





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

~~RESTRICTED~~  
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL C

REPORT No. CAG94-12

## VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1 F4U-4	VBF-94	Heavy/medium flak	A/C shot down	No. 81535
2 SB2C-4	VB-94	Heavy AA	A/C shot down	No. 21171
3 SB2C-4	VB-94	Heavy AA	Engine/port wing	Minor repairs
4 SB2C-4	VB-94	Heavy AA	Port wing/aileron	Minor repairs
5 SB2C-4	VB-94	Heavy AA	Starboard wing	Minor Repairs
6 SB2C-4	VB-94	Heavy AA	Port wing	Minor repairs
7 TBM-3E	VT-94	Light AA	Starboard wing	Minor repairs
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

## VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
1	VBF-94	Lt(jg) Milton Lee ADAMS	No. 1 above	Missing in action
1	VB-94	Ens. M.E. PENNINGTON	No. 2 above	Missing in action
1	VB-94	M.E. BENDICKSON, ARM2c	No. 2 above	Missing in action

## VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL LOADED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
F6F-5	200	200	4.5	400	325		3000			7
F4U-4	200	200	4.5	385	310		--			6
SB2C-4	200	200	4.8	436	373			180		12
TBM-3E	200	200	4.5	435	360			950		13

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY—Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				X
MEDIUM—Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm				X
LIGHT—Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm				X

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes
  - URNS
  - DIVES
  - CEILINGS
  - RANGE
  - PROTECTION
  - ARMAMENT



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK IS 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) BB NAGATO (b) Time Over Target(s) 1600 I (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1/10 - Top 12000 Base 8000  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 30  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type VB/Dive - VBF/VF/VT - Glide Bomb Sight Used Mk8/Seaman's eye  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 - VT/6 Spacing 200 Altitude of Bomb Release others-5000/3000  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(b) 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 BB NAGATO	700 feet	5 VF - 5 VBF 11 VB	10 x 1000 GP 10 x 1000 GP	0 1	3/4 near misses 2 near misses
2 Large AP	10,000 ton	1 VF 1 VB	2 x 1000 GP	1	Sunk
3 Cruiser	8000 ton	1 VF	1 x 1000 GP	0	Near miss
4 Naval Installations	S of Nagato	2 VBF 1 VB	2 x 1000 GP 1 x 1000 GP	2 1	Unobserved
5 AA Positions	See Note 5	13 VT	78 x 260# Frags	78	Note 5
6					
7					
8					

(C) 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.)

5. VT was directed to blanket AA fire in the area along the eastern side of the Naval yard, in the vicinity of the military warehouse, navigation school, Naval barracks, Naval hospital and machinist's school. This area was well covered before VF/VBF/VB attack. The target observer reported a material decrease in the volume of AA at the conclusion of this run.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.



XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

Strike Resume:

This flight of 13 VB, 13 VT, 7 VF and 7 VBF rendezvoused at 1400 and departed for the target. Enroute joined flights from HANCOCK, BENNINGTON, SAN JACINTO and BELLEAU WOOD, each composed of approximately the same number of aircraft as this group. The VT of all ships joined into a single formation to blanket AA fire by proceeding VF, VBF and VB dive and glide attacks. Dives were all generally N to S and retirement through the mouth of Tokyo Bay low over the water. Instead of launching attack on AA positions according to pre-strike briefing, the VT lagged on the approach. This caused the VF, VBF and VB to stack up while under AA fire and while awaiting the VT attack. To avoid this the first VB planes attacked about the same time as the VT.

VB Narrative:

VB pushed over ahead of the other planes at 15000 feet using 45° glide to gain speed and make violent evasive action. The final steep dive was entered at approximately 10000 feet from which point the target was picked up and point of aim maintained. Bombs were released at 3000 feet and the dive continued down to the water, leveling out at 100-300 feet. Rendezvous was effected and the group returned to base.

VF Narrative:

At 12,000 feet VF pushed over following VB in on the target. Due to industrial haze and intense AA fire, all pilots were unable to actually see the NAGATO. However, five pilots believed they were dead on the point where the target had been photographed. Two pilots found themselves "off" the target position after being committed to their dive, hence they picked as alternate targets, a large transport and a cruiser, both at mooring close to the NAGATO position. Two large fires were observed - a) Dock area west of NAGATO (possible ammunition plant); b) dock area East of NAGATO (possible oil storage).

VBF Narrative:

VBF followed VF into dives with wheels trailing from 13000 down to 2000 feet. Rapid retirement was made at high speed low over the water.

VT Narrative:

VT released their 260# frags at 5000 feet, speed about 300 knots. The assigned area was observed to be well covered by bomb bursts, and AA fire slacked off after this attack.

The heavy AA at the target was the barrage type. RCM gear was preset to cover 195-225 megacycles and spot jammers were employed against detected signals. Window was employed.



## XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

VT Comments:

Gauge Instruments: No gasoline gauges operate properly. Some pilots believe this caused by installation of droppable tank. While ship's personnel does not agree it is noticed that gauges function properly when drop tanks are not carried.

Communications: VHF and ICS were very weak above 12,000 feet. Primary channel was jammed and secondary frequency was employed with some little success.

VBF Comments:

Pilots had difficulty holding steady on target at 300 knots with wheels trailing. It required both hands to pull out of a dive.

VB Comments:

It is felt rescue of downed pilots could have been facilitated by VOS rescue planes, had they been assigned. Conditions were perfect - slight chop, 8 knots wind and no enemy airborne aircraft.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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