

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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 RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

15910

055537

VMF-113-#94
 VMF-314-#26
 VMF422-#97

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting MAG-22 (b) Based on or at Charlie Strip, Ie Shima (c) Report No. VMF422-#97
 (d) Take off: Date 3 July, 1945 Time (LZT) 1020 (I) (Zone); Lat. 35° 43' N Long 127° 47' E
Kyushu
 (e) Mission Escort B-25s in bombing strike on Chiran A/F. (f) Time of Return 1430 (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)		
F4U-1D	VMF-113	6	0	0	None	None
FG-1D	VMF-113	8	0	0	None	None
F4U-1C	VMF-314	12	0	0	None	None
F4U-1D	VMF-422	8	0	0	None	None
FG-1D	VMF-422	4	0	0	None	None

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
B-25s	Unknown	Unknown	Kadena A/F Okinawa				

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	None	None	None (ZONE)	None	None	None
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? no 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).

(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	None	None	None	None	None	None

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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	VMF-113	None	None	None
2 None	VMF-314	None	None	None
3 F4U-1D	VMF-422	Enemy AA	Left side of fuselage	4 or 5 machine gun holes. Minor repairs.
4			through the cockpit.	
5 F4U-1D	VMF-422	Enemy AA	Gull of right wing and tail.	Several machine gun holes. Minor repairs.
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	None	None	None	None

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a) TYPE	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL BURNED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						30	3750	20MM	MM	
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	3750	0	0	1
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	0	0	0	1
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	0	0	0	1
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	0	0	0	1
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	0	0	0	1
F4U-1D	330	310	4.0	412	298	0	0	0	0	1

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
- TURNES
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

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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) B-25s hit dispersal area at Chiran A/F. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1250 (I) (Zone)
FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK
VMF-422-Radio station, Akuseki Jima.

(c) Clouds Over Target None
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility Unlimited.
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type None Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run None Spacing None Altitude of Bomb Release None
(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 Or Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE None, slight, serious, destroyed, or sunk
Radio station on NW tip of Akuseki Jima.	Undeter.	4 VMF-422	3750 rds. 50 Cal.	Numerous	Slight.
2					
3					
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.)

(1) A cloud of smoke was seen rising from the radio station as they retired from the run.

(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

VMF-113: Twelve VMF-113 planes, under the command of Major William J. Sims, took off from Charlie Airstrip at 1025 Item as fighter cover for a bombing mission to Chiran Airfield, Kyushu. Two of these planes were forced to turn back due to engine trouble. Two planes took off as replacements but were forced to turn back because they could not make contact with the rest of the flight.

The VMF-113 planes made rendezvous with the bomber over Iheya Retto at 1100 feet and the formation proceeded to the target area at about 15,000 feet altitude, arriving at 1250 Item. The flight followed the bomber in on their runs, and out to rendezvous over Take Shima and returned to base.

Antiaircraft fire encountered was heavy, moderate and accurate type predicted concentration.

No enemy aircraft intercepted.

Weather over the entire route was CAVU.

All the VMF-113 planes returned safely to base, landing at 1435 Item.

VMF-314: The F4Us took off and rendezvoused with the B-25's over Iheya Retto.

There were no unusual incidents, while over target. The planes observed flak but used the evasive action suggested at the briefing with excellent results.

Six or seven luggers about 60 feet long were observed in the harbor at Makurazaki. The pilots said there were several warehouses along the waterfront which looked like good targets.

The Escort Flight Leader, Major R.E. Cameron reported that he was unable to communicate with the bomber flight leader on either primary or secondary frequencies. He had good communication with the rest of the pilots in his flight.

VMF-422: This squadron supplied eight fighters as low cover for B-25's and four fighters as cover for the Dumbo. One division flew level with and to the right of the 24 bombers and the other division on their left. The bombing run was made at 8000' from SE to NW. Our accompanying fighters used evasive tactics.

Fire and a 500' column of white smoke was observed at the barracks and shop area at SE corner of Chiran Airfield as a result of the bombing. Approximately six sixty foot boats were observed in boat basin at Makurazaki Town and five one hundred foot boats in a cove near Tomari Town, Kyushu.

The division flying Dumbo cover, on the trip home, strafed a probable radio station on the NW tip of Akuseki Jima. They made one pass with pushover from 5000', strafing down to 100', angle of dive 50 degrees, axis of attack NE to SW. The brick radio station building and the antenna were thoroughly strafed leaving a cloud of smoke. Both planes in the second section received several holes in the fuselage and wing from the light moderate accurate antiaircraft fire emanating from the station.

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The following VMF-113, VMF-314, and VMF-422 pilots participated:

VMF-113:

Major W.J. Sims	1stLt. W.F. Bland
1stLt. H.E. Wendt	1stLt. H.F. Smith
1stLt. R. Hunchar	2ndLt. N.J. Petersen
2ndLt. P.J. Miller, Jr.	2ndLt. E.E. Zandt
Capt. W.A. Baldwin	1stLt. S.K. Crowell)
1stLt. D.C. Hallquist	2ndLt. J.L. Scott) Replacements.
1stLt. B.N. Tuttle	
1stLt. L.E. Nolan	

VMF-314:

Major R.E. Cameron	1stLt. A.J. Bailey, Jr.
1stLt. R.J. Duffey	1stLt. M.M. Westover
1stLt. E.E. Rutledge	1stLt. W.E. Landrum
1stLt. F.P. Geraltz	1stLt. R.N. Monbleau
Capt. L.H. Smith	
2ndLt. J.J. Hawkins	
1stLt. G.R. Katzenbach	
1stLt. B.J. Costello	

VMF-422:Fighter cover for bombers

Capt. R.H. Anderson	1stLt. T.B. Wilson
2ndLt. H.B. Wilhoyte	1stLt. T. Hurst, Jr.
2ndLt. H.G. Killgore	2ndLt. R.G. Taylor
2ndLt. A.A. Kanusas	2ndLt. R.L. Watson

Dumbo Escort

1stLt. S.W. Lapkiewicz
1stLt. R.A. Andres
1stLt. A. Wagner
1stLt. D.L. Zanzi

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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:

H. H. RIDDER,

SIGNATURE

USMCR

Capt.

Gr. AGIO

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

N. T. POST, JR.

SIGNATURE

USMC

Lt. Col.

GrOp. Of.

RANK AND DUTY

6 July 1945

DATE