

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 12-60 236-24

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

Buildings, barracks, and installations at Balag Airfield.
Laysan I., Midway Islands. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1300-1310 (Zone) I-9
 (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000', Cumulus, 3/10
 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear and Bright. (e) Visibility 25 Miles.
 (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Slide Bomb Sight Used Compass
 (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 4-10 Spacing 50' Train. Altitude of Bomb Release 3000' av.
 (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 (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 <u>Barracks and buildings, Balag Airbase.</u>		<u>4 F4U-1c</u> <u>VF-40</u>	<u>12x500' G.P.</u> <u>10x100' G.P.</u>	<u>2</u> <u>X</u>	<u>See Below.</u>
2		<u>4 P-51</u> <u>VF-40</u>	<u>750 lbs. .50 Cal.</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>" "</u>
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(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. The Fighters came in and strafed the buildings and apparent gun positions with no visible results, and there was no sign of life on or near Balag field. The VF pilots dropped 4x500' bombs and 10x100' bombs in the revetted areas, but no aircraft were seen nor was there any visible damage done. 4x500' bombs were dropped in a group of small buildings, probably a barracks area and three or four were blown up and others were damaged. There were no fires started.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

1. All aircraft functioned in a normal manner.

H.R. Richard, Lieut. USNR, AGIC, VT-60 H.O. Follbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR, SIG, 60 18 October, 1944

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Sumner, at sea. (c) Report No. AG-60 037-1A
 (d) Take off: Date 18 October, 1944 Time (LZT) 1305 I -9 (Zone); Lat. Long.
 (e) Mission Air Support, Leyte Island, P.I. (f) Time of Return 1630 I -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)		
<u>TB-1a</u>	<u>VT-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4x500/ G.P. (2)</u> <u>10x100/ G.P. (2)</u>	<u>Inst. Nose, 1/0 Tail</u> <u>Inst. Nose.</u>
<u>F4U-3</u>	<u>VT-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>None.</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
			<u>None</u>				

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
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None.
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No. If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Clear and bright. (k) Visibility 10 Miles. (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		
			<u>None</u>		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 19-60 137-44

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 (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1		NONE		
2				
3				
4				
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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
		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	
<u>19-40</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>3:25</u>	<u>300 G.L.</u>	<u>165 G.L.</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>1500</u>			<u>1</u>
<u>767-3</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>3:25</u>	<u>400 G.L.</u>	<u>230 G.L.</u>		<u>2000</u>			<u>1</u>

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft were seen in the air.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 42-60 27-4

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Buildings and installations, San Jose, airport at UTT, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1435-1530 (Zone) I-9
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Unlimited
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear and Bright (e) Visibility 25 Miles.
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Slide Bomb Sight Used Gunlight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing 25-50' Altitude of Bomb Release 2000' av.
(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 (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 <u>San Ricardo Area behind</u>		<u>4 F4U-1e</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>8x500' G.P.</u> <u>20x100' G.P.</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>See Below</u>
2 <u>Beaches between San Jose and</u>		<u>4 F4U-1</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>300 rds. .30 cal.</u> <u>4500 rds. .50 cal.</u>		
3 <u>Dalag in support of under-</u>					
4 <u>water dem. Towns.</u>					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(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. The target as given by the air coordinator was "bomb and strafe the area 300 to 450 yards west of the smoke from an oil fire at San Ricardo town." The pilots proceeded to the area assigned, but could see no targets. Nevertheless the area was strafed and well covered by the bombs from the F4U's. There were no visible results observed. On the beaches between San Jose and Dalag there was nothing visible, but a number of houses that appeared to be living quarters and these were strafed according to instructions. There was no sign of activity of any sort from these houses and there were no visible results from the strafing.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs 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.)

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
 - Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics
- Use of Jamming

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

1. There were no enemy aircraft seen in the air.
2. There was no AA fire observed.
3. The Air Coordinator on this flight surely told the pilots to go to certain areas to bomb and strafe, but did not tell the pilots what the targets were. As a result, the pilots not having seen any worthwhile targets, nor any visible results, were of the opinion that the mission was a wasted effort. The Air Coordinators should be instructed to give the pilots complete information as to exactly what they are to attack and by doing so they can formulate tactics and attack procedure thereby attaining a maximum of damage to the enemy.

Despite the Air Coordinator having been given the familiar "well done" for the part that he played, this was a typical, dull, exasperating and useless mission. All the bombs and bullets expended by the planes in this section, plus the loadings of other attack groups on this target, were utterly wasted. There were no targets evident. Tacloban airfield was obviously abandoned for some time. The area that was ordered bombed and strafed was also abandoned and contained only a few native huts. There was nothing of a military nature to aim or shoot at, but three tons of bombs were "dumped" by this flight alone. In addition, this entire area lay within gun range of the many ships offshore.

On the beach area that was strafed later, there was Naval gunfire with a 1000' ordinate. In order to pull out above this altitude, strafing was done from such a height that, if there were any trenches they could not be seen, and

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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

1. All aircraft operated in a normal manner.

(continued from page 4)

the fixed gun bullet pattern could not hit near the point of aim.

At this time, the area inland and to the west of the island objective presented innumerable enemy targets such as tracks and troop concentrations and shipping.

In order to eliminate unfortunate and inefficient employment of our offensive strength, more value must be placed on the opinion of the squadron commanders or strike leaders. There is too much evidence of selecting target areas from a chart and insisting that they be bombed, although pilots on the spot report nothing visible to aim at. If present flight leaders can not be given sufficient authority to carry on logical offensive operations and make obviously needed 'on the spot' changes in strike orders, then each carrier division should have a senior Lt. Cdr. or a Comdr. to act as Division Air Group Commander to coordinate all strikes and support missions, and act as the authoritative representative in the air, of the higher commands who are running the 'air show'.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.E. Richmond, 1LT. USN. 4472-15-60 H.E. Hallbach, Lt. Cdr. USN. 4486-60 18 October, 1944

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 60 (b) Based on or at U.S. 3, Zamboanga, et cetera (c) Report No. AG-60 (30-1)
(d) Take off: Date 19 October, 1944 Time (LZT) 0540 I -9 (Zone); Lat. XXXX Long. XXXX
(e) Mission Air Support, Leyte Island, Philippine Islands (f) Time of Return 0925 I -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)		
<u>TB-1a</u>	<u>VI-60</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2x500/ G.P. (4) 10x100/ G.P. (3)</u>	<u>Inst. Hoop. R/S Tall Inst. Hoop.</u>
<u>P-51</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>None.</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>VI</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Unknown</u>				
<u>VF</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>"</u>				

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
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None.
Did Any Part of
(i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? None. If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
Time of Day and Brilliance
(j) of Sun or Moon High Overcast, Blue. (k) Visibility 10 Miles, 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	GUNS USED		
			<u>None.</u>			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when
 filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No 2-50 618-44

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 (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
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7				
8				
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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

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	
75P-3	222K	222K	3:45	300 GL.	200 GL.	750	1700			1
75P-3	222K	222K	3:45	400 GL.	265 GL.		6700			1

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm				
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm				

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

- SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes
- URNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft seen in the air.