

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No _____

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tachiarai airfield, Kyushu (b) Time Over Target(s) 0740(Z) (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 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type X Bomb Sight Used X
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run X Spacing X Altitude of Bomb Release X
(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					
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 picture shows the north eastern corner of Tachiarai field and part of the north and eastern boundaries. The building and hangar area is included.



(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photos 3-77

SAH JAC 33K MAY 14-45 0815(-0) K20 648 ALT-VAR TACHIARAI A/F KYUSHU CONF

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REPORT No. AGI-1-8

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

Six Hellcats from Fighting Squadron FORTY-NINE left the USS SAN JACINTO to participate as a strike unit in an attack on Tachiarai, in North-central Kyushu. A landfall was made just north of Tomitaka on the eastern coast of Kyushu. A northeasterly overland course was followed to the target which was approached at 15,000 feet. The push-over point for the run on the field was at approximately 11,000 feet northeast of the field, and the attack was in a southwesterly direction until the "pull out" at 1,000 feet. The attack was part of a coordinated strike against the target. When the flight from Fighting Squadron FORTY-NINE made its run, no operational planes were visible and all the rockets were fired into the building and shop area at the north and northeastern corner of the target, and into a clump of trees immediately west of the northern corner of the mat. A large fire was seen just above the shop area which appeared to be a burning oil storage tank. The whole target showed evidence of previous raids and few installations which were substantially intact could be found to shoot at. One hangar was seen to explode and two other buildings were fired in the shop area. The field itself appeared operational, but the installations, even before this strike, were for the most part unusable. Some heavy A.A. was fired from the northwest corner of the field, but the fire, while accurate, was moderate in quantity. No automatic weapon fire was reported at the target but Ens. CREWILK reported light automatic fire from a military camp west of the field. Two enemy planes were seen in the revetment and dispersal area east of the strip and they were heavily strafed with no observable results. (photograph - page 3).

Several planes without belly tanks were seen just under the clouds behind the formation on the approach to the target but they could not be identified definitely as enemy planes. These planes made no effort to close with the aircraft in this strike.

On retirement a large railroad marshalling yard was discovered approximately five miles west of the field and a concentration of locomotives and cars were strafed without opposition from the ground. While no breakage was apparent the great number of bullets pumped directly into the area must have caused considerable damage to the rolling stock of the enemy. Retirement was overland along the same general route as the approach. From the reports of this strike it appears that the railroad system is an extremely vulnerable target and a great deal easier to find than the expected Jap air force.

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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 equipment performed satisfactorily.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. J. SAYRE, Lt(jg), USN
Signature

RANK AND DUTY

C. M. ROUSE, Lt, Comdr., USN
Signature

RANK AND DUTY

DATE