

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

VF-40

Lt. Cdr. J.C. LONGINO, Jr.
Lt. (jg) W.A. CLEMENT
Lieut. E.E. HARTMAN
Lt. (jg) D.F. MABRY

Lieut. W.H. NEAL, III
Lt. (jg) V.E. BARNES
Lieut. D. MICHIE
Ensign G.W. WARNER

Flight was launched at 1200 and arrived on station at 1250(I), and was instructed to attack targets of opportunity in southeastern Okinawa. Targets of definite military value were almost non-existent. A number of positions which appeared to be revetments for guns were bombed and rocketed effectively but it is doubtful that any guns remained in them. A barracks in Sashiki was bombed and rocketed resulting in a large fire and extensive damage to that sector of Sashiki. This barracks was also strafed repeatedly from end to end, but positive signs of occupancy were lacking.

There was every sign that the enemy had vacated all positions in the area under attack.

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

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

Two 500# G.P. bombs lost tail fins during rocket attacks. The same accident occurred to one 500# G.P. during a flight earlier in the day.

Six rockets hung in racks and would not launch. The electrical systems were checked on landing and found to be in perfect working condition. It is noted that in every case failures to fire occurred in pairs.

Efforts are being continued to find the cause of these failures.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

W.P. Lehman

APPROVED BY:

Richard S. Sampson

W.P. LEHMAN, Lt., USNR, A.C.I.

R. D. SAMPSON, Lt. Cdr., USN, Condg., 2 April

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 1

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Ground installations S.E. / (b) Time Over Target(s) 0705-0835(I)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Base 1000 feet, Top 3000 feet, cover 9/10.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility Unlimited
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run * Spacing 100# in clusters Amplitude of Bomb Release 1500-3500
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None 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 Bridge to O Shima	long 200 yds.	4 VF-40	3-500# G.P. 22-5" H.E. Rockets	None	Near misses Confirmed/have damage
2 Beach O Shima to Chinen Misaki	long 7000 yds.	5 VF-40	40-100# G.P. 26-5" H.E. Rockets		Results unobserved to cloud cover.
3 Bridge over inlet near O Shima	long 100 yds.	3 VF-40	3-500# G.P. 4-5" H.E. Rockets		do
4 Settlement on O Shima		1 VF-40	1-500# G.P. 6-5" H.E. Rockets		do
5 Bldg. on inlet near O Shima		1 VF-40	1-500# G.P.		do
6 Minatoga		1 VF-40	6-5" H.E. Rockets	6	Slight. Several small fires.
7 Art. emplacement NW Minatoga		1 VF-40	6-5" H.E. Rockets		Results unobserved to cloud cover.
8 Activity East of Minatoga		1 VF-40	2-5" H.E. Rockets		do

(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).

Effect of most bombs and rockets unobserved due to cloud cover.

*** 1-500#. Number of 100# varied for different targets.**

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

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

VF-40

Lt. Cdr. R.D. SAMPSON
 Lt. (jg) R.E. CURRY
 Lieut. A.J. BARANOWSKI
 Lt. (jg) M.F. DENMAN

Lieut. W.H. NEAL, III
 Lt. (jg) V.E. BARNES
 Lieut. D. MICHIE
 Ensign G.W. WARNER

VT-40

Lieut. C.R. CAMPBELL
 Ensign R.N. PENDERGRASS
 Lieut. F. COLLURA
 Lt. (jg) E.J. HALCIN
 Ensign H.L. CLINE

Flight took off at 0550(I), climbed to 5000 feet and cruised to station off southeast Okinawa. CASCU on U.S.S. ESTES ordered attacks on beaches to be approached by demostation landing forces. From 0705 to 0835 attacks were made in area. Cloud cover and lack of evidence of Jap military activity made selection of targets in area difficult and sometimes impossible. Taking advantage, however of the occasional holes in cloud cover, VF sections bombed and strafed objectives near O Shima, particularly bridges from Okinawa to O Shima. Results were largely unobservable. It was remarked that there was little military activity or resistance observable. O Shi

and across inlet northwest of VT was assigned general target area along the beach extending from 8462Y to 9065E. They were permitted to pick own targets and fire at will on this area. The flight made four parallel runs and two perpendicular runs on this beach area, dropping a total of 40 100# G.P. bombs and firing 25" rockets, some of the planes also strafing a little. Because of low ceiling and poor visibility it was impossible to assess the results of the attack other than to see that hits were scored in the area. There appeared to be no targets of military value in the area.

XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability)
Use additional sheets if necessary

ARMAMENT

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

No comments.

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

W.P. Lehman

W.P. LEHMAN, Lt., USNR, A.C.I.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

Richard S. Sampson

R. D. SAMPSON, Lt. Cdr., USN, AGC. 1 April 1945

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 2

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Ground installations S.E. Okinawa (b) Time Over Target(s) 0830-1030(I)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Base 1000 feet, Top 2500 feet, cover 7/10 to 9/10.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility Unlimited
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run * Spacing clusters Altitude of Bomb Release 2500-3500
(NUMBER) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None 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 Chinen-Misaki Coastal Def. Pos.		2 VT-40	2-100# G.P.		Unobserved.
2 AA Empl. 2000 yds. NE Kahihara		2 VT-40	3-100# G.P.	Near Misses	None
3 Pillbox 4000 yds. SE of Terekan		4 VT-40	16-5" H.E. rockets	Several Hits	Unknown
4 Road south of Tsuwanuku		2 VT-40	10-5" H.E. rockets	10 Hits	Slight
5 Okota and bks. to West		4 VT-40	30-100# G.P.	11 Hits	Corner of bk demolished, house damaged
6 Village of Udo		1 VT-40	5-100# G.P.		Unobserved.
7 C.D. 1000 yds. West of Anza		3 VF-40	3-500# G.P.	None	Slight
8 3 m/g 300 yds. South of Kutekin		4 VF-40	16-5" H.E. rockets		Unobserved

(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).

9. M/g 700 yds. SE Sashiki 1 VF-40 2-5" H.E. rockets Unobserved
10. Powerhouse or sugar mill 400 yds. South of Itokazu 2 VF-40 6-5" H.E. rockets-None- House beside target hit and smoking.

1-500# hung and was jettisoned over sea.

Results mostly unobservable. First two 500# G.P. dropped on coastal defense position were 50 feet over and to the right respectively and are believed to have caused little or no damage.

*1-500#; number of 100# varied for different targets.

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