

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-94 (b) Based on or at USS LEXINGTON (c) Report No. VBF-94 20  
 (d) Take off: Date 17 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0335 Item (Zone); Lat. 36° 48' N Long. 143° 57' E  
 (e) Mission Utsonumiya South A/F (f) Time of Return 0830 Item (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)		
F4U-4	VBF-94	12	0	12	3AC 2x5"HVAR; 1x500GP. 9AC 4x5"HVAR; 1x500GP	Bomb: Nose VT50E4 Inst. Tail: AN M101A2 .01 Rocket: Nose MK 149 Inst .01 Tail MK 159 .015
F6F-5	VF-94	3	0	0		
F6F-5P	VF-94	1	0	0		

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			N				
			O				
			N				
			E				

## 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
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	O		
			(ZONE)	N		
			(ZONE)	E		

(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	GUNS USED		
			N			
			O			
			N			
			E			



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

VBF-94

REPORT No. 20

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Otsu Hana Factory & small shipping (b) Time Over Target(s) 0500 Item (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Base: 300-800' in 3000' layers, 9/10.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 20  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used None  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing — Altitude of Bomb Release 2000'  
(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 Building Otsu Hana		12 VBF	12 x 500# GP *	10	Serious
2 Factory & Bldgs Otsu Hana		12 VBF	42 x 5" HVAR **	30	Serious
3 Sampans		12 VBF	.50 cal.	Many	Serious
4 Small craft		12 VBF	.50 cal.	Many	Serious
5 Locomotive		2	.50 cal.	Many	Slight
6 Radio Tower		2	.50 cal.	Few	Unobserved
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).

3. Opposite Otsu Hana.
4. Opposite Otsu Hana.
5. Just north of Otsu Hana.
6. Just south of Otsu Hana town.

- \* One bomb did not explode.
- \*\* One rocket missed fire.

(p) Were Photographs Taken: Gun camera Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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VBF-94

20

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

**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

## NARRATIVE

12 VBF, along with one photo plane and three escorts, navigated to the coast just north of Sukegawa at 1000'. Low overcast prevented accomplishment of mission and strike headed north along coast to Otsu Hana region where targets of opportunity were bombed, rocketed, and strafed through the overcast. Targets were difficult to observe, as was damage to them.

Bombing runs were in shallow dives of 30° from 2500' with release at 1000'. VT fuses were not activated due to lack of air travel. Rocket runs were also in shallow dives from a similar altitude, due to low ceiling.

## COMMENT

Weather encountered on above flight was as poor as this squadron has met in the Japan area to date.

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VBF-94

REPORT No 20

**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

**No comment**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**P. L. GUIBORD, Lt. (jg), USNR, ACT OFFICER**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**L. S. WALL, JR., LT. CDR., USN**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

**COMMANDING OFFICER**

**20 July 1945**

DATE