

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-83 (b) Based on or at USS BARGENT BAY (CVE-83) (c) Report No. 103  
 (d) Take off: Date 1 May 1946 Time (LZT) 1125 (I) (Zone); Lat. 24°-55' N. Long. 128°-05' E.  
 (e) Mission Direct aircraft support of ground troops on Okinawa. (f) Time of Return 1535 (I) (Zone)

## II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
TBM-3	VC-83	2	0	2	4 - 500 lb. G.P. 8 - 5" (HE) AR	Inst. .010 or .025 tail. Nose plug - .02 base.
TBM-3	VC-83	2	0	2	10 - 100 lb. G.P. 8 - 5" (HE) AR	Inst. .010 or .025 tail. Nose plug - .02 base.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM	VC-94	4	USS MARASSAR STRAIT				
TBM	VC-90	4	USS STEAMER BAY				

## IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
	NONE		(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (MILES)

## V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER		
			NONE		



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Towns of Nakasa and Hanagusuku (b) Time Over Target(s) 1320 (I) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2500 ft. - cumulus - 3/10ths  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Slight Haze (e) Visibility 10 - 12  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used Mk. 8 gunsight  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)  
Bombs Dropped per Run 2 planes - 2-1-1 Spacing 50 - 75 Altitude of Bomb Release 1000 - 1500 yds.  
(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>Nakasa and Hanagusuku</u>		<u>4 TBM-3 VC-33</u>	<u>8 - 500 lb. G.P. 20 - 100 lb. G.P. 32 - 5" (HE) AR Strafe - 1430 rds.</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Serious</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).

1. Tremendous damage was caused in both towns. When the attack was over eleven fires were raging and the smoke was so dense it was difficult to see what was burning. Five small and two large houses and two other buildings could be counted as destroyed and two large buildings, including a factory were heavily damaged. No definite military targets could be seen, but the fires were not ordinary fires. Explosions occurred in some fires and there were heavy columns of black and yellowish smoke in others, indicating that ammunition and fuel dumps had possibly been destroyed.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No 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

The attack here was made by 12 TBM's, 4 each from VC-83, VC-90, and VC-94, launched as one direct aircraft support group. The targets assigned were the adjacent towns or villages of Wakaza and Hamagusuku. No specific targets in these towns were assigned but the flight was directed to do as much damage as possible in the two towns.

Eight runs were made and all planes expended all armament. The damage was very great. Eleven fires were raging when the attack was over and in some of them the smoke was thick and black or yellowish. In other fires there were a series of explosions. In all probability ammunition and fuel dumps had been hit. For the most part the extent of the damage was obscured by the flames and smoke.

**Pilots:** Lieut. H. S. WORLEY; Lieuts. (jg) W. B. ANDREWS,  
R. G. PENNY; Ensign C. W. BUNCH.

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**XIII. MATERIAL DATA.** (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.  
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**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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**H. VERNON ENEY, Lt., USNR, A.C.I. Officer.**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

**W. S. WORLEY, Lieut., USNR.**

SIGNATURE

**Squadron Commander.**

RANK AND DUTY

**5/10/45**

DATE