

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VD-1 (b) Based on or at Yontan Field, Okinawa, R. I. (c) Report No. 32145
 (d) Take off: Date 29 June 1945 Time (LZT) 0845 Itea (Zone); Lat. 26° 23' N Long 127° 45' E
 (e) Mission Photography of Chusan Archipelago, China Coast (f) Time of Return 1424 Itea (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>PB4X-1P</u>	<u>VD-1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>none</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>none</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>unknown</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1130 I</u> (ZONE)	<u>South of Chusan Island</u>	<u>not observed</u>	<u>Green</u>
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Mission not apparent - probably investigation
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? If so, Describe Clouds (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day bright sun (k) Visibility 30 plus (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>						

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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	
PB4Y-1P	360	360	7.6	270	1650	NONE				5

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		X		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

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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

Five PB4Y-1P aircraft of Fleet Air Photographic Squadron One, with Lieut. H. C. PAIGE flight leader, took off from Yontan Airfield, Okinawa, R. I. on 29 June 1945 at 0845 Item to obtain reconnaissance photography of the Chusan Archipelago on the China coast at the entrance to Hangchow bay. The aircraft arrived over the target at 1100 Item and flew eight flight lines each two miles apart and approximately thirty miles in length at an average altitude of 19,000 feet covering portions of the Chusan Archipelago and Ketow Peninsula in both black and white and color with 24" focal length cameras. Three unidentified enemy aircraft were observed airborne below the altitude of the photographic aircraft, but none approached to within gunfire range nor did any attempt interception. Fifteen enemy aircraft were observed on the Chusan airfield. Less than two-tenths clouds covered the area and good photographs were obtained. Five inaccurate bursts of heavy antiaircraft fire which burst below altitude and well off the side were encountered by plane No. 22 flown by Lieut. PAIGE while over the Chusan airfield area. No damage was sustained. Three of the photo-Liberators returned to Yontan Airfield at 1420 Item, while plane No. 22 flown by Lieut. Paige and plane No. 21 flown by Lieut. (jg) Peterson remained in the area to search for a PBM aircraft which had been reported down on the water. The search was unsuccessful and both planes returned to Yontan at 1615 Item.

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