

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL  
 CVG-83 #115  
 VF-83 #140  
 VBF-83-#151  
 VB-83 #69  
 VT-83 #72

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 83 (b) Based on or at U.S.S.ESSEX (c) Report No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) Take off: Date 13 August 1945 Time (LZT) 0555(I) (Zone); Lat. 35-17'N Long. 143-16'E  
 (e) Mission Attack TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRICAL CO #1 (f) Time of Return 1013(I) (Zone)

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

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUSE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
F6F-5	VF-83	4	0	4	1x1000# GP	1000# Nose: Mk 103A1: .1 Tail: Mk 102A2: .025
F4U-1D	VBF-83	8	0	5	1x1000# GP	250# Nose: Mk103A1:1 Tail: Mk100A2:.025
SB2C-4E	VB-83	12	0	12	8 - 1 x 1 0 0 0 # GP ; 1x250#GP 4-1x1000# GP	2000# Nose: Mk 102a1: .1 Tail: Mk 102A2: .025
TBM-3	VT-83	9	0	9	1x2000# GP	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F-5	VF-34	8	U.S.S.MONTEREY	TBM-3	VT-47	9	U.S.S.BATAAN
TBM-3	VT-34	9	U.S.S.MONTEREY				
F6F-5	VF-47	8	U.S.S.BATAAN				

## 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)			

(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 TENTHS OF COVER)

Time of Day and Brilliance

(j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON: DAY, OVERCAST: ETC) (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:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUN USED		
NONE						

**VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIR CRAFT (of those listed in II only).**

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number)
1 SB2C-4E	VB-83	Operational: Barrier crash	Prop; Wheel fairings sudden stoppage of engine.	Repairable
2 Same				
3				

**VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).**

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
	NONE			

**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	
F6F-5	245	220	4.1	400	280		50			4
F4U-1D	245	220	4.1	385	280		300			5
SB2C-4E	245	220	4.1	375	270			200		12
TBM-3	245	220	4.1	388	270		300			9

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		X		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

**X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left)**

No Engagement

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Industrial Buildings, Location uncertain. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0740-0810 (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4000; stratus; 0.7  
(BASE IN FEET. TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 4-6

(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC)

(MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type VBF;VB Dive; VF;VT; Glide Bomb Sight Used Mk VIII  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bomb Dropped per Run All Spacing ---- Altitude of Bomb Release VF;VT;8000 VB;VBF;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	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming point	(n) DAMAGE (None, Slight, serious,destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
1 Factory	1000'x 1500'	12	11x1000# GP 8x250# GP	4 seen	Damage Unknown
		VB-83			
2 Same		2	2x1000# GP	1	
		BVF-83			
3 Same		4	4x1000# GP	Not known	
		VF-83			
4 Same		9	9x2000# GP	4	
		VT-83			
5 Dam	400' Span	3	3x1000# GP	Unknown	
		VBF-83			
6					

(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).

The identity and location of the target are not known. The assigned target and all alternates were completely closed in. Attack on the above factory and dam was made when it was seen through the only hole in the overcast. It is believed that it may have been in the town of TOMIHAMA southwest of TOKYO. Three VBF planes did not drop on the target. Two jettisoned and one returned his bomb to base. One VB failed to release.

Damage assessment is not possible though one large explosion and a column of black smoke 1000 feet high were observed.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photograph 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.)

CVG-83

Lt. Comdr. STEWART of VT-83 was the leader of this strike group composed of ESSEX, BATAAN, and MONTEREY planes. The primary target was the TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC PLANT #1 in the KAWASAKI area. Approach was planned through a point south of CHIBA peninsula thence west through SAGAMI NADA and north to a point west of KAWASAKI. The run-in was to be from the west with pullout over TOKYO BAY and retirement east and south east, avoiding AA positions, to rally five miles east of KATUURRA POINT. On approach the whole target area was seen to be solidly overcast so the flight circled left and went west where holes in the overcast could be seen. Through a hole a large factory was seen alongside a river. Attack was ordered through the hole and all planes attacked the factory or an adjacent dam across the river. Good hits were observed in the factory area and an explosion followed by a column of black smoke was seen as pilots pulled away. Retirement was made toward SAGAMI NADA where rendezvous was effected. Over but no damage was done.

Efforts to establish the location of the factory and town were unavailing but it is believed that the target was at TOMIHAMA, a small town southwest of TOKYO at 35-37'N 139-00'E.

**XIII. MATERIAL DATA.** (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary).

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