

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

~~RESTRICTED~~  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-84 (b) Based on or at USS MAKIN ISLAND, at sea (c) Report No. VC-84 #101  
 (d) Take off: Date 26 March 1945 Time (LZT) 1526 I (Zone); Lat. 25° 33'N Long. 127° 17'E  
 (e) Mission Support, I-6, Okinawa Jima (f) Time of Return 1825 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-84	4	0	4	10 x 100 lb. G.P. AN-M 30 8 Rockets, Mk 1 body; Mk 7 motor.	Nose - instantaneous Tail - .01 sec. delay
FM-2	VC-84	4	0	4	6 Rockets as above	Nose - none Base - instantaneous

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VC-91	8	USS SAVO ISLAND	FM-2	VC-85	8	USS LUNGA POINT
TBM-3	VC-85	4	USS SARGENT BAY	FM-2	VC-96	4	USS RUDYARD BAY
TBM-3	VC-93	3	USS PETROF BAY	FM-2	VC-88	4	USS SAGINAW BAY
FM-2	VC-93	4	USS PETROF BAY				

## IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). **None**

(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
			(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)  
 (j) Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_  
 of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)  
 (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(MILES)

## V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). **None**

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			

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**VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). *None***

(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) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
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). *None***

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS

**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	
<b>TBM-3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>280</b>			<b>4</b>
<b>FM-2</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>180</b>		<b>440</b>			<b>4</b>

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

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

**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 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) Installations vicinity Yonabaru Airfield, Okinawa Jima. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1715 I (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target None affecting attack  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used None  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 4 planes all, 1 plane 5 Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release 2500  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- Rockets per run 4 VF 2 and 4 VT - all; slant range 3000 feet
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(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 Installations at Yonabaru Airfield:					
2 (a) gun position west of runway 8473 yards	800 x 400	2 TBM-3 VC-84	(19) 100 lb. GP AH-M 30	All	Unknown
3 Queen Love Mike on local grid		6 FM-2 VC-84	24 Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All	Unknown
4 (b) hut area north-east of runway, 8573 Uncle Queen, on local grid		1 TBM-3 VC-84	8 rockets as above	All	Unknown
5 (c) hut area, possible barracks, west of runway, 8373 Dog Easy, local grid		1 TBM-3 6 FM-2 VC-84	(5) 100 lb. GP as above 8 rockets as above unknown number .50 cal. rounds	All	Many huts, possible barracks destroyed
6 (d) area of huts, buildings, gun positions, 8573 Queen, Uncle on local grid.		2 TBM-3 VC-84	(15) 100 lb GP as above	All	Unknown

(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.

Specific results observable were destruction of and starting of good sized fires among the huts. Gun and other defense installations were well worked over.

(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

At 1528 I on 26 March 1944 a support flight of 4 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 took off for Okinawa Jima from USIS MAKIN ISLAND. They rendezvoused with 8 TBM-3 of VC-91, 4 TBM-3 of VC-83, 3 TBM-3 and 4 FM-2 of VC-93, 8 FM-2 of VC-85, 4 FM-2 of VC-96 and 4 FM-2 of VC-88, to form a support group. The group was directed to attack installations in the vicinity of Yonabaru Airfield, Okinawa Jima. VP went in first with strafing and rockets closely followed by VT bombing and rocket runs. Bombing runs were made from 5500 feet, release at 2500 and pullout at 1000. Hits were made on gun positions and good sized fires started in building and hut areas around the field. The flight returned to base at 1825 I.

Pilots - TBM-3 - Lt. Richard I. Haley, flight leader, Lts.(jg) Marvin L. Doliana and William H. Bartles and Ensign Deane A. Jelle; FM-2 - Lt. Robert O. Kent, division leader, Lts.(jg) Kenneth B. Finka and Milton R. King and Ensign Henry Wardenga.

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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

**Equipment performance was normal except that a bomb came loose in a bomb bay without damage.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**Robert C. FULTON, Jr., Lt., USNR**

**Douglas K. ENGLISH, Lt., (A1), USNR**

**4-8-45**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

**ACI Officer, VC-84**

**Commanding Officer, VC-84**