AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

83 8 33 4	LIED AIRCRAFTER USS SAN USS SAN USS SAN USS SAN TIME ENCOUNTER 1820 (Z0	IGAMON IGAMON ENGAGED (LOCA END	By Own A	G. P. R. 5' SOPERA Aircraft I	ATION. SQUADRON Listed in II BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O	Only). DOES CARRIED BSERVED firing outbo	from	BASE CAMOU MAD BY BEEN	2 .01 sec .02 sec
I. S. OR ALI RON NUMBE 33 8 33 4 VED NO ENGA OWN A	USS SAN USS SAN USS SAN OBSERVED OR AGING A/C ENCOUNTER (Z0	IGAMON IGAMON ENGAGED (ENC. A 10 mi (NI) from	By Own A	Aircraft L	ATION. SQUADRON Listed in II BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O Le gun : h wing	Only). Does carried BSERVED firing outbo	from	BASE CAMOU MAD BY BEEN	old sec If LAGE AND ARKING led slate with red
IRCRAFT CON NO. ENGA OWN A	USS SAN USS SAN USS SAN OBSERVED OR AGING A/C ENCOUNTER (Z0	IGAMON IGAMON ENGAGED (ENC. A 10 mi (NI) from	By Own A (e) ATION OF COUNTER	Aircraft I	SQUADRON Listed in II BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O Le gun h wing	Only). DOES CARRIED BSERVED firing outbo	from	CAMOU MA n Mott: green	(g) IFLAGE AND ARKING led slate with red
IRCRAFT CONSTRUCTION OWN	DBSERVED OR AGING TIME ENCOUNTER (Z0) (Z0)	ENGAGED (RED LOCA ENC IO mi (NI) from	(e) ATION OF COUNTER	252°on eac	BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O le gun : h wing	DOES CARRIED BSERVED firing outbo	from	n Mottl green	led slate with red
VED NO. ENGA	DBSERVED OR AGING A/C ENCOUNTER (Z0) (Z0)	ENGAGED (RED LOCA ENC IO mi (NI) from	(e) ATION OF COUNTER	252°on eac	BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O le gun : h wing	DOES CARRIED BSERVED firing outbo	from	n Mottl green	led slate with red
VED NO. ENGA	AGING TIME ENCOUNTER 1820 (Z)	LOCA ENC 10 mi (NI) from	(e) ATION OF COUNTER	252°on eac	BOMBS, TORPE GUNS O le gun : h wing	DOES CARRIED BSERVED firing outbo	from	n Mottl green	led slate with red
ny iviission (s	CAP	ONE)		bos lin	distant ard, li	der wir nce out ke stre	eam-		all on wi
d Brilliance n	Ouds? Yes or No Late aft (NIGHT, BRID	GHT MOON; DAY	sun t	right	OOO SCA	FEET. TYPE	bility	unli	
ESTROYED OR D	DAMAGED BY:			•			(c)	ICLE	(d) DAMAGE
-5N VF-3	33 Lt(jg)J	John W.	RANKI	V 6 .5	ocal co	ckpit, om engi	7 oc	clock through	above des
	ESTROYED OR A/C SQUADE 5N VF- 5N VF-	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: A/C SQUADRON PIL 5N VF-33 Lt(jg) 5N VF-33 Ens. Jo	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER 5N VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. 5N VF-33 Ens. John DELA	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER 5N VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 5N VF-33 Ens. John DELANEY OV:	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS 5N VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 6.5 5N VF-33 Ens. John DELANEY 6.50	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Lisestroyed or damaged by: A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED 5N VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 6.50cal composition of the second	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II OF ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE 5N VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 6.50cal cockpit, 5N VF-33 Ens. John DELANEY 6.50 cal From enginements of the superinage of th	IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: (c) WHERE HIT, AN SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, AN SN VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 6.50cal cockpit, 7 on SN VF-33 Ens. John DELANEY 6.50 cal From engine empennage, 9	(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON: DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) IRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). ESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: (c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, ANGLE SN VF-33 Lt(jg)John W. RANKIN 6.50cal cockpit, 7 oclock SN VF-33 Ens. John DELANEY 6.50 cal From engine through empennage, 9 0° clo

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in private description of the private description of

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a)

(b)

(c)

NAME, RANK OR RATING

(c)

NAME, RANK OR RATING

(d)

CAUSE

(d)

CAUSE

(e)

CONDITION OR STATUS

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
	None			
7				
				`

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED			NO. OF PLANES	
TYPE A/C	MILES		AV. HOURS		AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETURNING	
F6F-5N	176	182	3	400	338	-	1745rd	S -	-	4	

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

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

Oscar could make sharper turns and tighter loops coming out of dive than could F6F-5N. F6F-5N carried 4 A.R. with 5 inch heads all during combat and two of the four planes in the division encluding Lt(jg) RAMKIN who splashed one, did not jettison 500 lb bomb. All planes retained belly tanks. One pilot reported that in level flight could not close on the Oscar. In the dive the F6F was faster but pilot stated he would rot robl over onto the Jap plane but after leveling off following a dive it was easy to close.

