

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

OPNAV-16-V-#537  
Form ACA-1  
Sheet 1 of 5

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OR

the

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-12 (b) Based on or at USS RANDOLPH CV-15 (c) Report No. 42  
 (d) Take off: Date 11 May 1945 Time (LZT) 0841 I (Zone); Lat. 23-18N Long. 129-09 E  
 (e) Mission DOAP (RAMPAP) T. P. 38 (f) Time of Return 1251 I (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-5</u>	<u>VF-12</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>X</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>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0915 I</u> (ZONE)	<u>Task Force</u>	<u>Each had bomb</u>	<u>Usual</u>
<u>Zeke</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0915 I</u> (ZONE)	<u>Screen</u>	<u>under starboard</u>	
			(ZONE)		<u>wing-</u>	

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Suicide attack  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds X  
 (YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon X (k) Visibility X  
 (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-5</u>	<u>VF-12</u>	<u>Ens. P.E. Glasser, USN</u>	<u>6 x .50</u>	<u>Fuselage, 6 o'clock above Dest.</u>	
<u>1/2 Tony</u>	<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>VF-12</u>	<u>Ens. B.K. Menhold, USN</u>	<u>6 x .50</u>	<u>Cockpit, 6 o'clock above</u>	"
<u>Zeke</u>	<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>VF-12</u>	<u>Ens. J.C. Funsten, USN</u>	<u>6 x .50</u>	<u>Wingroot 6 o'clock above</u>	"
<u>1/2 Tony</u>	<u>F6F-5</u>	<u>VF-12</u>	<u>Lt. H.M. Wither, USN</u>	<u>6 x .50</u>	<u>Cockpit 8 o'clock above</u>	"

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## 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	NONE			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
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
	NONE			

## 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	
P-51	50	50	3.8	400	270		5500			8
	plus	DAP								

## 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, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

## X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes
- TURNING
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No evasive action taken by enemy.

**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

**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

Two divisions were on HAPCAF under F. D. of Rustic Base-- DD picket. One section of one division at angels 7 was victored out and Tally-ho made of Bogey at A 8 3 o'clock. Lt. Witzer and his wingman started climbing. When the Bogey, a Tony, observed that he was being attacked, he jettisoned his bomb and started to dive. Lt. Witzer fired at him, and so did his wingman, Ens. Manhold. They got on the Tony's tail, fired, and the Tony burned at once and dove into the water.

The other section of the same division Tally-hoed a Bogey--Tony--at angels 6, they being at angels 3. They climbed up and got on the Tony's tail, the Tony evidently not observing their approach out of the sun. Ens. Glasser got in a good burst. The Tony exploded and splashed into the water. Ens. Glasser reports having missed two victors because of excess transmission on the assigned channel.

The other division led by Lt. Bolduc being victored out by the same base, Tally-hoed a Zeke at 500 ft., they being at angels 3. They all dove down, and although Lt. Bolduc undoubtedly hit the Zeke, in general, they overshot and the last man, Ens. Funston, made the kill.

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**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

*No Comments.*

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

R. W. NORMAN, Lieut., USNR

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

A. C. I. Officer.

E. J. DANNA, Lt. Comdr., USNR

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

Commanding Officer.

11 May 1945

DATE