

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Copy

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

CVEG 33-18
VT 33-36
VF 33-58

(a) Unit Reporting CVEG ##33 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SANGAMON (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 26 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0350 (I) (Zone); Lat. 24-39 N Long. 126-53 E
 (e) Mission Intruder Airfields, Ishigaki and Miyako (f) Time of Return 1710 (I) (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)		
TBM 3E	VT-33	4	0	4	2 x 500 GP 4 x 100 GP	Nose - AN M 219 Inst. Tail- AN M 101 A2 .01 sec Tail- AN M 100 A2 .01 sec
F6F 5N	VF-33	4	0	4	None	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

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
None						
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____
(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			
None						

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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) Airfield areas, Miyako & Ishigaki (b) Time Over Target(s) 0440 (I) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Miyako - unrestricted, no clouds. Ishigaki - 7000 feet solid.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used MK. VIII
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per Run 10 @ 1 Spacing 65 Altitude of Bomb Release 2 @ 1500
(NUMBER) (FEET) 3 @ 3000
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed One Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

(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 Hirara airfield & revetments	300'x5500'	1 1 VT-33 VF-33	VT- 25 2x500, 4x100 VF strafed	6 -	slight slight
2 Nobara airfield & revetments	300'x5500'	3 3 VT-33 VF-33	VT 1x500, 6x100 VF strafed	6 -	slight slight
3 Ishigaki airfield & revetments	300'x5500'	2 1 VT-33 VF-33	VT 3x500, 1x100 VF strafed	3 -	slight slight
4 Miyara Airfield & revetments	300'x5500'	2 1 VT-33 VF-33	VT-33 1x500, 4x100 VF-33 strafed	5 -	slight slight
5 Hegina Airfield & revetments	3200'x3200'	1 1 VT-33 VF-33	VT 1x100 VF strafed	1 -	slight slight
6 Sukama airfield & revetments	200'x5000'	1 VT-33	1 x 500	1	slight
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).

1, 2 and 6 are airfields on Miyako Jima. Hits were seen to explode in revetments and pit runways but extent of damage beyond this unobserved.

3, 4 and 5 are airfields on Ishigaki Jima. Damage was same as for 1, 2 and 6 with one exception, at Ishigaki strip, a direct hit with a 500 lb. GP in a revetment destroyed a plane by fire.

(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.)

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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

N O N E

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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
- 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

One F6F 5N guns wouldn't fire; finally got two to fire but one jammed.

Flares carried by one F6F 5N failed to release due to hasty attachment to plane caused by short notice of flight.

Flares dropped by TBM were used to light up airfield targets. These worked very satisfactorily to assist in picking target.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

A. W. SWARNER, Lieut, A, USNR,

F. B. GILKESON, Lieut. Comdr., USN,

26 April 1945

SIGNATURE
A.O.F.O., VT 33.

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE
Commanding Officer, VT-33.

RANK AND DUTY

DATE