

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

3

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

SECRET

REPORT No. 12

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

(1)

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tokuno Shima, Aomori County (b) Time Over Target(s) 0520-0725 (Zone)

(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Solid Overcast at 4,000 feet, scattered to broken clouds below

(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 5

(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			
1					
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).

(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

Seven fighters from Fighting Squadron Forty-nine were launched at 0539 (I), 19 May 1945 to participate in a coordinated strike on Tokuno Shima with fighter aircraft and torpedo planes from other squadrons. The course to the target was through unfavorable weather, and on the return to base the flight was required to fly on instruments through squalls and overcast encountered. The first attack was made from the East to West with the recovery over water. The dive was started low due to the overcast above 4500 feet and the recovery was at about 500 feet. The target looked so unpromising that no one discharged their rockets in the assigned area, which was the Northern half of the target. Three strafing runs were made before the rockets were discharged, and the majority of the firing was against planes parked in and around the field, which were most certainly duds. The rockets were finally discharged in the wooded revetment areas, but there was no evidence that they had caused damage to enemy installations or aircraft. In all, the average number of runs on the field by the sections in the flight was six or seven. The whole area was heavily and systematically strafed. There was no sign of life or activity of any sort and while the field might have been operational before, it certainly is not after the attack. There was no visible evidence of the existence of anti-aircraft defenses. But one pilot, Ensign W. A. Yancy had his plane struck by a small caliber bullet just forward of the pilot's seat, and the bullet exploded in the cockpit. No injury was sustained by Ensign Yancy, nor was the plane damaged. A concrete or stone two-lane bridge just North of the field was destroyed by Ensign W. C. Herwood. No shipping was seen. Ensign Box was forced to ditch his plane when he was just forward of the USS SAN JACINTO. The flight pancaked aboard at 0835 (I).

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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

The engine in the aircraft flown by Ensign B. D. Box suddenly cut out when he was approaching the landing pattern. He was at two hundred feet in altitude when it became apparent that the engine would not be started and he turned into the wind, and skillfully ditched his plane. All emergency gear worked satisfactorily. The plane floated for almost two minutes.

The engine performed normally both to and from the target until it stopped. While the attack on the target was made at low altitude, Ensign Box did not observe any damage to his plane, by flak, ricochet or flying bomb fragments. He was unable to give any reason for the engine failure.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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DATE