

Form ACA-1

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**I. GENERAL**

VBF-85 #50

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-85 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. SHANGRI-L (c) Report No. VF-85 #50  
 (d) Take off: Date 28 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0545 I (Zone): Lat 31-37 N Long 134-57 E  
 (e) Mission Blanket airfields, Miho area (f) Time of Return 1015 I (Zone)

**II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.**

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (d)	FUZE, SETTING (e)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
FG-1D	VBF-85	8		8	1-260# Frug.	VT nose, non-del tail
F4U-1C	VF-85	2		2	4-5" HVAR None	Inst. nose, .015 tail.
F6F-5(P)	"	2		2	"	

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

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

**IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED.**

(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

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 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.**

(a) ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			



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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/C  
2626 Yonago A/T (b) Time Over Target(s) 0730 I (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1

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

(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 11 Probably Destroyed                      Damaged Undetermined numb

(a) AIMING POINT	(b) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(c) NO. A/C ATTACKING (1) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(e) NO. HITS ON Aiming Point	(f) DAMAGE
1. Revetment and hangar area - Miho	4000' dia.	8 VBF-85	8-260# frag. 13-5" HVAR	8 13	See (o)
2. Yonago A/C and hangar	4000' dia.	8 VBF-85	6-5" HVAR Strafe	6	1 A/C Dest. Hangar burning
3. Mikurya locomotive and misc. buildings		2 VBF-85	4-5" HVAR Strafe		See (o)
4. Vodo, locomotive and misc. buildings		2 VBF-85	4-5" HVAR Strafe	4	Locomotive destroyed, building burning.
2 locomotives		1 VF-85			Exploded.

### (o) RESULTS:

- 1. 10 A/C destroyed, undetermined number damaged, hangar burning.
- 3. Locomotive destroyed, building burning.

1-5. Ammunition expended on all targets, an undetermined number of rounds at each.  
5 rockets failed to fire.

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XII.

The VBF-85 element of this fighter sweep was led by Lieut. J. S. Horne.

Study of photographs taken the 24th and 25th indicated about 40 aircraft in the revetment area north of Miho field. Conventional dive bombing attack was made on the area which was well covered with fragmentation bombs. It is assumed a large number of the aircraft were damaged. Strafing and rocket attacks followed on the area resulting in observed destruction of specific planes.

The attack on Miho was followed by strafing and rocket attacks on Yonago field at which a hangar was left burning, one or more aircraft destroyed and an undetermined number damaged.

Lieut. Horne, his wingman Ensign W. C. Moessmer and Lt. (jg) D.G. Sabin then proceeded east along the coast setting fire to a warehouse with rockets at Yodoe and destroying a locomotive and unidentified buildings in the vicinity of Mikurya.

Maritime Lt. (jg) Robert Keslin of VF-85 proceeded independently over somewhat the same area, destroying two locomotives at Yonago and one at Yodoe by strafing.

During the attack on the airfields a large hole was blown in the wing of the plane flown by Lt. (jg) R. W. Grabill. The plane flown by Lt. (jg) J. L. Feeley was completely perforated aft of the cockpit by the explosion of two 40 mm shells within the fuselage. Both returned to base successfully but with the loss of some pounds in nursing the crippled planes 150 miles across Honshu and Shikoku.

XIII.

Armor plate aft of cockpit proved to be adequate protection in the case of the plane flown by Lt. (jg) Feeley mentioned in XII.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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Commanding.