

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting WP-60 (b) Based at or on U.S.S. Intrepid (c) Report # WP-60 / 0-14  
 (d) Take Off: Date 25 October 1944 Time (LZT) 1300 1-9 (Zone); Lat. 22 Long. 158  
 (e) Mission Strike Unit of Jap Fleet, C (f) Time of return 1900 1-9

II OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) Type	(b) Squadron	(c) Taking off	(d) Engaging enemy A/C	(e) Attacking Target	(f) Bombs and Torpedoes Carried (per Plane)	(g) Fuze setting
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2500 5, 1, 7.</u>	<u>0.2 Delay Reco.</u>

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

Type	Squadron	Number	Base	Type	Squadron	Number	Base
<u>WP-3-5</u>	<u>WP-37</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>U.S.S. Intrepid</u>				
<u>WP-3-6</u>	<u>WP-76</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>U.S.S. Intrepid</u>				
<u>WP-3-10</u>	<u>WP-76</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>U.S.S. Intrepid</u>				

IV ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By own aircraft listed in II only)

Type	No. Observed	No engaging own A/C	Time Encounter	Location of Encounter	Bombs, Torpedoes Carried, Guns ob.	Camouflage and Marks.
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1730</u>	<u>near Intrepid</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>None</u>

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Patrol

(i) Did any part of Encounter(s) occur in clouds? No If so describe clouds

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon Day, bright evening sun (k) Visibility 20 miles.

V ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR ( By own aircraft listed in II only)

Type	Destroyed or damaged By?	Type A/C	Squadron	Pilot or Gunner	Guns Used	Where hit	Damage Claimed
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>Left wing</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>Engine 2</u>	<u>Crashed and burned.</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>Engine and fuselage, 6</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>cockpit and engine, 7</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>Engine and 18th wing</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>50'clock above</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>engine and cockpit, 5</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>
<u>WP-3</u>	<u>WP-60</u>	<u>18 (35)</u>	<u>U.S. Intrepid</u>	<u>Eno. R.N. Cornell</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>left wing and fuselage, 7</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>

CONFIDENTIAL

Aircraft Action Report Report

VF-60 761-11

VI LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OWN AIRCRAFT (of total aircraft listed in VI)

(a) Type Own A/C	(b) Squadron	(c) Cause: Type enemy A/C, Type Gun, or Operational Cause	(d) Where Hit, angle (if armor, self-sealing equipment hit)	(e) Status
76F-3	VF-60	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown-Missing Da/40180

VII PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in VI)

(a) No	(b) Squadron	(c) Name, Rank or Rate	(d) Cause	(e) Location	(f) Status
1.	VF-60	Enc. John Porter Richardson, A-1(n) USNR.	UNKNOWN		Missing in action.

VIII RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a) Type A/C	(b) Miles Out	(c) Miles Return	(d) Av. Hrs in Air	(e) Av. Fuel Load	(f) Av. Fuel Consumed	(g) Total Ammunition	(h) Expended	(i) No of A/C Returning
76F-3	222	222	3:20	290 CL.	219 CL.	30	50	9

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

	Caliber	None	Meager	Moderate	Intense
HEAVY	Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				X
MEDIUM	Impact-fused shells				X
LIGHT	Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm -13.2mm				X

X COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

In none of the cases listed were the 76F's pressed for more speed, but on the contrary. The Val was very easily shot down and exploded on the second burst fired at it. One of two Seibes was chased for about two minutes after it had jumped our planes from a 4000' altitude advantage, but the two 76F's bracketed him and he was downed on the third pass. The pilot that shot down the Judy saw others in the vicinity and was rapidly overtaking them when he realized that he was alone and he returned to the rest of the group. Two of four Lily's were shot down and the other two were rapidly being overtaken when both pilots realized that they were about out of gas and nearly out of ammo and had to return to Tachoban for emergency landings. Returning to the ship the next morning, three of our planes and one from the Sangster jumped a group of 8 Oscars in formation from about 3000' above. Highside runs were made on the first pass and one was shot down. After that the Oscars scattered and our pilots each picked one and gave chase. The Jap pilots would split "S" away from a lead head on run each time one was made. The Oscar could turn inside the 76F, but the 76F could catch up in level flight or going down.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Jap CR in San Bernardino Strait. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1715 I-9 (Zone)  
(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  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 20 Miles.  
(MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used Sunlight  
(TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One.  
(NUMBER) Spacing 0  
(FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 1800' av.  
(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)
<u>Jap CR</u>	<u>Nachi Class</u>	<u>62767-3</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>6x500# S.A.P.</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>See Below.</u>
2					
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. This Nachi Class cruiser was located in San Bernardino Strait between Luzon and Samar headed in a generally westerly direction. When it sighted the planes it immediately began to go around in circles at high speed. Individual runs were made on the cruiser while the other planes would come in and strafe and the average altitude was about 1800' on release. Two direct hits were seen on the cruiser, one near miss and the other three were too wide to have done much damage. Two torpedo hits were also scored by planes from the Petrel Bay. The cruiser was stopped dead in the water for a few moments, but later was seen to be moving off again slowly, oil leaking out of the hull.

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

PAGE #6

CONFIDENTIAL.

XII.  
TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

Report No. VF-60 #64-44

1. The cruiser attacked, aside from turning in tight circles, threw up a very heavy barrage of aa fire of all calibers, the bursts of which were all different colors as noted before. It is not believed that any of our planes were hit although one plane is missing and may have been hit by AA, but his plane was seen on the way back before the Jap planes were attacked, and was not missed until all planes had returned to Tacloban Airfield.
2. None of the Jap planes attacked were offensively aggressive, but seemed to run for it whenever attacked.

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 14 (b) Based at or on U.S.S. Intrepid (c) Report # 10-60 147-44  
 (d) Take Off: Date 25 October 1944 Time (LZT) 0735 I -9 (Zone); Lat. 22 Long. 158  
 (e) Mission Torpedo strike on Jap surface force off Iwo Jima (f) Time of return 1200 I -9

II OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) Type	(b) Squadron	(c) Taking off	(d) Engaging enemy A/C	(e) Attacking Target	(f) Bombs and Torpedoes Carried (per Plane)	(g) Fuze setting
<u>TBF-1c</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>In Mt. 13. Mod. 3-4 Aircraft Torpedo.</u>	
<u>TBF-1c</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>In Mt. 13. Mod. 3-4 Aircraft Torpedo.</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)

Type	No. Observed	No engaging own A/C	Time Encount.	Location of Encounter	Bombs, Torpedoes Carried, Guns ob.	Camouflage and marks.

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None.  
 (i) Did any part of Encounter(s) occur in clouds? No If so describe clouds .  
 (j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon Day, Generally overcast (k) Visibility 0-10 Miles.

V ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR ( By own aircraft listed in II only)

Type Enemy A/C	Destroyed or damaged By? Type A/C	Squadron	Pilot or Gunner	Guns Used	Where hit	Damage Claimed

CONFIDENTIAL

Aircraft Action Report

Report # AO-60 147-44

VI LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only)

(a) Type A/C	(b) Squadron	(c) Cause: Type enemy A/C, Type Gun, or Operational Cause	(d) Where Hit, Angle (Miss armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) Extent of Loss or Damage (Give Bill of plane destroyed)
<u>TH-10</u>	<u>V7-60</u>	<u>Ran out of Gas.</u>		<u>Crash landed in water and sunk. Bu.# 25272</u>

VII PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only)

(a) No	(b) Squadron	(c) Name, Rank or Rate	(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. Hrs in Air	(e) Av. Fuel Load	(f) Av. Fuel Consumed	(g) Total Ammunition Expended			(h) No of A/C Returning	
						30	50	20mm	mm	
<u>TH-10</u>	<u>██</u>	<u>██</u>	<u>4:25</u>	<u>300 G.</u>	<u>285 G.</u>					<u>3</u>
<u>F4U-7</u>	<u>██</u>	<u>██</u>	<u>4:25</u>	<u>325 G.</u>	<u>310 G.</u>					<u>4</u>

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

Caliber	None	Meager	Moderate	Intense
HEAVY-Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				<u>██</u>
MEDIUM-Impact-fused shells				<u>██</u>
LIGHT-Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm -13.2mm				<u>██</u>

X COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

No enemy aircraft seen in the air.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. AO-60 # 47-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Jap surface force off Sasee Is. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1100 I -9 (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 0-10000', Cumulus. 5/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Thin Smalls (e) Visibility 0-20 Miles  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Torpedo Runs. Bomb Sight Used Torpedo Director  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One. Spacing 0 Altitude of Bomb Release 250' 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>Jap BB</u>	<u>Kongo Class</u>	<u>4VF-10</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>4x Torpedoes.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>See Below</u>
2 <u>ditto</u>	<u>ditto</u>	<u>2VF-3</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>None.</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 Jap surface force, consisting of from 12-15 ships, was cruising on a course of about 315 degrees at 11'-15" North and 126'-30" East. The ships were in three columns about 1000 yds apart and the distance between ships in column was about 500 yards. Each column was headed by a BB with CA'S and CL'S and DD's in column behind. When our planes were seen, the Japs turned about 90 degrees to the right and headed on a new bearing of 45 degrees. The VF made their attack from the Northwest towards the port side of the lead BB in the center column, while the two WF made a strafing attack from the Starboard side of the same ship. All four torpedoes was dropped from about 250' at an average of 265 kts., from about 1600 yards distant, three of which held a straight and steady course while the fourth made an erratic run turning 90 degrees to the left on hitting the water. One definite hit was made on the BB and one probably hit while the other was seen to pass down the full length of the port side of the ship as it turned to get away from them. Due to the intense AA barrage put up by these ships, the planes retired, jinking violently and further results of the attack were not seen.

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

PAGE #4

CONFIDENTIAL

## XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

Report No. AG-60 #47-44

1. There were no enemy aircraft seen in the air.
2. Again the AA shells burst in different colors although the pilots could not determine which type of AA was of which caliber. The AA fire was intense and of all calibers, but was not accurate as none of the planes were hit.
3. When the torpedoes were dropped the Jap ships all turned towards the torpedo path, however one and possibly two hits were scored on one BB.
4. While rendezvousing after takeoff, our ships were attacked by Jap suicide planes and the fighters were called back to attack the planes that were attacking our ships. As a result, two of these planes had to turn back before the Jap force was reached and one VT Plane ran out of gas in the landing circle and the plane sank after landing in the water.



PAGE #5

CONFIDENTIAL

XIII. MATERIAL DATA

Report No. AG-60  
#47-44

1. All aircraft operated in a normal manner.

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group (b) Based at or on U.S.S. Intrepid (c) Report # 10-10 #10-10  
 (d) Take Off: Date 25 October 1944 Time (LZT) 0830 1-9 (Zone); Lat. 13 Long. 124  
 (e) Mission Strike Units of Jap Surface Force. Visayan (f) Time of return 1300 1-1  
Is. Philippine Islands.

II OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) Type	(b) Squadron	(c) Taking off	(d) Engaging enemy A/C	(e) Attacking Target	(f) Bombs and Torpedoes Carried (per Plane)	(g) Fuze setting
<u>VB-10</u>	<u>VB-10</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4000 G.P.</u>	<u>Inst. None.</u>
<u>VB-10</u>	<u>VB-10</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Inst. 13 Mod. 24 Torpedos.</u>	
<u>VB-10</u>	<u>VB-10</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4000 G.P.</u>	<u>Inst. None.</u>

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

Type	Squadron	Number	Base	Type	Squadron	Number	Base
<u>VT</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Unknown.</u>				
<u>VT</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>					

IV ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By own aircraft listed in II only)

Type	No. Observed	No engaging own A/C	Time Encount.	Location of Encounter	Bombs, Torpedoes Carried, Guns ob.	Camouflage and Marks.
<u>None</u>						

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None.  
 (i) Did any part of Encounter(s) occur in clouds? NO If so describe clouds  
 (j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon Day, Clear and Bright. (k) Visibility 20-25 miles.

V ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By own aircraft listed in II only)

Type Enemy A/C	Destroyed or damaged By? Type A/C	Squadron	Pilot or Gunner	Guns Used	Where hit	Damage Claimed