

Form ACA-1

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-85 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SHANGRI LA (c) Report No. VF-85 # 44
 (d) Take off: Date 24 July 1945 Time (LZT) 1145 I (Zone): Lat. 31-27 N Long. 135-11 E
 (e) Mission Blanket Airfields, Miho Area (f) Time of Return 1545 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)		
FG-1D	VBF-85	8		1-260 # Frag	VT nose, non-de tail
F6F-5(P)	VF-85	2		32-5" HVAR None	Inst. nose, .015 t
F4U-1C	"	2		"	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
VF	CVC-88	?	U.S.S. Yorktown				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED.

TYPE (a)	NO. OBSERVED (b)	NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C (c)	TIME ENCOUNTERED (d)	LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER (e)	BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED, GUNS OBSERVED (f)	CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING (g)
Oscar	1	0	1315 I	Yonago	not observed	not observed

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Landing on field
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? If so, Describe Clouds
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon (k) Visibility

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR.

ENEMY A/C (a)	DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: (b)			GUNS USED	WHERE HIT, ANGLE (c)	DAMAGE CLAIMED (d)
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
Oscar	FG-1D	VBF-85	Lt(jg) D. J. Dok	6-50cal	Fuselage 90° block	
	"	"	Ens. W. C. Moessmer	"	"	Damage
	"	"	Ehs. H. W. Reichling	"	"	

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT.

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES, (identified with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS

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	
FG-1D	280	280	4	387	300		5850			8
F4U-1C	"	"	"	"	"					2
F6F5(P)	"	"	"	400	330					2

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY-			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
MEDIUM-		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
LIGHT-		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

Observation too limited for comparison

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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) 2621 Miho A/F 2626 Yonago A/F (b) Time Over Target (s) 1315 I (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 3 cirrus 12,000

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive Bomb Sight Used Mk. 8

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 4500

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 4 Probably Destroyed ? Damaged Undetermined number

(b) AIMING POINT	(d) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE
1 Hangar area 2621 Miho	500' dia.	8 VBF-85	8-260# Frag 2-5" HVAR	All in area	See (o)
2 Aircraft Miho		8 VBF-85	4-5" HVAR plus ammo.	4?	"
3 Aircraft Yonago		8 VBF-85	11-5" HVAR plus ammo.	5?	"
4 FTC	2000T	2 VBF-85	4-5" HVAR plus ammo.	4?	Smoking
5 SD and 4 luggers	500T	8 VBF-85	6-5" HVAR plus ammo.	3?	"
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS:

1. Undetermined number of planes damaged.
2. One plane destroyed, undetermined number damaged.
3. Three planes destroyed, undetermined number damaged.

Note: Number of rounds of ammunition out of total expended at each target not determined.

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VBF-85 # 47

VF-85 # 44A

XII.

This Task Group fighter sweep was led by Lt. Comdr. J. T. O'Neill, Executive Officer of VBF-85.

Airfields in the vicinity of Osaka were originally assigned as targets. Reports of the weather closing in in that area caused the sweep to divert at the last minute to the Miho area, which was reached by proceeding over the overcast across Honshu where the northern side of the island was found to be clear.

Conventional dive bombing attack was made at Miho initiating dives at 12,000. The hangar area was well covered with VT fused fragmentation bombs. Damage is assumed to an undetermined number of aircraft.

This attack was followed by a strafing and rocket attack on Yonago in which more aircraft were destroyed or damaged. The last planes in the dive on this field observed an Oscar at about 1000 feet apparently preparing to land. They were not able to get on him for more than quick full deflection shots which caused him to smoke from the engine. He was not observed after that.

The sweep then attacked shipping north of Miho with results noted in XI.

XIII. None.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H L Fuller
H. L. FULLER, Lieut., USNR,
A. C. I. Officer.

APPROVED BY:

S. E. Strong
S. E. STRONG, Lt. Col., USN, 8-20-45
Commanding.