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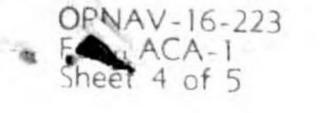
(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)



CONFIDENTIAL ROLLS

	XI. ATTACK ON EN	LEMY SHIPS OR	GROUND OBJECT	VES (By Own Air	craft Listed	in II Only)		
(a)	Target(s) and Location	n(s) Airfie	Lds LTYAKO &	ISHIGAKI (I	b) Time Ove	r Target(s)	1845(I)	(Zone)
(c)	Clouds Over Target_3	3000 Cumuli	us 5/10 (BASE IN FEET.	TYPE AND TENTHS OF	COVER)			
(d)	Visibility of Target_C	ilear (CLEAR, HAZ	Y. PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS, ETC.)	(e) V	'isibility	8 (MILES)	
(f)	Bombing Tactics: Type	l dive,	(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)	Bo	mb Sight Us	ed KVII ockets	1, Night	reticle
	Bombs Dropped per Ru	n O (NUMBER	Spacing	(FEET)	Altitude d	of Bomb Rel	ease 30)00 EET)
(g	Number of Enemy Air	craft Hit on Gro	und: Destroyed	O Probably	Destroyed_	0	_ Damaged	0
	(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AM/ EXPENDED, EACH AL	MUNITION MING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	DAMAGE (No serious, destroy	ne slight, ed or sunk)
1	Airfield on TSHTGAKI JIMA		4 VF VF-33	1 500 G.P. 14 A.R.			Unobser	red
2	NOBARA Airfiel	d 300' x55	2 VF 00 VF-33	2 A.R.			Unobser	ved
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 IYAMA field and departure made by two planes as Ensign GoRDON's generation 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 DELEMEY had jettisoned his bomb in combat.
 - 2. Each remaining two planes saved one rocket for NOBALA Field, LIYAKO JIMA, which were launched enroute to base.



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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 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

This 4 plane flight of Hellcat Night Fighters led by Lt(jg) John W. RANKIN of Charlottesville, VA. They were to relieve a division of dayfighters over ISHIGAKI JIMA as TCAP and hecklers. At MIYAKO JIMA, half way to target, they joined the other division which had been engaged with Bogies there.

Ten miles S. E. of MIYAKO, Ens. John DELANEY, VFN pilot tallyhoed 4 bogies at 3 o'clock, above and on opposite course. The two divisions turned toward bogies and trailed them to where they started second 90° turn for reverse course. RANKIN and GORDON attacked first. Two planes tried to turn into them but they made a high beam run s on the third plane. RANKIN opened fire at 600 feet. The Oscar then tried to turn into him but when he turned into the Jap he rolled on into 90° dive. RANKIN and GORDON followed him down. RANKIN got too fast so rolled out but GORDON followed on. Then GORDON was beginning to overrun and by that time RANKIN was able to get back on the Oscar. At that time the Oscar was beginning tosmeke, presumably from hits in the wing root by GORDON. RANKIN then got in more bursts and the Oscar hit the water. RANKIN believes he shot the pilot.

Ensign DELANEY and Ensign McELVAINE composed the second section of the night fighter division. McELVAINE got in one burst at 12 o'clock level with negative results. He had been unable to jettison his bomb. DELANEY saw an oscar diving from above but realized he would be unable to follow through for a no deflection shot so he opened fire with plenty of lead for a full deflection shot and thereby sprayed the Oscar from nose to tail as he flew through the line of fire.

The Jap pilot was not smart. He had a more maneuverable plane, at one time had advantage of the low sun and also altitude advantage but took advantage of none of these.

Lt(jg) RANKIN expressly commended his wingman on his flying performance. He was there in position all of the time and kept the plane under fire when his leader was caught out of firing position. On pull out of final dive in which the plane was splashed GORDON was right in position on RANKIN's wing.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

The generator in one plane went out after the combat

melee. The AN/APS 6 radar unit and all of the leads also



XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.

Use additional sheets if necessary).

burned out.

ARMAMENT

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio, Radar Homing Devices Visual Signals Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Oden F. GOSHORN, Lt(jg) USNR

Paul C. ROONEY, Lt-Cdr. USN SICOMManding Officer, VANK 33 DUTY

22 April 1945