

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

~~RESTRICTED~~
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. **3**

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	None			
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).

(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	
F4U-1D	165	165	2 3/4	230	170		7800			52

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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

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

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

SECRET
(Rec'd by who filled out)

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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) **WAN FLG, Kikai Shima** (b) Time Over Target(s) **0800 I** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **3/10 to 5/10 cumulus 1500'**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **Partially obscured by clouds** (e) Visibility **12-18**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Dive** Bomb Sight Used **M-8 100mm. reflector**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)

Bombs Dropped per Run **2** Spacing **none** Altitude of Bomb Release **5000' (proximity)**
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

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

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HIT OR Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (Incl. serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Buildings and Point targets		12	84 5" rockets	84	Damage unobserved
revetments in dispersal area.		VNF 312		in area	
2 SW AA Area	100x200 yds.	12	22x500 M-76	22	(Proximity fused)
		VNF 322			
3 SE AA Area	150x200 yds.	8	15x500 M-76	15	(Proximity fused)
		VNF 322			
4 Runway and adjacent revetments	400x200 yds.	13	26x500 GP	26	7 medium fires noticed
		VNF 323			
5 Runway	400x500 yds.	3	6x500 GP (delay)	6	All in runway
		VNF 323			
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.

- This target area was the scattered dispersal and hard stand area south of the long east taxiway. Pilots were unable to identify targets on photographs upon return.**
- AA area southwest of field) Results were unobserved.**
- AA area southeast of field) except that AA fire was far less than calculated.**
- These bombs hit the east end of runway on southeast part of mat and buildings and revetments adjacent to its southern edge. Seven medium fires were seen. These fires were probably started by VT fused incendiaries.**
- The delay fused bombs were dropped in the possibly operational runway in the southwest section of mat.**

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **Yes** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.
Not available.

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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

Fifty-two F4U-1D's flew this mission. Four of these planes were assigned duty as Dumbo Escort. The flight was well planned and was executed as planned.

The 36 planes carrying bombs split into two flights well south of target. The first flight of 12 planes with proximity fused bombs and 3 planes with 12 hour delay fused bombs approached the target from the SW in a sweeping turn and peeled off to the left on target run, heading 330° over west end of the airfield.

The second flight of 8 A/C with proximity fused bombs and 13 planes with .1 second delay fused bombs approached the target from the SE peeling off to the right on target run, heading 330° across center and eastern area of the airfield.

The twelve A/C which flew escort cover, but were armed with rockets, attacked as a third element from E to W paralleling the long eastern taxiway and south of it aiming for revetments, buildings, and clumps of trees where planes, supplies, and installations might be hidden. This element retired low and fast to the W.

All planes rallied 180° 5 miles from the target and returned to base.

During the attack eight or more bursts of AA phosphorous shells were noted, bursting from 3,000'-5,000'. The bursts were large indicating a caliber above 88mm. While one plane was blown over on its back by one such burst no damage was sustained by any of our A/C. Other enemy heavy, medium, and light flak was noted but was meager and inaccurate.

The principle used in this attack of a steep approach directly over the areas of concentrated AA positions with lead planes dropping proximity fused bombs on these positions and other closely following elements dropping on targets beyond has proven safe and effective. The stunning and fragmentation effects of the proximity fused bombs reduce AA fire to a minimum. Quite a few planes previously had been destroyed by AA over this same target when other tactics were used.

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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

The TE-51 proximity fuse despite its newness and complexity seems to be working uniformly well. Bombs thus fused are very effective against flak concentrations, reducing the intensity to a minimum for a period sufficiently long for an effective attack to be made on the targets protected.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

H. B. CANNON
Capt., USAF

RANK AND DUTY

S-2.

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USAF

28 Jun 45

DATE