

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT NO. 12-60 130-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Assigned Targets, Leyte I., P.I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0750-0850 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target High overcast, heavy.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Heavy to clear. (e) Visibility 10 MI. av.
(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 4-11 Spacing Select Altitude of Bomb Release 1600' 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 Trucks west of Tausan Town.		20TH-1a VF-60	20x1000' G.P.	3	See Below
2 <u>Wills</u>		40762-3 VF-60	No Bombs.		" "
3 Trenches and gun emplacements Target areas 603A & 6035.		20TH-1a VF-60	16x500' G.P.	16 ?	" "
4 anti-PT boat sweep San Juanico Straits.		40762-3 VF-60			" "
5			Total Ammos		
6			750 rds. .30 cal.		
7			2100 rds. .50 cal.		
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 two VF and 40762 made a number of runs on a string of trucks located along road leading west from Tausan Town. The VF blew up three and damaged an unknown number of others while the VF set 10 on fire.

2. Four VF were given a number of gun positions and trenches on Catmon hill as a target, but they were not able to locate them from 1500'. On requesting a new target, the pilots were told to go down low to locate the target assigned, but there was a bombardment in progress from surface ships and they were unable to do so. All bombs were dropped in the area, but there were no visible results and the damage could not be assessed.

3. No PT boats were located on this sweep, but an SC was found beached on Samar Island in San Pedro bay which was thoroughly strafed and smoked, but not set afire. On returning from this sweep, the fighters made two strafing runs on AA positions at Tacloban field, but no visible results were observed.

(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

1. There were no enemy aircraft seen in the air.
2. The AA fire was meagre, light and medium and some of the aircraft were damaged.

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

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.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.S. Richmond, Lieut. USN, RC10, VT-60

H.S. Fellbach, Lt. Cdr. USN, O10-60

19 October, 1944

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

1. GENERAL

Air Group 60 (60)

U.S.S. Suzanna at sea.

10-60 (146-1)

25 October, 1944

0540 I -9

XXX

XXX

Bombing and Torpedo Strike against Jap Surface Force.

1020 I

II. Own Aircraft Covered by this report.

TH-1c	VT-60	4	4	4	Mk. 13. Mod. 2-A
					1x Aircraft Torpedo.
P6F-3	VF-60	4	0	4	1x 500' S.A.P.

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

VT	?	2	Unknown.
FM-2	?	4	"

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED.

None	?	?	0813	09 ^h -16 ^m N	None observed.	Greenish Brown
			I-9	125 ^h -10 ^m E		Red Balls on vi

CAP

No.

Day, Clear and bright.

25-30 Miles.

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED.

H
O
N
E

CONFIDENTIAL

AG-60
#46-44

VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT.

TH-1a VT-60 AA Fire.

Bomb bay; after part of fuselage.

Apparently repaired at U.S.S. Petrof Bay where landed. Pilot and crew missing in action and never fully determined.

F6F-3 VT-60 AA Fire

Hydraulic system hit.

Pilot landed at Tachob where landing gear fold plane washed out.
Gt. / 41211

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES.

NONE

VIII. RANGE, FUEL AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING.

TH-1a	XXXX	XXXX	4:40	340 GL.	270 GL.	4
F6F-3	XXXX	XXXX	4:45	250 GL.	230 GL.	

IX ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

Heavy and medium AA bursts were of 4 or 5 different colors.

Inaccurate
Accurate
Accurate

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

The losses that attacked the VT planes were driven off by four F4U-7's and none of our planes were damaged by them.

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XI ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By own A/C listed in II only)

1. Mindanao Sea, 09°-10' N, 124°-30' E.
 S. Off East Coast Samar Island.
- (a) Target(s) and Location
 1. 0800 I-0
 2. 0800 I-0 (Zone)
- (b) Time over Target(s)
 1. Unlimited
 2. 2000', Cumulus, 10/10
- (c) Clouds Over Target
 1. Clear
 2. Obscured by clouds
- (d) Visibility of Target
 1. 30 Miles
 2. 3-5 Mi.
- (e) Visibility
 1. Torpedo Director
 2. Torpedo Director
 3. Gunsight
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type
 1. Torpedo Director
 2. Dive Bomb Sight Used
- Bombs Dropped per Run One Spacing 0 Altitude of Bomb Release 2. 1400'
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Prob Dest: 0 Damaged 0

(h) Aiming Point	(i) Dimensions or Tonnage	(j) A/C Attack (k) Squadron	(l) Bombs and Ammo expended each Aiming Point	(m) No of Hits on Aim Pt.	(n) Damage
Jap BB	Range or Tonn. Unknown	4xVB-13 VF-30	4xtorpedoes	2-4	See Below
Jap BB	Unknown	4xPB-1 VF-30	4x500# S.A.P.	1	" "

(c) RESULTS.

