RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET

Mission	Pind and	Merch 1	Jap Flee	t Units of	f Kyushu	·(f)	Time of Re	1945 turn	_(Zone)
II. OWN	AIRCRAF	T OFFICIA	LLY COVE	RED BY THI	S REPORT.	TODDEDOES		FUZE, SETTING	
	QUADRON	TAKING OFF	NUMBER ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	ATTACKING TARGET (e)	BUND	AND TORPEDOES ED (PER PLANE) (f)		(g)	
(a)	(b)	(c)	•	8	One Torped	o Mk 13 Mod	16	5 Feet	Name of the last o
TBM-3	VT-45	8							
		00 411151	AIRCRAF	T FMPLOYED	IN THIS OP	ERATION.		BASE	
	HER U. S.	OR ALLIEL NUMBER		DASE	Contract of the Contract of th	manufacture and a second		SS BELLEAU V	OOD
P6F P6F	VF-45	24	TISS HO	I JACINTO MET	TB		10	ISS HORNET	
Top Top		24	USS BE	ININGPON LIEAU WOOR	SE	26	超	ISS HCRINET	CN
FOF IV. EN	EMY AIRC	CRAFT OBS	ERVED OR	ENGAGED (By Own Aircra	EListed in II BOMBS, TORPE GUNS C	f) DOES CARRIED;	CAMOUFL. MARK	AGE AND
(a) TYPE	(b) NO. OBSERVED	NO ENGAGIN	NG TIME	ERED ENC	OUNTER	GUNS	BSERVED	No camou	flage
	One	None	About 1700	ZONE) CTT OF	past of	Not Observ	ed	rounded	- norm
Topsy								No camor	
es /10			About	3 400	oast of	Not Obser	red	observed	1 - norm
S/E Fighter	e One	None	The Top	(ZONE) Kyus	arently on	a search	nission.	rounded	marking
E-Peron	ant Enamy					reept. was coveri			
	ELLI FLICITIA		THE NO	If so, Des	scribe Clouds _	(BASE	IN FEET, TYPE	AND TENTHS OF COVE	
(h) Appare	ny Part of	cur in Clou	US!				(k) Visi	bility 20 Mil	LES)
(h) Appare Did Ar (i) Encour	ny Part of nter(s) Occ of Day and	Dilliance	40 4	A ALBERTA PROPERTY CON T	TO BESTELL CAN WELL				•
(h) Appare Did Ar (i) Encour Time o	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and I	Diffiditee	Late af	ernoon -	AV OVERCAST: ET	C.)		nly).	(d)
(h) Appared Did Art Encourt Time of Sur V. El	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and I n or Moon.	Diffiditee	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; D	AY, OVERCAST; ET	Own Aircraft	Listed in 11 C	nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE	DAMAC CLAIME
(h) Appared Did Argencour Encour Time of Sur Type ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and In or Moon. NEMY AIR (b) DEST C TYPE A/	CRAFT DE STROYED OR DA	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; DONE DAMAGE	AY, OVERCAST; ET O IN AIR (By	Own Aircraft GUNS USED	Listed in II C		
(i) Appared Did Art Encourt Time of Sur V. El Type	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and In or Moon. NEMY AIR (b) DEST C TYPE A/	CRAFT DE STROYED OR DA	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; DONE DAMAGE	AY, OVERCAST; ET O IN AIR (By	Own Aircraft GUNS USED	Listed in II C		
(h) Appared Did Argencourt Encourt (i) Time of Sur (i) of Sur (ii) V. Element (iii) Enemy A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and In or Moon. NEMY AIR (b) DEST C TYPE A/	CRAFT DE STROYED OR DA	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; DONE DAMAGE	AY, OVERCAST; ET O IN AIR (By	Own Aircraft	Listed in II C		
(h) Appared Did Argencourt Encourt (i) Time of Sur (i) of Sur (ii) V. Element (iii) Enemy A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and In or Moon. NEMY AIR (b) DEST C TYPE A/	CRAFT DE STROYED OR DA	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; DONE DAMAGE	AY, OVERCAST; ET O IN AIR (By	Own Aircraft GUNS USED	Listed in II C		
(h) Appared Did Argencourt Encourt (i) Time of Sur (i) of Sur (ii) V. Element (iii) Enemy A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occording Day and In or Moon. NEMY AIR (b) DEST C TYPE A/	CRAFT DE STROYED OR DA	Inte and (NIGHT, STROYED (AMAGED BY:	BRIGHT MOON; DONE DAMAGE	AY, OVERCAST; ET O IN AIR (By	Own Aircraft GUNS USED	Listed in II C		

ALLSET - MFD. BY THE EGRY REGISTER CO., PATENTED

ECRET

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No.

(a) YPE OW	/N A/C	(b) SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAL			WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)			EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed		
Hor	10										The state of the s
			(
										- 1/2	
									-		
										*	
									-		
			•								
٧	II. PER	SONNEL	CASUAL	LTIES (in air	craft listed	in II only; id	entify wit	h planes lis	ted in VI b	y Nos. at	left).
D. SQI	(b) Uadron	N	AME, RAN	(c) NK OR RATING		(d) CAUSE			(e) CONDITION OR STATUS		
No	ne										
-											
-											
			1								
V	III. RA	NGE, FUI	EL. AN	D AMMUNI	TION DATA	A FOR PLAN	VES RETU	IRNING			
(a) TYPE	T	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f) (g) TOTAL AMM			INITION EXPE	NDED	(h)
A/C		CONTROL CONTRO	MILES ETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	AV. FUEL LOADED	CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	NO. OF PLANI RETURNING
- MET	3 3	60 2	275	5Hrs.15M	300	275					8
1)	X. ENE	MY ANTI	-AIRCR	AFT ENCOU	NTERED (C	heck one blo	ck on eac	ch line).			
			CALIBE			NO		MEAGER	МО	DERATE	INTENSE
AVY -	— Time-	fused shells, 7	5mm and	over					1	ř	
EDIUM	1 — Imp	act-fused she	ells, 20mm	1-50mm					1	T	
		e gun bullets,	<i>(</i>	2.2							

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes

Both enemy planes seen were intercepted and shot down by F6F's quickly and before they had had any opportunity to maneuver.

