

battle stations, with little else served "on stations." scanning the skies interminably for bogies or any unusual movements or activities; putting on and taking off our flask gear as the need arose; stank standing by our guns, and in our various cubicles throughout the ship's vast interior, waiting and watching, ready for anything that might come.

On 28 July the Bennington was in an area approximately 100 miles south of Shikoku, and our strikes were directed against Japanese shipping targets including an Ise class battleship. During runs on this vessel three hits were also scored on an Amagi class carrier moored to the dock at Mitauko Jima, causing explosions and fires on her ~~high~~ flight deck. Airfields were also strafed effectively. On 30 July strikes were maintained against the Kobe-Nagoya area. Hangars were damaged and planes destroyed on the ground. In addition, many ~~striking~~ ^{bombing} and strafing attacks were made on revetment areas. During the afternoon of the 30th, a bogey was shot down 63 miles from our formation. Jap offensive tries were avowedly getting weaker.

From the 2nd to the 4th of August, we operated south of the refueling area to avoid a typhoon, and for several days following were underway once more for additional Honshu offensives. On 8 August we were in a position about 100 miles off the coast of northeast Honshu. Many bogies, ~~was~~ were reported in the morning, but none were shot down. Two bogies, however, were splashed at a distance from the ship during the late afternoon.

On 9 and 10 August we launched strikes and sweeps against airfields and shipping in northern Honshu, flying support missions on the 9th for the naval bombardment of Kamaiaki. On 13 August we were about 150 miles east of Tokyo, launching strikes against the Tokyo Shibaure Electric Company, a specially potent target.