

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

AG-47, #120
(VF-47, #111)
(VT-47, #61)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 47 (b) Based on or at U.S.S.BATAAN (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 13 August 1945 Time (LZT) 0555(-9) (Zone); Lat. 35-17N Long. 143-30E
 (e) Mission To Bomb Tokyo Shibaura Electronic Co. (Target 496) (f) Time of Return 0945(-9) (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)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
F6F-5	VF-47	4	None	4	1-1000 1b. G.P. AN-M65	Nose;AN-M1033A1 (.1sec. Tail;AN-M101 /delay) A2(.025 sec. delay)
F6F-5	VF-47	4	None	Photo Division	Full Ammo only	-----
TBM-3	VT-47	7	0	7	4x500 1b. G.P.M64	Nose;M103A1(.1) Tail:M101A2(.025)

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
	AG-83		U.S.S.ESSEX				
	AG-34		U.S.S.MONTEREY				

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 None				
2				

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	250	250	4 1/2	400	310-320		400			8
TBM-3	250	250	4 1/2	435	298		0			7

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

Over Target 496

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	Not	Observed		

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

No airborne enemy aircraft encountered.

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Factory in vicinity of Atsugi (b) Time Over Target(s) 0820-0840(-9) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 7000, Strato - Cumulus, 9/10
(BASE IN FEET. TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Obscured by Clouds (e) Visibility 15-20 above clouds 2-5 below clouds
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used MK 8 Reflector
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bomb Dropped per Run VF-1 VT-4 Spacing VF-Only 1 bomb 100 on ground Altitude of Bomb Release 9000
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed - Probably Destroyed - Damaged 1

(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 vicinity Hachioji Or Atsugi		4	4-1000 1b. bombs	Not Observed	Pilots could not observe results
		VF-47			
2 Factory above		7	28x500 1b.bombs	Not Observed	except that fires were started
		VT-47			
3 Obitsu Dock Area		1 SubCap	4HVARs	Rockets in Dock Area.	Damage not assessable
		VF-47			
4 1 S/E Airport at Nii jima		2	4HVAR-Strafing	Hit by Strafing	Planes hit but did not burn.
		VT-47			
5					

(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).

(1)(2) Assigned target was closed in, making an effective coordinated attack impossible. Consequently the ESSEX leader ordered the strike group to drop their bombs on an unidentified factory in the vicinity of Hachioji or Atsugi. The location of the factory could not be determined accurately. Damage could not be assessed but big fires were started.

(3)(4) Before returning to base one subcap pilot strafed and rocketed the Obitsu dock area with unobserved results. The two Pilots of the other subcap strafed and rocketed a plane on Nii Jima. The plane was hit but did not burn.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photograph of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.
 Photos were taken of target 496, the Tokyo Shibaura Electronic Co.

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.)

This strike had been ordered to bomb the Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co. (Target 496). There was ****<some> uncertainty as to whether strikes would go out or ***<not> as the United Nations were awaiting Japan's answer regarding surrender terms. At 0011 the strikes for the day were called off. Pilots scheduled for CAP manned ready-room at 0315 and it was soon announced that the day's strikes were again planned.

The BATAAN's planes took off at 0555 and rendezvoused with ESSEX and MONTEREY Groups. The strike group flew south of TOKYO and turned Northward over Sagami wan, passing East of Mt. Fuji. The Yokohama Kawasaki area, where the assigned target was located, was closed in with a coiling which appeared low enough to prevent an effective coordinated attack on the pin point target. Consequently the ESSEX leader ordered all planes to bomb a factory believed to be located near Hachioji or Atsugi. The clouds obscuring the targets made it impossible for pilots to identify the target definitely. Bomb hits in the area started big fires, according to pilots of the Torpede Squadron.

Meanwhile the VF photo division flew over the assigned target(496). Photos were taken through breaks in the clouds during attacks by ether groups, but conditions were generally unsatisfactory for damage assessment photos. AA in this area was meager heavy and moderate medium.

No airborne enemy aircraft ware encountered. Return to base was without incident.

SUBCAP #5

The four VF-47 fighters flying subcap from 0555 to 0945 orbited their lifeguards and then attacked targets of opportunity on-routs to base. Two of the subcap VF carried 4 HVAR's.

Lieut. Stanley WKAR, USNR, strafed and rocketed the dock area at Obitsu on the East Coast of the Chiba peninsula. Lieut. Marian *ARNS, USNR, and it. (jg)Glan AVKR(A)Y, USNR, strafed one single engine plane on the airfield at Nii Jima, South of Tokyo. It did not burn.

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

Equipment performed satisfactory.

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Lt., USNR CC-VT-47.

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Lt., USNR. CAG-47