

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

SECRET

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting **VF 49** (b) Based on or at **USS SAN JACINTO** (c) Report No. **14**
 (d) Take off: Date **21 May 1945** Time (LZT) **1236 (I)** (Zone); Lat **26° 38' N** Long. **129° 20' E**
 (e) Mission **Strike on Tokuno Shima, Amami Gunto** (f) Time of Return **1537 (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)		
F6F-5	VF 49	8	0	8	Each plane carried six HE Aircraft Rockets, 5" except the photo plane.	Mk. 146 Non Delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TBM-3	VT 49	8	USS SAN JACINTO	TBM-3	VT 30	8	USS Belleau Wood
F6F-5		12	USS Bennington	SB2C	and		
F6F-5	VF 30	8	USS Belleau Wood	TBM-3		24	USS Bennington

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	(No operational planes observed)					
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____ _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? (YES OR NO) If so, Describe Clouds _____ _____
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ _____ (k) Visibility _____ _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
None						

ENCLOSURE N

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

SECRET

REPORT No. **14**

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	
F6F-5	82	82	3 Hrs. 1 min.	400	200					8
						300rds. (Average per plane)				

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			
	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.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **14**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tokuno Shima Airfield (b) Time Over Target(s) 1330 (1) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Scattered clouds over target; ceiling in excess of 4,000 feet.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear, except that on western edge of the field there were scattered clouds. (e) Visibility 3
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type X Bomb Sight Used X
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run X Spacing X Altitude of Bomb Release X
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) 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	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None slight serious, destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
<u>X</u>					
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).

Two photographs of Tokuno field are hereto attached. Photo number one shows the condition of the air strip about in the middle section of the field; Photo number two shows the condition of the western taxi way and revetment area after the attack. The attached sheet is designated Exhibit "A"

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

SECRET

REPORT No. 14

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

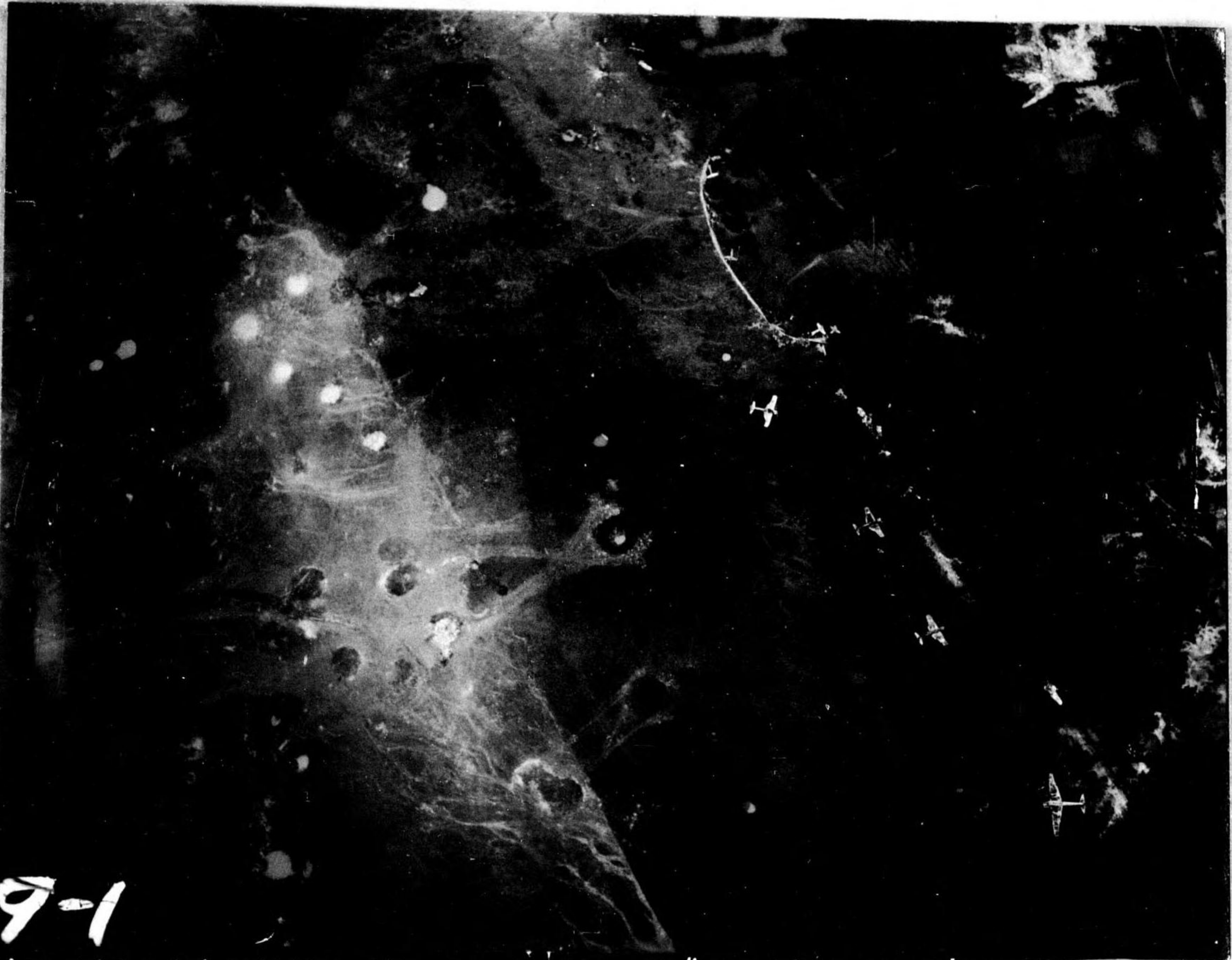
Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of
Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL

Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

Eight fighter planes from Fighting Squadron Forty-nine were launched from the USS SAN JACINTO at 1236 (1), 21 May 1945, for a strike on Tokuno Air Strip in conjunction with fighters and bombers from other squadrons. The course out was through bad weather and the target was found to be closed in when the flight arrived at their attack point. The flight circled the island until the overcast over the target cleared enough for them to make their runs. Two runs were made in addition to the photo run. The two sweeps were made from 4000 and 7500 feet respectively, and visibility was good on each run. The field was rocketed on the first run with most of the hits being made on the runway. The strip was badly pitted before this attack and did not look operational. A number of planes were parked in and about the field, but they were all cuds. The field looked badly beaten up and the installations which had originally supported the strip were destroyed before this attack. On the second run the building area south of the field was strafed in addition to the field. No fires or new damage were observed. No anti-aircraft fire was encountered. Eighty per cent coverage of the field was obtained in the photo run, from an average altitude of 2,000 feet. The pictures are clear, but cannot be used as a basis for an estimate of new damage. Return to the base was made without incident.

SECRET



9-1

SAN JAC 34K MAY 21-45 1430(-9) K20 6³/₈" VAR TOKUNO A/F

Photo Number One



6-5

SAN JAC 34K MAY 21-45 1430(-9) K20 6³/₈" VAR TOKUNO A/F

Photo Number Two

Exhibit "A"

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

SECRET

REPORT No. 14

XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

All equipment and Material performed normally.

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:

R. A. SMYTHE, Lt. (jg), USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
ACT OFFICER

G. M. ROUZEE, Lt. Condr., USN
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
COMMANDING OFFICER, VF 49

DATE