

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

OPNAV 16-V-#S37  
Form ACA-1  
Sheet 1 of 5

**SECRET**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VT-45 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. 34  
 (d) Take off: Date 28 March 1945 Time (LZT) 1430 (Zone); Lat. 27 - 50 N Long. 130 - 35 E  
 (e) Mission Find and attack Jap Fleet Units off Kyushu (f) Time of Return 1945 (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)		
<b>TBM-3</b>	<b>VT-45</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>One Torpedo Mk 13 Mod 6</b>	<b>15 Feet</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>F6F</b>	<b>VF-45</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>USS SAN JACINTO</b>	<b>TBM</b>	<b>VT-30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>USS BELLEAU WOOD</b>
<b>F6F</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>USS HORNET</b>	<b>TBM</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>USS HORNET</b>
<b>F6F</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>USS BENNINGTON</b>	<b>TBM</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>USS BENNINGTON</b>
<b>F6F</b>	<b>VF-30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>USS BELLEAU WOOD</b>	<b>SB2C</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>USS HORNET</b>
				<b>SB2C</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>USS BENNINGTON</b>

## 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
<b>Topsy</b>	<b>One</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>About 1700 (ZONE)</b>	<b>Off coast of Kyushu</b>	<b>Not Observed</b>	<b>No camouflage observed - normal rounded marking</b>
<b>S/E Fighter</b>	<b>One</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>About 1710 (ZONE)</b>	<b>Off coast of Kyushu</b>	<b>Not Observed</b>	<b>No camouflage observed - normal rounded marking.</b>

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) The Topsy was apparently on a search mission. It did not attempt to intercept.  
The S/E fighter apparently was covering DD.

(i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon Late afternoon - clear at 8000 feet. (k) Visibility 20 Miles (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			
<b>None</b>	<b>(The two planes seen were shot down by accompanying fighters.)</b>					



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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REPORT No. 34

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) DD at approximately 32-36 N 132-23E (b) Time Over Target(s) 1740 (Zone) 9  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 at 4000 feet  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20 Miles  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

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

Bombs Dropped per Run -- Spacing -- Altitude of Bomb Release --  
(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 On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, - serious, destroyed or sunk)
<b>1 DD</b>	<b>2000 Tons</b>	<b>8 VT-45</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
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).

**Torpedo runs had to be broken off without dropping torpedoes because an SB2C hit the DD and blew it up while runs were underway. A terrific explosion resulted and the DD appeared to disintegrate.**

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



**S E C R E T**

Report No. 34

**XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA**

These eight planes all found their own carrier and each of the eight made a perfect night landing. One plane had only 15 gallons of gasoline remaining and the eight planes together had an average of 25 gallons remaining after flying 635 miles.

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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:

APPROVED BY:

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SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY  
**A.C.I. Officer.**

**J. G. PIEGARI, Lieut., USNR,**  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY  
**Commanding Officer.**

**1 April 1945.**  
DATE



7-3 SANJAC 22K MAR 28-45 1740(9)F-8 15' 8000' LAT 32°36'N LONG 132°23'E CONF