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

	S	E	C	R	E	T
4	- mark	-	-	-		No.

					REPORT No.
XI. ATTACK ON EN Target(s) and Location	NEMY SHIPS OR	GROUND OBJECTI proximately 32 s include all in area u	VES (By Own Aircraft -36 N 132-23E NDER ATTACK)	Listed in II Only). ne Over Target(s).	1740 (Zone
Clouds Over Target	4/10 at 4000	feet (BASE IN FEET,	TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER		
Visibility of Target_	Clear, HA	ZY. PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS, ETC.)	_(e) Visibility	Miles (MILES)
Bombing Tactics: Typ	e Torpedo	(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)	Bomb Si	ight Used	(TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per Ru	un(NUMBE	Spacing	(FEET)	titude of Bomb Rele	ease
) Number of Enemy Ai	ircraft Hit on Gro	ound: Destroyed	Probably Dest	royedNone	_ DamagedNone
(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(i) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AMMUNITI EXPENDED, EACH AIMING	ON NO. HITS On Aiming Point	DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
DD	2000 Tons	7T-45	None	None	None
			I .		

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

⁽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).

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 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

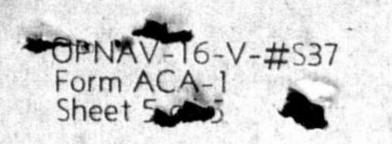
During the morning of 28 March reports were received that a Jap Fleet had been sighted 10 miles off the eastern shore of Kyushu headed south and that its estimated 1630 position would be Latitude 32-00, Longitude 131-40. At this time the USS SAN JACINTO was off Okinawa with the remainder of Task Group 58.1. Preparations were immediately made to attack the Jap Fleet. Task Group 58.1 raced northward at a fast speed and the eight available VT-45 torpedo planes were loaded with torpedoes with a 15 foot setting. Pilots were briefed on night landing procedure since the length of the flight from the best position the ships could reach by 1430 indicated that they might not return before dark. At 1430 the planes were launched and set out on a two leg course to the Jap Fleets position. They were to fly first to Latitude 31-00N, Longitude 132-25 E at low altitudes and then turn Northwest and head directly for the Jap Fleets estimated 1630 position. This procedure was followed. No trace of the Jap Fleet could be found at its estimated 1630 position so the planes turned NE at the direction of the group flight leader and searched as far as the SE tip of Shikoku. A short distance from this position a twin engined Jap plane was seen flying along low on the water. Several fighters went down and shot it down. It exploded and the wreckage was still burning as the planes proceeded on. At about Latitude 32-36N, Longitude 132-23E an enemy Destroyer was sighted all alone apparently engaged in dropping depth charges. A Jap single engine fighter was sighted flying at the same level, 8000 feet, as these strike planes, a short distance behind the destroyer. For a immediately set out after it and it passed close ahead of this torpede bember formation with three F6F's in pursuit. They shot it down about I mile to the starboard of the formation and it went into a 60° dive right into the water. The planes passed by it pressing on in hope of locating major Jap fleet units. The leader finally directed the flight to turn back after it reached the SE tip of Shikoku and had had a clear view of the entire length of Kii Channel. The planes then headed directly for the solitary Destroyer they had passed on the way northeast. The eight VT-45 planes, piloted by Lieutemants Osborne, Rieck, Riley and Van Hoven, Lieutenants (j.g.) Robinson and Laughlin and Ensigns Lennox and Robertson, sighted the Destroyer and turned into position for torpedo runs on it. As the planes started their runs the Destroyer began firing heavy anti-aircraft at them with guns estimated to be approximately 5". The fire was accurate and the shell bursts were very close to two of the planes. Automatic tracer fire could also be seen. Just at this time a group of SB2C's from another carrier pressed home a dive bombing attack and one of the first two or three SE2C's scored a direct hit on the Destroyer. The hit apparently reached a magazine because a terrific explosion followed and the Destroyer appeared to disintegrate. It promptly sunk. The torpedo planes broke off their runs, having no remaining target. The radioman in one of the planes took the attached photograph of the Destroyer as it emploded with an F-8 camera. The planes then headed back for base, but it soon became apparent that they would not be able to reach base with their remaining gas if they had to carry the extra weight of the torpedo. Consequently all eight planes were ordered to jettison their torpedoes by the target coordinator. There were no ships of any kind in the area. The planes then continued on to base arriving after dark. The sky above the Task Group was filled with returning planes.

SECRET

Report	No.	34
		A CHECK OF THE PROPERTY OF THE

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.



RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)



REPORT No. 34

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

Malcolm I. RUDDOCK, Lieut., USWR, signature RANK AND DUTY

J. G. PIMARI, Lieut., USNR.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

LSET - MFD. BY THE EGRY REGISTER AND LINE OFFICER.

1 April 1945.

