

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. VF-60 148-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Gun positions in Malle Bay Area.
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (b) Time Over Target(s) 0700-1630 I (Zone) 9
- (c) Clouds Over Target 5000', Cumulus, 1/10.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear and bright.
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBTSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.)
- (e) Visibility 30 Miles.
(MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Slide
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used Quasight
(TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One
(NUMBER) Spacing Zero
(FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 1400'
(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>Gun Posits.</u>		<u>12 VF-3 VF-60</u>	<u>2x500' G.P.</u>	<u>0</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. The purpose of these missions was to protect a Dumbo PSY that was trying to rescue a carrier pilot in the water close to the shore of Malle Bay near Lolobeta Point, Halmahera Island. The pilot, apparently wounded, had drifted close to the shore and was hiding behind an anchored Jap boat in such a position that the Dumbo plane could not get near enough to rescue him. To protect the PSY and the pilot in the water the fighters kept up a continual strafing of the beaches and the gun positions within range. Two 500' G.P. bombs were dropped on one 40 mm. position and although the bombs were a bit wide, the fire of the gun was cut down considerably. A number of fires were started as a result of the strafing, two of which were apparently fuel dumps and one an ammo dump. It was while on this mission that the two aforementioned fighters crashed into the water. Rescue of this pilot was finally effected late in the afternoon by a PT boat. Meanwhile, the Dumbo was employed to rescue one of the escort fighter cover pilots whose engine was damaged by AA forcing him to land in the water in the center of Malle Bay where a seaplane takeoff could be safely accomplished.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
dated out)
CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. VF-60 142-11

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 functioned in a normal manner with the exception of a few radio difficulties which were remedied on returning to the ship.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.E. Richmond, Lieut. USNR, AGIO, VF-60

R.C. Feilbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR, CO, VF-60

16 September, 1960

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Sanganon, at sea. (c) Report No. VF-60 149-44
 (d) Take off: Date 15 September, 1944 Time (LZT) 1430 I-9 (Zone); Lat. XXX Long. XXX
Glise Bomb and Strafe Galela Airframe and Strafe Lolobata and Mill Airframe.
 (e) Mission Halohera Island. (f) Time of Return 1725 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>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1x500/ G.P.</u>	<u>Inst Nose. 3D Tail.</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-35</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>U.S.S. Cheango</u>				
<u>F6F-3 45</u>	<u>VF37</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>U.S.S. Sanganon.</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? 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 Day, Bright sun. (k) Visibility 25 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		

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. TP-50 149-11

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

Aircraft and installations at Galela, Lolobata, and Miti Airbases.

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Halabera Island. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1510-1640 I (Zone) →
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target No clouds.
(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 Glide Bomb Sight Used Sunsight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One Spacing Zero Altitude of Bomb Release 1600' av.
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 7 Damaged 1

(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>Aircraft on Ground, Galela</u>		<u>2 F6F-3</u> <u>VF-60</u>	<u>7x500' G.P.</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>See Below.</u>
2 <u>Ditto</u>	<u>Miti</u>	<u>Ditto</u>	<u>800x500' G.P.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>" "</u>
3 <u>Ditto</u>	<u>Lolobata</u>	<u>Ditto</u>	<u>None.</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>" "</u>
4			<u>12700 Rds. .50 Cal.</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).

- All planes made one or two strafing runs to locate targets before dropping their bombs. 6 bombs were dropped among the dispersal areas, but the damage could not be determined. One bomb landed on a taxiway in the center of three revetments probably damaging all three aircraft. The eighth bomb hung up and was later dropped at Miti. All aircraft then strafed a number of aircraft on the ground and eight were definitely seen to burn, two or three were seen to smoke and others were hit, but there was no evidence of actual damage. It was very hard to tell whether the aircraft were in operational condition, but pilots testify that one Tony, 2 Lillys, and one Zaks looked as though they were brand new before they were hit by this attack. A number of small buildings were also strafed, but none were set afire and the damage cannot be assessed.
- The eighth bomb was dropped among parked planes at Miti, but no results were observed. A number of strafing runs were made on aircraft and three were seen to catch fire and burn. It looked as though the remainder of the aircraft on the ground were not in an operational condition and the mission then went over to the Lolobata airbases.
- Seeing no aircraft at either field at Lolobata, the pilots concentrated on buildings and Mi positions. One large fire was started at the east end of the Hatetabako runway from which issued large clouds of white smoke. No other results were observed.

(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 functioned in a normal manner.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE	RANK AND DUTY	SIGNATURE	RANK AND DUTY	DATE
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CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Swamsee, at sea. (c) Report No. VF-60 / 50-44
SVF-0515 I -9
 (d) Take off: Date 19 September, 1944 Time (LZT) 0730 I -9 (Zone); Lat. 22K Long. 128K
SVF Glide bomb and strafe Aircraft and Installations at Galeia. SVF Strafe Aircraft and
 (e) Mission Installations at Miti. Malahera Island. (f) Time of Return 0940 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>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1x500 G.P.</u>	<u>Inst Nose. H.D. Tall.</u>
<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-60</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None.</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>TBM-1c</u>	<u>VC-65</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Midway</u>	<u>F6F-3</u>	<u>VF-37</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Swamsee.</u>
<u>TBM-1c</u>	<u>VC-68</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>U.S.S. Fanshaw Bay</u>				
<u>F7F-2</u>	<u>VF-26</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>U.S.S. Santee</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? No. If so, Describe Clouds _____
 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, Bright early Morning sunlight. (k) Visibility 30 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	GUNS USED		