

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
 (Reclassify when  
 filed out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. VF-60 155-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) North End Negro Island, P.I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0830-0930 I (Zone) 9  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Overcast at 6000'. Clear below.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 25 Miles.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type None. Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run None. Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed One Probably Destroyed 2 Damaged 4

(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>Shipping Sweep</u>		<u>VF-60-3</u>	<u>None.</u>		<u>Sea Below</u>
2 <u>Airfields</u>		<u>Ditto</u>	<u>5300 lbs. .50 Cal.</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).

- The anti-shiping sweep was negative as there were no surface craft in the area.
- Sweeping the Tanna and Sily airbases, nothing was observed and all planes continued on to Fabricia Airfield where a number of gun positions were strafed with no visible results. At Kinal airbase a Sally was strafed and after a few moments it exploded. Two Tony's were strafed and both smoked, but did not catch fire. A tractor was set afire and left burning. Heading north for Alicante airbase, 12 trucks and an automobile were spotted and strafed. 5 trucks and the automobile were left burning and the rest damaged. At Alicante, two Zekes and two Bettys were strafed and one of each were left smoking, but not burning. 5 light AA positions on the west side of the field were strafed and two were allenced. A number of buildings were strafed at this field, but none caught fire.

(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. There was light and medium AA fire at Alliance Airbase, but only one burst came close enough to do any damage.

**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



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REPORT NO. 77-60 137-44

**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.E. Johnson, 1LT, USAF, USAF 77-60      H.C. Fallbach, Lt. Cdr. USAF, USAF 77-60      19 October



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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Sheet 1 of 5

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Sumner, at sea. (c) Report No. VF-60 (56-44)  
 (d) Take off: Date 19 October, 1944 Time (LZT) 0745 I-9 (Zone); Lat. None Long. None  
Anti PT Boat sweep, San Juanico Strait, Lopezan Bay, Biliran Strait, Samar Sea.  
 (e) Mission Leyte Island, P.I. (f) Time of Return 1135 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>76P-3</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

## 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? No. If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

Time of Day and Brilliance

(j) of Sun or Moon High Overcast, Day Below (k) Visibility 10 MI., IV.  
(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		







# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No. 77-60 156-14

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Vicinity Leyte Island, P.I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1010 I -9 (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target High Overcast.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Dark (e) Visibility 10 miles or.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type None. Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run None. Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(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>80' Lagger at Wright, Samar Island.</u>		<u>4762-3 VF-69</u>			
2 <u>1500 Ton Fox Tank Dog, NW Corner Biliran Is.</u>		<u>Hitte</u>	<u>3100 lbs. .50 Cal.</u>		<u>See Below.</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. A lugger was spotted at anchor in the bay at Wright on the west coast of Samar Island. It was strafed by all four planes, set afire, and sunk.

2. The AE was spotted on a northeasterly course at the North West tip of Biliran Island just North of Leyte Island. When it saw the planes approaching it turned towards the beach and opened fire with 4 or 5 light AA guns. After the first pass by the planes, the AA fire ceased. Each plane made about four or five passes at the ship and it finally caught fire. After burning about five minutes there was a violent explosion with smoke rising to about four or five thousand feet. There were no survivors seen and the ship was completely broken apart.

(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

1. All aircraft operated in a normal manner.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

N. E. Richmond, 1LTJr, USAF, AFHQ RANK AND DUTY

H. O. Hallbach, Lt. Col. USAF, AFHQ RANK AND DUTY

17 October, 1944 DATE



**AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**I. GENERAL**

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Sumner, atsea. (c) Report No. VF-60 #57-44  
 (d) Take off: Date 19 October, 1944 Time (LZT) 1435 I -9 (Zone); Lat. XXX Long. XXX  
 (e) Mission Combat Air Patrol. (f) Time of Return 1810 I (Zone) -9

**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>12</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>No Bombs.</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>Tony</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1640 (ZONE) -9</u>	<u>Over Hackett I. east of Cebu City.</u>	<u>None.</u>	<u>Mottled greenish-bron color. Red balls on wings.</u>

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Unknown.  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? None. If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, Very High Overcast. (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
<u>Tony</u>	<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>Ens. Willie L. McClannin. 1-V(n). USN.</u> <u>Ens. Wilbur A. Schnell. 1-V(n) USN.</u>	<u>6x.50 cal.</u>	<u>Tail, Fuselage. Level from 4 to 8 o'clock.</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>



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				
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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

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>762-3</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>3:35</u>	<u>400 G.</u>	<u>265 G.</u>			<u>7600</u>		<u>12</u>

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				
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
- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

At 2700 R.P.M. and 55" manifold pressure, indicating 250 Kts., our planes rapidly overtook the Jap which was immediately attacked. On the first burst the Jap was hit in the airsecoop directly below the cockpit and he began to smoke, but the smoke soon stopped and he began to climb. In a series of wingovers and climbing turns he went from about 100' up to about ~~xxxx~~ 700', all four planes getting in short bursts. From 700' he dove and levelled off at 500' from which altitude he did a split-3. A moment later two of the fighters each got in a good burst, one in the tail section and one in the center of the fuselage. The Jap then pulled up into a steep left turn, but one of our pilots turned inside him and fired into his tail. Parts of the Jap plane began to fly off and the pilot bailed out. The plane caught fire and crashed in the water, but