

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-33 (b) Based on or at USS SANGAMON (c) Report No. 48  
 (d) Take off: Date 22 April 1945 Time (LZT) 1725(I) (Zone); Lat. 24° 00' N Long. 126° 37' E  
 (e) Mission Dusk Intruder on Airfields at MIYAKO & ISHIGAKI Time of Return 2@ 2005(I)  
2@ 2045(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)		
F6F-5N	VF-33	4	4	4	1 500 G. P. 4 A. R. 5' head	AN M101 A2 .01 sec MK 157 .02 sec

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F-5E	VF-33	8	USS SANGAMON				
TBM-3E	VT-33	4	USS SANGAMON				

## 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
Oscar	4	4	1820 (I)	10 miles, 252° from MIYAKO	One gun firing from each wing, outboard 1 pilot reported bulges under wing 1/3 distance out- board, like stream- line bomb rack on package guns.	Mottled slate green with red meatball on wings.

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) CAP  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? yes If so, Describe Clouds 3000 scattered 6/10  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Late afternoon, sun bright (k) Visibility unlimited  
(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		
* Oscar	F6F-5N	VF-33	Lt(jg) John W. RANKIN	6 .50 cal cockpit, 7 oclock above destroy	
Oscar	F6F-5N	VF-33	Ens. John DELANEY	6 .50 cal From engine through empennage, 9 0'clock destroyed.	
* Assisted by:	F6F-5N	VF-33	Ensign Robert GORDON	6 .50 cal wing root, 6 oclock	



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Airfields MIYAKO & ISHIGAKI (b) Time Over Target(s) 1845(I) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 3000 Cumulus 5/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 8  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type 1 dive, 3 glide Bomb Sight Used LKVIII, Night reticle  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) S/R Rockets 1500 yds

Bombs Dropped per Run 0 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 3000  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
1 Airfield on ISHIGAKI JIMA	-	4 VF VF-33	1 500 G.P. 14 A.R.		Unobserved
2 NOBARA Airfield	300' x 550'	2 VF VF-33	2 A.R.		Unobserved
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. One bomb and 6 rockets were released in general area of fields as heckler missions. The remaining 8 rockets were fired at NOBARA field and departure made by two planes as Ensign GORDON's generator was out and he wanted to get back to base before lights were imperative. He had jettisoned his bomb in combat. Ensign McILVAINE accompanied him back to base and jettisoned his bomb enroute. Ensign DELANEY had jettisoned his bomb in combat.

2. Each remaining two planes saved one rocket for NOBARA Field, MIYAKO JIMA, which were launched enroute to base.

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



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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

The generator in one plane went out after the combat  
melee. The AN/APS 6 radar unit and all of the leads also  
burned out.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

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22 April 1945  
DATE