

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

0730 #10
VF #37
VT #28

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting 0730-33 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. BANCAHON (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 19 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0635(I) (Zone); Lat. 25-01 N. Long. 126-40 E.
 (e) Mission Down Intruder Against Airfields. (f) Time of Return 0755(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)		
TH-33	VF-33	2	0	2	2x500, 4x100 G.P. 7 AB with 5" head 1 x 500 G.P.	Tail AN M100A2 .1 sec. Hose AN M103A1 Inst. Base Mk. 157 .02 sec.
VF-33	VF-33	4	0	4	6 AB with 5" head	Tail AN M100A2 .1 sec. Base Mk. 157 .02 sec.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
TH-33							

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
TH-33			(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 _____ (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:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		
TH-33						

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Classified when
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CVEG #10
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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

REPORT No. _____

(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	TW-31	Defective safety trigger		
2	TW-31	Chafing against fire Prop accumulator wall.	line broke.	AT/AIS-4 radar bomb unit lost. Replace line.
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

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	
TW-31	155	155	3 1/3	330	250	0	300	-	-	2
TW-31	155	155	3 1/3	400	340	-	0	-	-	4

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
- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

TW-31

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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REPORT No. **0634(I)**

RESTRICTED
Classify, if appropriate
Date
06 34 1947

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Airfields, Ichigaki & Miyako (b) Time Over Target(s) 0634(I) (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 3000, strato-cumulus, 7/10
(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 GLIDE Bomb Sight Used Mk. VIII
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 0 Spacing 17 Altitude of Bomb Release 10000, 10100
(NUMBER) (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 (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 Ichigaki Runway	200' x 5000'	1 VT-33	1 x 500, 2 x 100 G.P.	4	Minor
2 Miyako Runway	300' x 4600'	2 VT-33	2 x 500, 5 x 100 G.P. 7 rockets	15	Minor
3 Hangar Area	300' x 100'	1 VT-33	1 x 500, 6 rockets	Unobserved	
4 Hobara Runway	150' x 5000'	1 VT-33	1 x 500 G.P.	1	Minor
5 Hirora Runway	300' x 5500'	2 VT-33	2 x 500 G.P. 12 rockets	Unobserved	
6 Hangar Area	500' x 500'	1 VT-33	6 rockets	Unobserved	
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 & 2 Runways on Ichigaki Jima. Hits cratered runways.

4 & 5 Runways on Miyako Jima. Observed hit made crater. Remaining bombs and rockets were not observed as to accuracy. One of two planes dropping on Hirora had had oil leak and drops were from high altitude in lieu of jettison.

3 Aiming point suspected of being camouflaged hangar at north end of Miyako strip on Ichigaki Jima. Lone fighter attacked this target and was not able to observe his hits.

6 Lone fighter launched rockets at camouflaged hangar area southern tip of Hobara runways on Miyako Jima. Hits and damage unobserved.

(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.)

OVES #10
VF - #37
VT - #28

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

This flight was a pre-dawn launch of 2 TB-3E and 1 F6F-3B and its mission was "intruding" against Ishigaki Jima airfields. There was some delay in rendezvous after launch and enroute, because of clouds, individual planes became separated. All but one VF were reunited enroute. This remaining VF proceeded to Ishigaki alone and orbited. When it started to get daylight, he deemed it unwise to stay there alone, so he returned as far as Miyako Jima, attacked Kobara airfield, and joined the intruder group there for return to base.

Of the three remaining VF one developed a very bad oil leak just as target was reached. A second VF accompanied him on immediate return to base. Oil pressure declined negligibly so they dropped load on Hirara airfield, which was about half-way to base. On return, it was determined that the leak was from broken prop accumulator line.

Remaining 2 VF and 1 VT returned together. The VT had time for only one run so entire load was released on that run. One VT fired no rockets as electrical system failed to work and none could be launched.

Bad cloud conditions often hinder or prevent rendezvous at take-off. For "intruder" or "beakler" missions this groups now launched in pairs from the two catapults and each pair proceeds independently. If the plane on the starboard catapult makes a good turn off the bow the port catapult can be fired very quickly and these two planes never become separated.