Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VB-1 (b) Based on or at YORKTOWN at sea (c) Report No. 59

(d) Date of Action 26 July 1944 (e) Take off: Time 2040 (GCT); Lat. 08°06'N Long 138°36'E

(f) Mission Bombing strike against Yap (g) Time of Return 2350 (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
SB2C-1C	VB-1	12	0	12	1 - 1000# S.A.P.	.01 tail

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F-3	VF-1	8	YORKTOWN at sea				
TBM-1C	VT-1	9	YORKTOWN at sea				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). None

(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
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s)

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s)

(j) Sun or Moon (k) Visibility

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). None

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

Form ACA-1
Sheet 2 of 5

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1 SB2C-1C	VB-1	Enemy medium AA	Fuselage - below	Crashed in water - lost
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

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
1	VB-1	Lt.(jg) John K. BELING, U.S.N.R.	Burned before parachuting	Satisfactory
1	VB-1	Curtis L. WRIGHT, ARM2c, U.S.N.R.	Plane crashed	Missing in action.

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM	MM
SB2C-1C	89	80	3 1/4	320	220	5	300		525	

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

NO

Form ACA-1
Sheet 3 of 5

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Location of Target(s) Power plant on east coast of central Yap (b) Time Over Target(s) 2130 GCT

(c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Scattered cumulus 2500 feet, cover .3

(d) Sun or Moon Sun - bright (e) Visibility 10 - 12 miles

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
1	Power plant	6 SB2C-1C VB-1	6 - 1000# S.A.P.	1800' 2500'	2
2	D. P. AA battery SW of Power plant	6 SB2C-1c VB-1	6 - 1000# S.A.P.	2000'	0
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

1. 2 buildings in the vicinity of the power plant were hit and destroyed. 2 other buildings were damaged by near hits.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.
In custody of YORKTOWN

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT
- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Own Weaknesses
- Enemy Weaknesses
- Offensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Flexible Gunnery, Own
- Escort Tactics
- Fighter Direction
- Use of Radar
- Night Fighting
- Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS
- Method of Locating Target
- Approach to Target
- Altitudes, Speeds
  - Approach
  - Dive
  - Release
  - Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY
- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Bombing Tactics
- Torpedo Tactics
- Effectiveness of Bombs, Torpedoes
- Selection of Targets
- Fuzing
- Strafing Tactics
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Radar
- Reconnaissance
- Photography
- Briefing

OPERATIONAL
- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance

Times stated in this narrative are expressed in zone - 10 time and dates in east longitude in accordance with operation plan.

This flight was launched at 0640 on 27 July 1944 and proceeded to Yap 89 miles distant on bearing 341°. After circling the island the bombers attacked their targets from 13,000 feet on course of 140°. After the bombing attack six planes returned for strafing attacks on the power plant and airfield. During this attack Lt(jg) BELING's plane was shot down by enemy anti-aircraft fire. The pilot parachuted to the water and was rescued by a Kingfisher rescue plane. He suffered second degree burns on his arms and legs, but his condition is satisfactory. The radioman, Curtis L. WRIGHT, ARM2c, is believed to have jumped from the plane before the pilot, but his parachute was not seen to open. After the strafing attack, the flight returned to base and landed aboard at 0950.

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

ARMAMENT
- Guns, Gunsights
- Turrets
- Ammunition
- Bombs, Torpedoes
- Bomb Sights
- Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS
- Radio, Radar
- Homing Devices
- Visual Signals
- Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION
- IFF
- Signals
- Battle Lights
- Procedures

PROTECTION
- Armor; Points and Angles of Fire Needing Further Protection
- Leak Proofing

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT
- Parachutes
- Life Belts, Life Rafts
- Safety Belts
- Emergency Kits
- Rations, First Aid

NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT
- Compasses
- Driftsights
- Octants
- Automatic Pilots
- Charts
- Field Lighting

INSTRUMENTS
- Flight
- Power Plant

OXYGEN SYSTEM

CAMOUFLAGE AND DECEPTION DEVICES

STRUCTURE
- Airframe
- Control Surfaces
- Control System
- Dive Flaps
- Landing Gear
- Heating System
- Flight Characteristics At Various Loadings

POWER PLANT
- Engines
- Engine Accessories
- Propellers
- Lubricating System
- Starters
- Exhaust Dampers

HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM
- Auxiliary Plant
- Lights

FUEL SYSTEM

FLIGHT CLOTHING

MAINTENANCE

BASE FACILITIES
- Plane Servicing Equipment
- Personnel Facilities

NO

No comments.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. BARKER, Lt., USNR, A.C.I.
SIGNATURE — RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

J. W. RUNYAN, Lt.Comdr., USNR Commanding
SIGNATURE — RANK AND DUTY

29 July 1944
DATE