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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA

Report #VF-60 58-44

1. While flying Combat Air Patrol in the vicinity of Leyte Island at 4500', these four planes were jumped by a lone Zeke which made one pass at the last plane in the formation from above and about 30 degrees on the starboard quarter. When about 1300' from the formation, the Zeke broke off his run pulled up in a steep left turn and ended up on an opposite course. The last plane in the formation called Tally Ho and started in pursuit of the Jap, using 2550 R.P.M., 54" of manifold pressure, and closed rapidly. The Jap then began to dive for cloud cover about 1½ to 2 miles away, but in the dive the F6F closed on him more rapidly. Three short bursts were fired into the fuselage and flames were seen issuing from the engine and cockpit. On the fourth burst from dead astern and slightly below, the left wing root burst into flame and the Zeke gradually dropped off on its left wing and hit the water. The plane disintegrated on hitting the water and there was very little debris and no sign of life.



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XIII. MATERIAL DATA

Report No. VF-60 #58-44

1. All planes functioned in a normal manner.



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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based at or on U.S.S. Santee (c) Report # VF-60 #59-44  
 (d) Take Off: Date 23 October 1944 Time (LZT) 0745 I -9 (Zone); Lat. xx Long. xx  
 (e) Mission Fighter sweep of Rutuan and Sel Monte Air bases, Mindanao Is., P.I. (f) Time of return 1050 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) Fuse setting
<u>T6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</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-2</u>	<u>VF-26</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>U.S.S. Santee</u>				
<u>F4U-2</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>U.S.S. Petrel Bay</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, slight haze.

(k) Visibility 25-30 MI.

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

Type Enemy A/C	Destroyed or damaged Type A/C	By? Squadron	Pilot or Gunner	Guns Used	Where hit	Damage Claimed
<u>None.</u>						



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Aircraft Action Report

Report # VF-60 #59-44

VI LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, 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 (also armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) Extent of Loss or Damage (Give BuNo of plane destroyed)
NONE				

VII PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only)

(a) No	(b) Squadron	(c) Name, Rank or Rate	(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. 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
F6F-3	XXXX	XXXX	3:05	325 GL.	155 GL.		3300	
								6

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			Inaccurate	
LIGHT-Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm -13.2mm			accurate	

X COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

No enemy aircraft seen in the air.



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
 (Reclassify when  
 filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

a) Location of Target(s) Butuan and Del Monte Airfields, Mindanao Is., Philippine Islands. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0850-0920 GCT 1-9  
 c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Ceiling Unlimited. Slightly Hazy  
 d) Sun or Moon Sun Bright (e) Visibility 25-30 Miles.

## XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	1	<u>Del Monte Airfields # 25</u>	<u>F4U-3 VF-60</u>	<u>No Bombs. 3700 x .50 Cal.</u>	<u>X</u>
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

(g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

1. As the leader of this hop was the air coordinator, only five of our six planes attacked targets, while the sixth directed attacks on other localities. Our planes attacked visible targets of opportunity which consisted mainly of Barracks, supply dumps and AA post. There were 6 or 10 aircraft on the ground at Del Monte fields, numbers 2 and 5, however they were all obviously badly damaged or destroyed by previous strikes. The runways all appeared operational, but there were no operational fields aircraft to be seen. The installations were well strafed, but the only visible damage was to one large building at the Northwest end of Del Monte #5 which was set afire and from which large billows of black smoke and red flame poured, indicating a possible fuel storage.



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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA.

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1. There were no enemy aircraft seen in the air.
- c 2. The target charts provided for this sweep were totally inadequate and very inaccurate. Some of the fields were not accurately located on the charts and some could not be located at all, and , as a result, a complete coverage of the areas assigned could not be made.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA.

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Report No. VF-60 #59  
-44

1. All aircraft operated in a normal manner.

H.E. Richmond, Lieut. USNB. ACIO VT-60. H.O. Feilbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR. CO. VF-60 10 Nov. 44

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