

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-84 (b) Based on or at USS MAKIN ISLAND, at sea (c) Report No. VC-84 #127
 (d) Take off: Date 2 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1325 I (Zone); Lat. 25° 28'N Long. 127° 31'E
 (e) Mission Air Coordinator and Support, 1 plus 1, Okinawa Jima. (f) Time of Return 1545 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	7	0	7	4 (2) 500 lb GP AN-Mk 64	Nose - instantaneous
					2 (10) 100 lb GP AN-M 30	Tail - .025 sec. delay
					47 (8) rockets, Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	Nose - instantaneous Tail - .025 sec. delay
						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-2	4	USS FANSHAW BAY				
FM-2	VC-9	4	U S NATOMA BAY				
FM-2	VC-90	4	USS STEWART 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)
 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). 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	
F4U-7	52	60	2.3	330	270	850	1265			7

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
 - TURNING
 - 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) See below (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1808 I
1830 I (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1900, cumulus, solid (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Substantially obscured except under clouds (e) Visibility 10 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used None (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing _____ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 1300 (FEET)

(g) Rockets per run 3 planes all 4 planes 4 Slant range 800 feet
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 Area no. 1 below	600 x 400 yards	7 TBM-3 VC-84	(8) 500 lb GP AN-Mk 64 (20) 100 lb GP AN-M 50 40 rockets, Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	All in Area	Unknown
2 3/4 Trucks in area no. 2 below	200 x 200 yards	7 TBM-3 VC-84	16 rockets as above 850 rounds 30 cal., 1265 rounds 50 cal.	All in area	6 trenches destroyed several others serious and slight
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).

Direct hits were made on 6 trenches with rockets and strafing; these were destroyed and several others were seriously and slightly damaged.

Targets -

- 1- Area containing artillery emplacements, caves, ammunition storage, west of Gisushi tow, Okinawa Jima (7767 King Love Mike Peter Queen Roger on local grid).
- 2- Trucks camouflaged in revetments north of Tsukasa town, Okinawa Jima (7869 Tare local grid).

(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

On 2 April 1945, a support group, of 6 TBM-3 and 1 TBM-3 Air Coordinator, took off at 1525 L, from USS MAKIN ISLAND, for L plus 1 operations at Okinawa. It was joined by 4 TBM-3 of VOC-2, 4 F4U-2 each from VC-9 and VC-90. The first target assigned was an area west of Gisuhi town containing artillery emplacements, caves, and ammunition storage (7767 King Love Mike Peter Queen Roger on local grid). At 1608 bombing runs were made almost level due to the solid overcast at 1900 feet, release being made at 1800 feet. Rocket slant range was 800 feet. No specific results were observed. At 1630 I rockets and strafing were put into an area of camouflaged trucks in revetments north of Tsukasan town (7889 Tare, local grid). 6 trucks were destroyed and several others damaged, varying from seriously to slightly. The Air Coordinator joined in rocket and strafing runs on both targets. The flight returned to base at 1545L.

Pilots -

Lt. Francis A. Holl, Air Coordinator

Lt. Brice Holladay, support group leader,
 Lt. David J. Conroy, Lts. (jg) Donald E. Glasgow,
 Howard A. Hughes, Ensigns Leonard F. Wosniak,
 Terence B. Molanus.

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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

Aarmor; 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

Performance of equipment was normal.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Robert C. FULTON, Jr., Lt., USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
AS1 Officer, VC-84

Douglas K. HULLICH, Lt., USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
Commanding Officer.

581-45 DATE