE  
**Acting Commanding Officer, VC-84**

RANK AND DUTY

DATE