

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-83 (b) Based on or at USS SARGENT BAY (CVE83) (c) Report No. 62
 (d) Take off: Date 28 March 1945 Time (LZT) 0956 (I) (Zone); Lat. 25°-23' N. Long 127°-24' E
 (e) Mission Direct aircraft support of pre-invasion naval operations against Okinawa. (f) Time of Return 1341 (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)		
FM-2	VC-83	8	0	8	6 - 5"(HE) AR	
FM-2	VC-83	4	0	3	None	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
		None					

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
		None	(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) 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).

(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		
			None			

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CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. **62**

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) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1 FM-2	VC-83	Prob. .50 cal.	Wing	Small hole in wing
2 FM-2	VC-83	Blew tire and broke drag link on landing		New tire and drag link
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).

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
		None		

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	
FM-2	66	75	3.7	245	150		6610			12

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 62

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) 3 buildings and lighthouse on Okinawa Time Over Target(s) 1230 (I) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3000 ft. - cumulus - 8/10ths.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ Bomb Sight Used Mark 8 gunsight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
 Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Slant range 1000-1500 yds.
(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 Stone building		3 FM-2 VC-83	18 - 5" (HE) AR Strafe -		None observed
2 Lighthouse		3 FM-2 VC-83	Strafe		None observed
3 2 factory bldgs.		8 FM-2 VC-83	40 - 5" (HE) AR Strafe		None observed
4					
5					
6					
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.)

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

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REPORT No. 62

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

12 VF and 15 VT launched as direct support group in support of pre-invasion naval operations against Okinawa Jima. The VF and VT operated separately.

1 VF had to turn back because his cock-pit cover wouldn't close. The other 3 VF were detached from the group and put on TCAP. After being relieved as TCAP they were given permission to strike two targets, one a 2 story stone building and the other a lighthouse. A rocket and strafing attack was made. There was no observable damage to the two buildings but two fires were started in the nearby town which were still burning when the planes left the area.

The remaining 8 VF were also used as TCAP for several hours and after being relieved of this duty were directed to expend all armament on targets of opportunity in designated areas. Most of the planes attacked two large factory buildings with rockets and strafing with unobserved results. Several VF attacked warehouses, also with unobserved results, and several small houses which were set on fire. One VF attacked a 50 ft. boat with rockets and strafing. One rocket hit the boat and made a hole in the bow. The pilot saw a white puff but no explosion or fire.

During the attack the heavy AA from Naha Airfield was intense and far too accurate for comfort. Fortunately none of the planes was hit by heavy AA, although one was hit and slightly damaged by light AA.

Pilots: Lt. Comdr. B. V. GATES; Lieuts. L. F. ZABEL,
R. S. BOOZER; Lieuts. (jg) R. J. BURNS, K. S. OLESON,
F. M. KREBS, W. E. FLANKEY, J. MORRIS; Ensigns
F. P. McELROY, P. A. McLENNON, L. A. KAHN.

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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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H. VERNON ENEY, Lt., USNR, AGI OFFICER **B. V. GATES, Lt. Comdr., USN**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

