AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(b) Based on or at U.S.S. SANGAMON

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

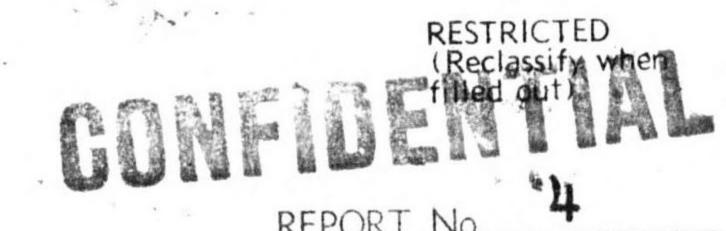
VT-33

CONFIDENTIAL

(c) Report No. 4

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON	TAKING OFF (c)	NUMBER ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d) ATTACKING TARGET (e)		BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)				FU	FUZE, SETTING	
rbm-3r	VT-33 4 0 4 8 HVAR				Nose	11 sec. AN M 100A2 Inst. AN M103A1 Inst. Mk. 149 .02 sec. Mk. 157					
. III. OT	HER U. S.	OR ALLIED	AIRCRAFT	EMPLOYE	D IN TI	HIS OPER					
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	BASE		TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		BASE	
TBM	VC-84	14		MAKIN IS		TBM		4		Carrier Uni	
TBM	VC-85	4		SAVO ISL					51.1.2		
FM-2	VC-91	0				11					
IV. EN	EMY AIRC	RAFT OBSE	RVED OR E	NGAGED (By Own	Aircraft					
TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C	TIME ENCOUNTERE	LOCA ENC	(e) ATION OF OUNTER		BOMBS, TORPEI GUNS OF	DOES CARRIE BSERVED	D;	CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING	
V-0-n-e			(ZON	(E)							
			(ZON								
(i) Encount Time of (j) of Sun • V. EN	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rilliance RAFT DEST	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	_If so, Desc	Y, OVERCA	ST; ETC.)		(k) Vis		(MILES)	
(i) Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	_If so, Desc	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES)	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun (v. EN) TYPE	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGE	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAGI	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAG	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMA	
Did Any Encount Time of (j) of Sun V. EN TYPE ENEMY A/C	Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon	rin Clouds? rilliance RAFT DESTI	(YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIG	If so, Descont DAMAGED	IN AIR	ST; ETC.)	Aircraft Lis	(k) Vis	Only).	(MILES) (d) DAMAG	

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



REPORT No. VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

TYPE OWN A/C	SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	where HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks; equipment hit)	EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, . (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
TBM_3E	VT-33	Medium AA	Starboard wing	Minor. Holes in skin
)		Time Fuze	2 o'clock	only
TRM_ZE	VIII_33	Medium AA	Radio antenna	Shot off antenna
4			9 o'clock	1
5				
5		•		
7				
3				
9				
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left). (e) (d) (c) (b) CONDITION OR STATUS CAUSE NAME, RANK OR RATING SQUADRON N-0-n-e-

VIII.	RANGE,	FUEL, AN	D AMMUNI	TION DAT	A FOR PLA	NES RETUI	RNING			
(2)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				NO. OF PLANES
TYPE	MILES	MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS	AV. FUEL LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETURNING
TBM-3E	70	40	4	330	270	1100	600			14
	4									

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line). INTENSE MEAGER MODERATE NONE CALIBER HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm

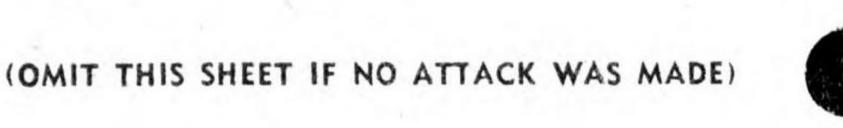
X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

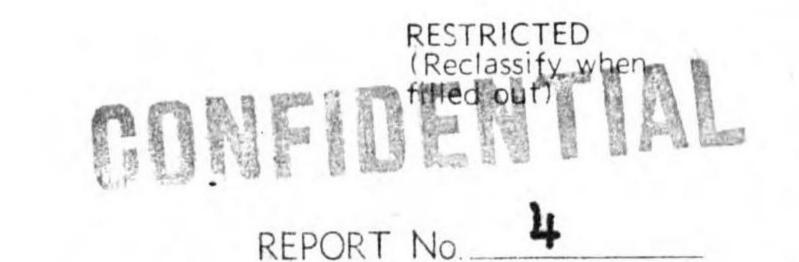
SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes TURNS

N-0-n-e

DIVES CEILINGS RANGE PROTECTION ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT





