





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

REPORT No. **VC-35 - 132**

**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
- Defensive 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

Six photographic sorties were flown over Okinawa and adjacent islands on 27, 28 and 29 March 1945, as follows.

0745 (I) - 1145 (I) 27 March. Pilot: Ensign Frank William SMITH, USNR, with 2 FM-2s as escort. 25% of photo run not completed due to bad weather. Fighters expended 100 x .50 caliber strafing miscellaneous gun positions. THM-3 slightly damaged by AA fire.

1330 (I) - 1745 (I) 27 March. Pilot: Lieutenant (junior grade) Robert C. REILLY, USNR. Low oblique photos of beaches south of Senaga Shima. Pilot and two FM-2 escorts expended 1500 x .50 caliber strafing an enemy light house.

0745 (I) - 1145 (I) 28 March. Pilot: Ensign Frank William SMITH, USNR. Photo mission completed satisfactorily. The two FM-2 escorts strafed and exploded moored mines across one of the landing beaches. They expended 2500 x .50 caliber.

1330 (I) - 1745 (I) 28 March. Pilot: Lieutenant (junior grade) Robert C. REILLY, USNR. Photo mission completed satisfactorily. Two FM-2 escorts strafed various gun positions. They expended 800 x .50 caliber.

0745 (I) - 1145 (I) 29 March. Pilot: Ensign Frank William SMITH, USNR. 2 FM-2 escorts took low oblique photos of the southern coast of Okinawa. VF and VP strafed miscellaneous gun positions and expended 890 x .50 caliber and 25 x .30 caliber.

1330 (I) - 1745 (I) 29 March. Pilot: Lieutenant (junior grade) Robert C. REILLY, USNR. Photo mission accomplished satisfactorily. Two FM-2 escorts strafed Naha, Machinato and Yontan Airfields. They expended 1380 x .50 caliber.

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When  
filled out

REPORT No. **VC-85 - 152**

**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 material failures were reported.**

**FORWARDED: G. A. T. WASHBURN,  
Captain, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding Officer,  
U.S.S. LUNGA POINT (CVE-94).**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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**FRED C. HERRIMAN, Lt.Cdr., USN, C.O.**

**29 March 1945**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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DATE