





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 1085-58

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Block House, Pill Boxes, Gun Positions Time Over Target(s) 1030-1130(K) Zone) (K)  
(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 Hazy (e) Visibility 4-5  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

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

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 500# Spacing 70 Altitude of Bomb Release 2000  
5 100# (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 <u>Block House</u> <u>Pill Boxes</u>		<u>3 B-24; 4 B-24</u>	<u>3x500#</u> <u>18x100#</u> <u>18 Rockets</u>		<u>Not observed</u>
2 <u>Gun Area</u>			<u>200 x .50 Cal</u> <u>500 x .30 Cal</u>		<u>Not observed</u>
3			<u>VT</u> <u>22 x 5" Rockets</u>		
4			<u>2400 x .50 Cal.</u>		
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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REPORT No. V085-58

**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

Lieutenant Commander Fred C. HERRIMAN, USN, Commanding Officer, V085, took off from parent ship, U.S.S. LUNDA POINT (CV084), at 0930 on 3 March 1945 to attack enemy ground positions on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands.

Four TB-3s and four B-2s comprised the group. However, one TB-3 returned to base just after taking off due to an oil leak.

Two of the remaining TB-3s carried 10x1000 G.P. bombs and the third 3x5000 G.P.; all planes carried 6x5" HB rockets and full ammo.

The group was joined by four VT and four VF of V084.

First target assigned was a concrete block house and group of pill boxes and covered guns in an area 200x400 yards on the enemy's extreme left flank. Lieutenant Commander HERRIMAN, the Air Coordinator and the leader of the V084 group first made an exploratory dummy run to observe the target. Then they led all VF and VT in a coordinated attack. However, due to close proximity of several VOS spotting planes, Lieutenant Commander HERRIMAN instructed the VT to break off the run due to the danger of a collision. The VF went in on a rocket and strafing attack, however.

On the next run, all VT and VF made the attack, the VT dropping one half of their bombs, and the VF fired rockets and strafed. On succeeding runs, remaining bombs were dropped and rockets launched. A total of 40 rockets was expended on this area.

After this attack, the B-2s strafed gun positions on the northern tip of the island.

No anti-aircraft fire was reported as being close to the planes, although pilots observed several bursts over another section of the island.

All aircraft returned safely to base.

COMMENT BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER FRED C. HERRIMAN, U.S. NAVY.

This attack could have been delivered more effectively and expeditiously had it not been for the presence of several VOS spotter planes over the immediate target area. Our pilots had to dodge these planes and divide their attention between them and the target in order to avoid collisions.

A control plan should be worked out whereby all planes not making the actual attack can be cleared from the area. In this case, CASCU did not have control of the VOS spotters.

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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

**One FM-2 had radio trouble due to a short circuit.**

**One FM-2 had two faulty rockets.**

**One FM-3 had two 100# bombs which failed to release, due to faulty shackles.**

**FORWARDED: G.A.T. WASHINGTON,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer,  
U.S.S. LUNDA POINT (CV84).**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**W.H. KHANNS, Lieut., USNR, AGIO.**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**FRED C. HERRMAN, Lt. Cdr., USN, C.O.**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**3 March 1945.**

DATE