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

a) Target(s) and Locatio	n(s) Naha I	Airfield, Okine	WA (NDER ATTACK)	b) Time Ov	er Target(s)	1015(I) XXXX
c) Clouds Over Target	No cloud	s, target clear	TYPE AND TENTHS OF	F COVER)		
d) Visibility of Target	CLCLEAR, HAZ	PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS, ETC.)	(e)	Visibility	Unlimited (MILES)
f) Bombing Tactics: Type Bombs Dropped per Ru Rockets g) Number of Enemy Air	Glide	(LEVEL. GLIDE OR DIVE)	B	omb Sight U	sed Mc	. 8 (TYPE) (2) 1000
Bombs Dropped per Ru	13 8 6, 1	Spacing_	22 (FEET)	Altitude	of Bomb Rele	ease 1 (FEET) 1200
Rockets g) Number of Enemy Air	craft Hit on Grou	Rockets und: Destroyed(S/R 1000 yds	Destroyed_	0	_ Damagedo
(h) AIMING POINT	1:3	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AM EXPENDED, EACH A	MUNITION	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious destroyed or sunk)
(Med. and Heavy)	100 X 30ft	. VT-33	23 X 100 C	s.P.	10	Serious
Bridge	20 X 60 ft.	3	6 HVAR 50 & .30	S/R	observed	Slight
Two luggers	100 feet	VI-33	4 HVAR	S/R	0	Slight
Mavis seaplane		1 VT-33	7 X 100 G.	P.	1	Slight
Sugar Mill	60 X 70 ft.	1	6 x 100 g.	.P.	2	Slight
Gun Position	30 feet diamater	1 VT-33	4 X 100 G.	P. S/R	1	Slight
Position of some sort in group of	14	1 VT-33	4 HVAR		observed not a	Slight
8					target	

(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. These AA positions, in three separate areas within 500 yards of Naha Airfield, Okinawa, each contained two or three firing medium to heavy guns. They are very difficult to see in order to hit from the air. One position near north tip of the airfield was firing three guns and after hits, it fired only one. It was hit again and in the afternoon, no fire came from that position. The actual extent of damage to these guns cannot be accurately observed from the air. They can be located for accurate bombing only when they fire.
- 2. A concrete bridge near southeast coast of Okinawa was a target of opportunity and hits caused dust clouds which obscured assessment of damage.
- 3. These luggers were moored in Naha Harbor, Okinawa, and appeared to have been previously hit. R.P. were launched from a poor position. No hits.
- 4. Mavis was moored on eastern beach of Senega Shima, off the coast of Okinawa, just across from Naha Airfield. It is believed that this plane had been hit before and further damaged was done to it.
- 5. Sugar mill was a one stacker, 60 X 70 feet, southeast of the island tip of Naha Harbor, Okinawa. Two rockets hit but damage unobserved.
- 6. "Appeared" to be a gun position. Two runs were made and on second run it was observed that the position was empty.
- 7. This position was a point designated by CASCU and on the run nothing was observed there as being a target, only a clump of trees.
 - (p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

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

OWN 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

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.)

> Four TBM's one as Air Coordinator (Air Group Commander), took off at 0743(I) to be on station at 0830 for support work, the support group to consist of 24 FM-2's and 15 TBM's. Their assistance was not heeded in conjunction with the Kerama Retto landings and were turned over to CASCU at Okinawa. A grid target was assigned there but no target was located at that point.

Three TBM's other than Air Coordinator, while cruising in search of target of opportunity, were fired upon from vicinity of Naha Airfield. They requested and were granted permission to "work on" these gun positions. It was very difficult to locate the exact location of these positions until they actually fired. Ensign GRUNDEN and Lieut. WARREN did definitely locate one and got hits with rockets and 100 lb. G.P. bombs. That particular position had three medium guns firing at first and only one after the first hits did not fire after the second hits.

The A.A. was accurate as to altitude and seemed to hold fire until near the end of the dive and on the pull out. Medium bursts knocked antenna off one plane and made 5 small holes in starboard wing of another. Pilots said the bursting noise close by was like crack of a whip.

Lieut. YOUNG saw a moored sea plane on shore line of Senaga Shima and made drop of 7 x 100 G.P. One appeared to be a hit but subsequent observation revealed that the plane had been put out of commission previously.

These strike groups have to be off station by a certain hour and many times are given no target until the 2 hour period is almost over. This results in pilots' tendency to hurriedly using bombs and rockets and from disadvantagous positions so as to "get off" target on schedule.

OPNAV-16-223 Form ACA-1 Sheet 5 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



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 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:

Fixed guns of one TBM stopped firing because of link jam. To remedy this the links were filed and now work satisfactorily.

APPROVED BY:

A. W. SWARNER, Lieut.(A), U.S.N.R.
SIANCUEL. Officer VI-33
RANK AND DUTY

F. B. GILKESON, Lieut. Comdr. U.S.N.28 March 1945

SIGNATURE Commanding Officer VT-33

ALLSET - MF COmmanding CVEG-33