





**CONFIDENTIAL**

**AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT**

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

VD-1 REPORT No 35-45

**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 PB4Y-1P aircraft of Fleet Air Photographic Squadron One, with Lieut. H. C. PAIGE flight leader, took off from Yontan Airfield, Okinawa, R. I. on 4 July 1945 at 0825 Item to obtain reconnaissance photography of Kyushu Island. Flight lines were planned two miles apart beginning at 32°-10' North extending over the entire width of the island. These lines were to be flown at an altitude of 20,000 feet with a twenty-four inch focal length camera. Tactical Air Force of the Tenth Army provided 100 P47N fighter aircraft, sixteen to fly escort over each photo-Liberator, thirty-two for a roving high cover and four to cover a rescue Dumbo provided by VH4 to orbit in the vicinity of Take Shima.

Rendezvous with the escorting planes was made at 0900 over Yoron Shima in the Ryuku group and the flight proceeded directly to the target. They arrived on station at 1050 and found only the western coastal areas sufficiently free from clouds for satisfactory photography. Each plane however flew two flight lines over the entire width of the island photographing such portions as they were able. No enemy interception was encountered. Heavy moderate inaccurate anti-aircraft fire was encountered near Hitose and again over Miyaka-no-jo. No damage was sustained. Window and radar countermeasure gear was used to disrupt gun laying radar. All photo-Liberators returned to Yontan at 1420 Item.

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