





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. VF-85 #41

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

(a) Target (s) and Location (s) Himeji and Miki Air Fields (b) Time Over Target (s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zone) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Clouds Over Target 3000 Cumulus 6/10

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive Bomb Sight Used --

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release 4500

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 6 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 13

(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
1 2 aircraft Himeji airfield	S/E	4 VF-85	4 - 5" HVAR, 20mm 2 - 5" HVAR	4 2	Destroyed
2 6 aircraft Himeji airfield	S/E	4 VF-85	3 - 260 lb. Frag. 20mm	3 --	Damaged *
3 7 aircraft, Miki	S/E	7 VF-85	1 - 200 lb. Frag. 20	1 --	Damaged *
4 Hangar at Himeji		2 VF-85	4 - 5" HVAR 1 - 260 lb. Frag.	4 1	Damaged Burning
5 2 Sampans	50 tons	2 VF-85	20mm	--	Probably sunk, Burning.
6 SBS	2000 tons	12 VF-85	20mm	--	Seriously damaged.
7 SD	150 tons	2 VF-85	20mm		Probably sunk, Burning.
8 SD	100 tons	2 VF-85	2 - 5" HVAR 20mm		Probably sunk, Burning.
Small Factory near Okayama		2 - VF-85	20mm		Damaged seriously.

(o) RESULTS:

Due to the characteristics of the VT fuze it was not possible to determine the exact damage done to these planes. It is believed that they were more than likely damaged beyond repair.

8. S. D.



\* Rocket Hits.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

CONFIDENTIAL VF-85 #44

Lt. Cdr. T. R. HUBERT, A3(D), USNR., led the VF-85 element of twelve Corsairs which joined up with 12 VF-88 Hellcats for a sweep against airfields in the Osaka area.

Attacks were made against Himeji and Miki airfields in that order.

Numerous aircraft were observed, and the 260 lb. fragmentation bombs with VT fuzes were dropped on concentrations of aircraft found. In all, six single engine planes were destroyed and a minimum of thirteen damaged. One hangar was set afire at Himeji.

After attacking the airfields the sweep proceeded to base. On the way to base Lt.(jg) L. E. MIFFLIN, A1, USNR., and Ensign L. E. DEVEREAUX, A1, USNR., saw a small factory south of Okayama and strafed it. It was burning quite furiously when they left.

While passing over the Inland Sea a large number of ships were sighted and the VF-85 group went after targets of opportunity.

The entire group strafed a Sugar Baker and damaged her severely.

Two Sugar Dogs were attacked - one sank and the other was left burning furiously-16 and in a sinking condition.

Two other Sugar Dogs or Sampans were also left burning.

XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

One rocket failed to fire, due to the pig tail having been pulled out in flight.

FLAK INFORMATION.

Moderate light and medium antiaircraft fire was encountered over Itami, Miki and Himeji airfields. The flak was usually seen on push-over and retirement, however no VF-85 planes were damaged.

Evasive action was taken going to and leaving the target areas by making changes of course and altitude approximately every fifteen seconds.

Jinking and high speed recoveries were also made upon retirement.

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