1. These four VF planes attacked the lead BB in a group of 2BB and 2BB. 2 VF planes from another base were in the strike and a total of 6 torpedoes were dropped and four hits were seen. All four torpedoes hit on the port side of the BB and the ship immediately lost all headway and stopped dead in the water. Due to intense and accurate AA of all calibers, the planes left the area as fast as possible and the actual results of the attack were not observed.

2. These four VF planes were supposed to have accompanied the VF planes in the strike in the Mindanao sea, but due to some mixing they were sent North to aid a task unit of six Kaiser class CVE's who were being attacked by a Jap surface force. The weather en route was very bad and the flight was flying very low when the Jap force was spotted consisting of 3 BB 1 CA or CL and abt 1 T-3 BB. The force was under a solid cloud cover whose base was at about 2000' so the flight leader marked the spot and climbed for altitude for a bombing run. Pushing over from 5000', the VF planes dove through the clouds and came out into the open directly above the last two BB's in the formation. One direct hit and three near misses were realized on these two BB's but again the AA fire was so intense that all planes left the area as quickly as possible. No definite results were observed.

Were Photographs Taken? No.

PAGE 1A

CONFIDENTIAL

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

Report: #AG-60 46-44

1. The Zekes that attacked our planes were driven off by four F4U-2's from an unknown base.
2. The Jap ships in both forces threw up an intense barrage of AA fire of all calibers. It was noted by all pilots on both missions that the Japs were using AA shells that burst in different colors.
3. All aircraft on this hop were supposed to rendezvous at a certain point near Leyte Island, but before all planes were rendezvoused, the VT were sent off on one mission and the VF on another. The VT ended up with a fighter cover of only 4 VF, but fortunately they were able to drive off any attacks by Jap VF.
4. All four VT from this ship dropped their torpedoes at a range of about 1000 yds and all four were observed to be heading for the BB on straight courses.
5. All eight planes on both attacks retired, jinking violently and apparently only two of the planes were hit by the AA fire, neither of them badly damaged although one was wrecked in making an emergency landing on a soft runway at Tacloban on Leyte Island.
6. Due to the very poor weather conditions, the four VF had to make their runs through the clouds which necessitated making a very hasty sight on the target thus precluding more accurate bombing.

PAGE 25

CONFIDENTIAL

XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

Report No. AG-60 #46-44

1. All planes functioned in a normal manner.

H.E. Richmond, Lieut. USNR, AGID, VT-60 H.O. Feilbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR/ CAG-60 3 November, '44

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Intrepid, at sea. (c) Report No. VF-60 15344
 (d) Take off: Date 18 October, 1944 Time (EZT) 0615 (Zone); Lat. 10N Long. 175E
Fighter sweep, aircraft and shipping north end of Negro Island.
 (e) Mission Philippine Islands. (f) Time of Return 1250 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>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>None</u>	
<u>F6F-3 (P)</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>None.</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>F4U</u>	<u>VF-26</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>U.S.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>TB-1a</u>	<u>VF-35</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Chicago</u>
<u>TB-1a</u>	<u>VF-26</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>F6F-3a</u>	<u>VF-37</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Intrepid</u>
<u>F6F-3a</u>	<u>VF-35</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Chicago</u>	<u>TB-1a</u>	<u>VF-37</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
<u>Wal</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1050</u> <u>I-9</u> (ZONE)	<u>Between Cebu & No Buha, Torpedoes or</u> <u>Negros Islands, guns observed.</u>		<u>No Camouflage, Red</u> <u>balls on wings.</u> <u>Dirty brown color.</u> <u>No markings.</u>
<u>Oscep</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1050</u> <u>I-9</u> (ZONE)	<u>ditto</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>ditto</u>

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Apparently patrol.
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? Yes If so, Describe Clouds 2000', cumulus, 8/10
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, Clear over water; heavy cloud (k) Visibility 20 Miles.
(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	GUNS USED		
<u>Wal.</u>	<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>Enn. Billie L. Holloman</u>	<u>6x.50 Cal</u>	<u>In center of fuselage</u>	<u>Probably</u> <u>from six o'clock level, destroyed.</u>
			<u>1-1(a) U.S.S.S. 320518</u>			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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				
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

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		
P-51	100	100	6:35	400 G.	365 G.	}	1000				
P-51	100	100	6:35	400 G.	390 G.						

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, DOWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

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

1. The Jap was seen at a distance of about 8 miles and two planes immediately went after him. Full R.F.M. and manifold pressure was used although the pilots did not notice their speed, and the Val was overtaken.

2. The Val was sighted at a distance of about 8 miles and two planes immediately went after him. Full R.F.M. and manifold pressure was used although the pilots did not notice their speed, and the Val was overtaken.

(Continued on page 4)