4/11/45

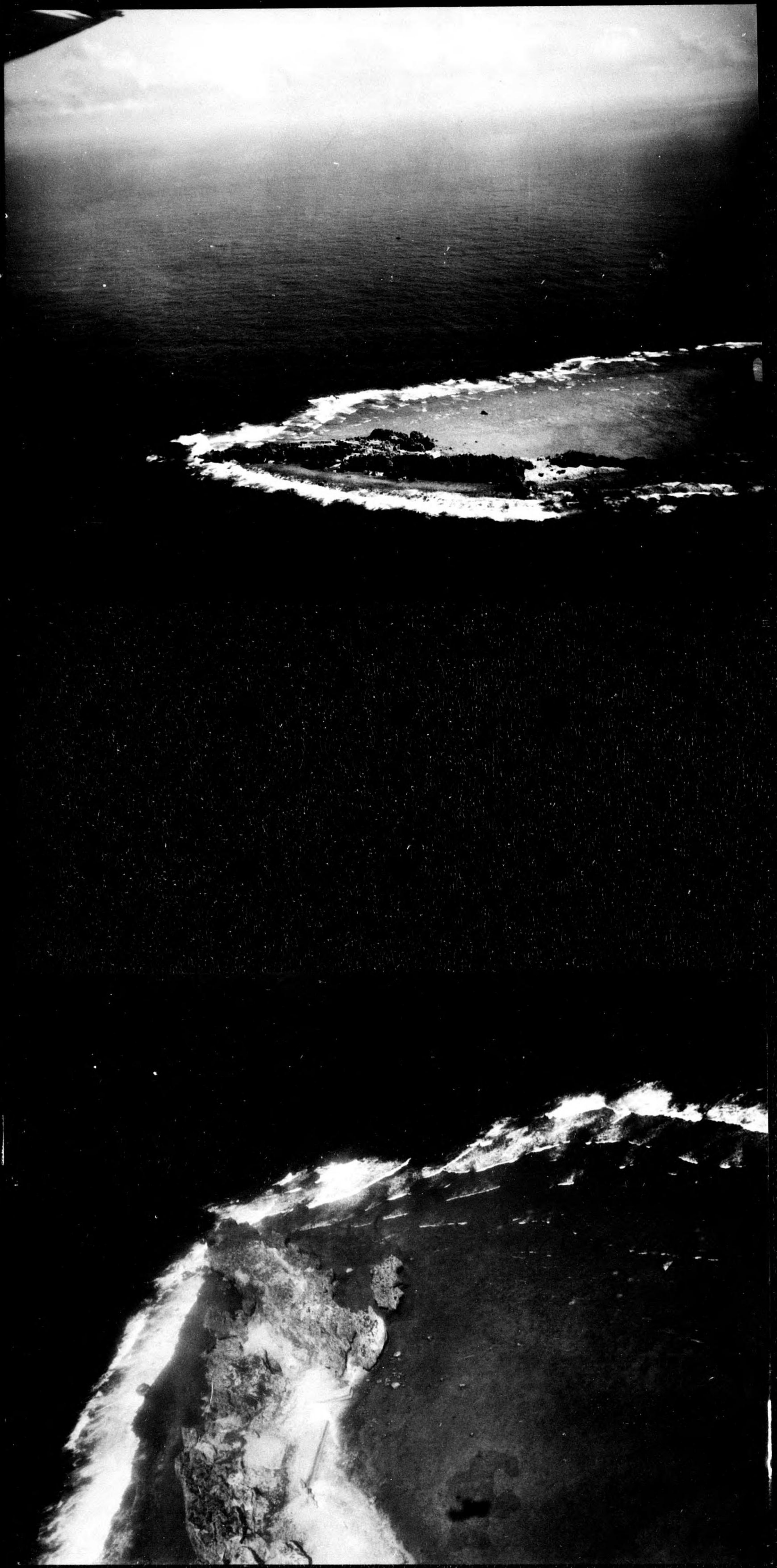
DATE

Squadron Commander



NO. R15 #1 DATE 28 March 1945
UNIT VC-83 U.S.S. SARGENT BAY
MADE FOR VC-83 ACA-1 Report #63
SUBJECT Photos taken of target
island by Ens. W. O. GUNDLACH.

NO. R15 #12 DATE 28 March 1945
UNIT VC-83 U.S.S. SARGENT BAY
MADE FOR VC-83 ACA-1 Report #63
SUBJECT Photos taken of target
island by Ens. W. O. GUNDLACH.



NO. R15 ^{#2} DATE 28 March 1945
UNIT VC-83 U.S.S. SARGENT BAY
MADE FOR VC-83 ACA-1 Report #63
SUBJECT Photos taken of target
island by Ens. W. O. GUNDLACH.

NO. R15 ^{#9} DATE 28 March 1945
UNIT VC-83 U.S.S. SARGENT BAY
MADE FOR VC-83 ACA-1 Report #63
SUBJECT Photos taken of target
island by Ens. W. O. GUNDLACH.

No._____

Name_____

Order_____

Remarks_____

Retouched_____

Order Finished_____

Reorder_____

Reorder_____

*Photographs enclosed with
UC-83 ACA-1 Report No. 63*