

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

~~SECRET~~
(a) Unit Reporting VP-49 (b) Based on or at USNS SAN JACINTO (c) Report No. 65
(d) Take off: Date 13 August 1945 Time (LZT) 0953(-9) (Zone); Lat. 35°-08 N Long. 142°-22' E
(e) Mission Search-Ishioke, Ishioke, Shinodate, Koga, Tsukubag. (f) Time of Return 1421(7) (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)		
<u>P67-5</u>	<u>VP-49</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>2 planes carried 6-5" HVAR Rocket 1-500# G.P. Bomb</u>	<u>Mk 159 Base .015 delay Mk 149 Inst. nose Mk 103A-1 Inst. Nose No tail fuze</u>
					<u>1 plane carried 6-5" HVAR Rocket 1-500# G.P.</u>	<u>Mk 159 Base-.015 delay Mk 103A-1 Inst. Nose</u>
					<u>1 plane-full ammo only.</u>	<u>Mk 101A-2 non delay tail</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>P67-5</u>	<u>VP-31</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>USNS BILLBAU HOCD</u>				

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
<u>None</u>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) X
Did Any Part of
(i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? X If so, Describe Clouds X (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
Time of Day and Brilliance
(j) of Sun or Moon X (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility X (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			
<u>None</u>						

Enclosure (2)

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(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	NONE			
2				
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
	NONE			

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	
767-5	125	125	4hrs 35min	400	319					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

- TURN
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No airborne enemy aircraft were seen.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) TSUBURA WEST airfield (b) Time Over Target(s) 1110(I) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2,000 Cumulus 4/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Slight haze partially obscured vision. (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Minimum altitude Bomb Sight Used M.S Illuminated sunlight.
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing 2 Altitude of Bomb Release 1,000
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on-Ground: Destroyed 18 Probably Destroyed 3 Damaged 3

(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)
<u>Railroad marshalling yard at Ichioka town</u> 2		<u>1</u> <u>VF-49</u>	<u>1 - 500# G.P.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Direct hit on freight cars but extent of damage not assessed.</u>
<u>Northern revetment area.</u>		<u>1</u> <u>VF-49</u>	<u>1 - 500# G.P.</u>		<u>Did not see the bomb explode.</u>
<u>Tsukuba West airfield. Revetment N. of airfield.</u> 5		<u>1</u> <u>VF-49</u>	<u>1 - 500# G.P.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Tabby and Zeke blown to pieces.</u>
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).

Photograph hereto attached of three burning planes in Eastern loop taxiway at Ichioka West airfield

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



SAN JAC 118FV-150 AUG 13-45 1130(9)K17 12"3800' ISHIOKA EAST A/HONSHU 36°12'N-140°18'E C

ISHIOKA A/P HONSHU (SECRET)

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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. R.J. Schlosser led a flight of four Hellcats of Air Group FORTY-NINE from the USS SAN JACINTO on a sweep against airfields in the north Kanto plain, above Tokyo. The flight's course to the target area was above a cumulus layer about one thousand feet thick, but the target area itself was found clear except for a slight haze. A dry run was made over Ishioka East but no planes were seen and the group went directly to Ishioka airfield to the south. A slow orbit was made around this field and the revetment and forested area surrounding the strip were carefully looked over at low level. A number of camouflaged planes were discovered and an attack was immediately made at minimum altitude. Some well camouflaged planes were found on the field, but for the most part the numerous planes destroyed were on the eastern side of the field along roadways and taxiways extending for over a mile from the strip. Much of the foliage which had been used for camouflage had become faded and this aided in spotting the planes, but even with this aid they were very hard to see. Twelve runs were made over the field and everything that could be identified as an operational aircraft was rocketed or strafed. At least ten fires were seen on the field at one time during the attack which lasted more than an hour. Many of the planes on the ground were gassed and when they were hit they burned very easily. But some planes could not be burned despite countless strafing hits. When the field was left no other undamaged aircraft could be found although the mission almost flew through the branches of the trees looking for aircraft. The flight from VF-49 inflicted the following damage, all by strafing and rockets: Lt. Schlosser burned one single engine plane and destroyed another; Lt(jg) W.B. Elcock burned one single engine plane; Lt(jg) W. Collins burned one single engine plane and probably destroyed another; Lt(jg) R.C. Wright burned one single engine plane. When they became satisfied that every worthwhile target at this field had been destroyed or had suffered major damage, the flight went to Ishioka East. When this field was inspected "on the deck", at slow speed about the same number of well disguised planes were found hidden in the groves and dispersal areas around the field as were found at the previous field. Lt. Schlosser strafed and burned two single engine planes and probably destroyed another. Lt(jg) Elcock burned one twin engine plane and blew up another by a direct rocket hit; Lt(jg) Collins burned or destroyed four single engine planes and probably destroyed another, by strafing, two of them being biplanes. One single engine plane was burned and two were damaged by Lt(jg) Wright's strafing. During the attack on Ishioka East the wing ammunition hatch came open on Lt(jg) Wright's plane and he was forced to return to base with his section leader, Lt(jg) W.B. Elcock. On the course to the ship, Lt(jg) Elcock dropped his bomb in a railway marshaling yard at Ishioka town and destroyed a number of railroad cars. The flight leader led the mission to Tsukuba West where four runs were made. The remaining bombs were dropped, and on the hangar area which seemed to be a dud, and one by Lt(jg) Collins on a revetment containing a Tabby and a Zeke which destroyed both planes. Time and fuel becoming short the flight headed for base. When passing Hokoda airfield on the coast several planes were sent to investigate the parking area. Lt(jg) Collins found three good planes, all twins, two of which were burned and the other heavily strafed but which could not be burned. All of this was done by Lt. Schlosser as Lt(jg) Collins was out of ammunition. These planes were concealed in a sunken revetment about a half mile from the field along a connecting road. The only flak on the mission was encountered over Tsukuba West. A great number of small bursts of medium automatic fire were seen and the accuracy of the fire is demonstrated by the fact that both of our planes were hit. No serious damage was caused and the hits did not seriously interfere with the efficiency of the airplanes. During the attack on

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~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (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

(page No. 4 cont'd)

Ishioka East five balloons were released from Hyakuragahara airfield, and these were investigated but not attacked. They were apparently some sort of an anti-aircraft device as they were launched into the wind which was blowing toward Ishioka. No explosives were observed on these balloons, but they were avoided by the flight. No airborne enemy aircraft were seen. Four planes from the USS BELLEAU WOOD participated in the mission and a share of the credit for the success of the mission is due to them. Return to base was made at 1421(I).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
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ARMAMENT

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio, Radar
Homing Devices
Visual Signals
Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION

IFF
Signals
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Procedures

PROTECTION

Armor; Points and Angles
of Fire Needing Further
Protection
Leak Proofing

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

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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

**One plane was sent off without ammunition in the cans for five
of its guns. Otherwise all equipment performed satisfactorily.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. A. SMYTHE, Lieut., USNR
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
A. C. I. Officer

G. H. ROUZEE, Lieut. Comdr., USN
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY
Commanding Officer, VF-49

13 Aug. 1945
DATE