



# RCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. VF-60 150-46

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

Aircraft and Installations at Galala and Miti Airbases.  
 (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Halmahera Island. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0820-0850 I (Zone) -9  
(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 30 Miles.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBTURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type GLide Bomb Sight Used Cunsight  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run One Spacing Zero Altitude of Bomb Release 1500' Av.  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 4 Probably Destroyed 3 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 Aircraft and Installations, Galala		4VF60-3	4400 Rds. .50 Cal.		
		VF-60	4x500' G.P.	4	See Below
2 Ditto Miti		4VF60-3			
		VF-60	10600 Rds. .50 Cal.	9	" "
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. At Galala, one bomb exploded on the runway, one in a dispersal area, one in a taxiway near two aircraft, and one among some buildings at the southeast end of the runway. Aside from a bomb crater on the runway and a couple of small buildings destroyed, no other results were observed. One Tony and one Lily were set afire and destroyed. Six other planes were strafed, but did not burn. Numerous small buildings were strafed, but no results were observed.

2. At Miti, the whole area was thoroughly strafed including buildings, installations and aircraft. Two Hamps were strafed, set afire, and destroyed while three Tonys were soaked, but not burned and they can probably be counted as destroyed. A number of other aircraft were strafed, but no visible results were observed. A medium sized fire was started among the trees at one side of the runway, but it was not possible to determine what was burning.

(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

- 1. No enemy aircraft were seen in the air.**
- 2. There was no AA Fire observed.**

#### 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

### 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

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filed out)

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REPORT NO. VF-60 150-44

**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. Richmond, LIEUT. USNR, ACTG. VF-60**  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

**H.O. Follbach, Lt. Cdr. USNR, CO. VF-60 19 Sept. 1944**  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE

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## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-60 (b) Based on or at U.S.S. Saratoga, at sea. (c) Report No. VF-60 /51-44  
 (d) Take off: Date 20 September, 1944 Time (LZT) 0515 I -9 (Zone); Lat. 3325 Long. 12225  
Strafe aircraft on ground, buildings and installations at MII Airbase.  
 (e) Mission Halshora Island. (f) Time of Return 0950 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>767-3</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 \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day, Bright 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		



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REPORT No. VF-60 151-44

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Aircraft, buildings, and installations. Hill Airbase, Hainan Island. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0900-0910 (Zone) -9  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target No clouds. Ceiling unlimited.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear and Bright. (e) Visibility 30 Miles.  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type None. Bomb Sight Used None.  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run None. Spacing None. Altitude of Bomb Release None.  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed ? Probably Destroyed 4 Damaged 14-15 ?

(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 Aircraft on ground, buildings and installations.		4268-3 VF-60	2300 lbs. .50 Cal.	X	See Below.
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. Two Toms, 1 Zeke, and 1 Lily were all smoked, but they did not catch fire. All four of these planes appeared to be in an operational condition. A number of other parked aircraft were also strafed, but none were smoked or burned. On returning to the ship, the pilots stated that there did not appear to be any more operational aircraft on this field. A few small buildings were strafed, but none caught fire and no other 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. **A few inaccurate puffs of machine AA were seen, but no plane was damaged.**

**ATTACK**

**OWN TACTICS**

- Method of Locating Target
- Approach to Target
- Altitudes, Speeds
- Approach
- Dive
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
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- Evasive Tactics, Ships
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**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Bombing Tactics
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- Effectiveness of Bombs, Torpedoes
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- Fuzing
- Strafing Tactics
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Radar
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- Photography
- Briefing

**OPERATIONAL**

- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance



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**XIII. MATERIAL DATA.** (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary).

- ARMAMENT**
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  - Turrets
  - Ammunition
  - Bombs, Torpedoes
  - Bomb Sights
  - Bomb Releases
- COMMUNICATIONS**
  - Radio, Radar
  - Homing Devices
  - Visual Signals
  - Codes, Ciphers
- RECOGNITION**
  - IFF
  - Signals
  - Battle Lights
  - Procedures
- PROTECTION**
  - Aarmor; Points and Angles of Fire Needing Further Protection
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- EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**
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- INSTRUMENTS**
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- OXYGEN SYSTEM**
- CAMOUFLAGE AND DECEPTION DEVICES**
- STRUCTURE**
  - Airframe
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  - Control System
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  - 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, radio communications being especially good.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.E. Richmond, LIJUT. USNR, AGIC, VF-60      H.O. Fiebbach, LT, Cdr. USNR, CO, VF-60      20 Sept. 1944  
SIGNATURE      RANK AND DUTY      SIGNATURE      RANK AND DUTY      DATE

