

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential
RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **VC-84 #36**

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). 1- 1310 K

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **1- Troop positions left flank landing beach, Iwo Jima. 2- 1325 K**
2- Mortar positions 800 yards north of right flank, landing beach, Iwo Jima. (Zone)
3- Artillery positions base Mt. Suribachi.

(b) Time Over Target(s) **3- 1640 K**
(c) Clouds Over Target **None affecting attack.**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

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

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

Rockets Dropped per Run **2** Spacing _____ Slant Range **1500**
Bombs (NUMBER) (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release (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 As above	400 x 200 yards	1 FM-2 VC-84 8 FM-3 VC-81 7 THM-3 VC-90	(2) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor Not known	2 Unknown	Unknown
2 As above	200 x 200 yards	1 FM-2 VC-84 8 FM-3 VC-81 8 FM-2 VC-83	Strafing Not known	Unknown	Unknown
3 As above	400 x 200 yards and	8 F4U VF * 8 SB2C VB * 1 FM-2 VC-84	Not known (3) HE Rockets Mk 1 body, Mk 7 motor.	Unknown 3	Unknown
4	200 x 200 yards				
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)

Specific results of the above attacks could not be observed. In each case almost all bombs and rockets released went into the designated area. CSA reported to the Air Coordinator that attacks on targets 1 and 2 were successful.

* USS LEXINGTON

(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.)

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

Lt. George Shaw-Corthorn took off from U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND on 19 February 1945, at 1230 (K), in an FM-2 to attack as Air Coordinator for flights supporting the D-day landings on Iwo Jima. His first assignment came at 1300 when he was directed to observe an attack by 8 FM-2 and 7 TM-3 of VC-76 and VC-90 on buildings, storage dumps and vehicles in an area about 100 yards off the northern end of the landing beach (184 Tare, Iray on local grid). Buildings in the area were destroyed. Lt. Shaw-Corthorn then took the same support group to rocket and strafe troop positions at the southern tip of the eastern landing beach. He made 3 dummy runs down to 800 feet to spot the target and then joined the support group in its attack. CSA reported that the attack was successful. At 1325 he was given 8 TM-3 of VC-83 and 8 FM-2 of VC-81, and directed to attack mortar positions about 200 feet from the right flank of that beach (183 Jig on local grid) reported to be holding up our tanks. VF bombed and fired rockets following rocket and strafing runs by VF in which the Air Coordinator joined. CSA again reported a successful attack. At 1555 Lt. Shaw-Corthorn directed and observed an attack by 8 F4U of VF * and 8 TM-3 of VF # on gun positions at the west end of Airfield No. 2. Bombs and rockets and strafing were seen to go into the target area. At 1605 he directed and observed an attack by 8 TM-3 of VC-81 and 8 FM-2 of VC-83 on AA positions 200 yards north of Airfield No. 3 (218 Able 235 Uncle on local grid). Bombs and rockets went into the target area. As a final assignment the Air Coordinator directed and joined in an attack by 8 F4U of VF # and 8 SB2C of VB # on artillery positions at the base of Mt. Suribachi which were putting shells on the landing beach. He put 3 rockets into the positions and saw the attacking group put its bombs and rockets in the same positions. Lt. Shaw-Corthorn was then relieved and landed aboard at 1515 (K).

* USS HANGCOCK

USS LEXINGTON

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

Performance of equipment was normal.

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

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3-4-45
DATE