

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VBF-12 (b) Based on or at USS RANDOLPH (CV-15) (c) Report No. 4
 (d) Take off: Date 2-16-45 Time (LZT) 1045(K) (Zone); Lat. 33-25N Long. 142-35E
 (e) Mission Fighter Sweep over assigned Tokyo Area (f) Time of Return 1350(K) (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-5	VBF-12	15	15	15	6 Rockets - HVAR	AN/M-149-Nose Instant AN/M-159-Base-.02 Delay 015

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
Rufe	4	4	1200(K) (ZONE)	Kashima S.S.		USUAL
Oscar	2	2	1200(K)	and Konoike		
Tony	5	1	1200(K) (ZONE)	A/P (Nos. 24-25) (Resp) Kitaura		
Zeke	2	1	1200(K) (ZONE)	85 (84)		

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Interception
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds Action Below 12,000' Base
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day - Slightly overcast. (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	GUNS USED		
Oscar	F6F-5	VBF-12	Lt. A.B. Smith, USN	6 x .50	Engine 12 Level	Destroyed
Rufe	F6F-5	VBF-12	Sense	6 x .50	Wing Root 6 Above	Destroyed
Rufe	F6F-5	VBF-12	Lt. R.M. Witner, USN	4 x .50	Cockpit 8 Above	Destroyed
Rufe	F6F-5	VBF-12	Lt. Cdr., E.J. Palma, USNR	6 x .50	Cockpit 5 Above	Destroyed
Rufe	F6F-5	VBF-12	Lt. R.W. Drowlow, USNR	6 x .50	Wing Root 6 Level	Destroyed
Rufe	F6F-5	VBF-12	Lt(jg) D.A. Carmichael, Jr., USNR	6 x .50	Fuselage 7 Level	Destroyed

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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) Hangars-Kashima-Kitama A/P (b) Time Over Target(s) 1230(X) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 9-12000' - 4/10's (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Overcast (e) Visibility 20 Miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide - 50° Bomb Sight Used M23
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Rockets Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 4 Probably Destroyed 1 Damaged 3

(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 Kitama A/P Hangars	Large	4	12	10	3 Left Burning
2 Kashima A/P Hangars		VBF-12			
3	Large	4	10	6	2 Left Burning
4		VBF-12			
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).

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

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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
- " " , 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

This 15 plane sweep from the U.S.S. RANDOLPH (CV-15) acted as cover for a similar sweep from U.S.S. YORKTOWN while the latter attacked Konoike A/F (No. 25), after which the U.S.S. RANDOLPH sweep proceeded to Kashima SS (No. 24), Kitaura SS (No. 84), and thence to Hokoda A.F (No. 26). By this time of day (1730K) air opposition was not strong and most of the enemy planes parked by fields had been burned or damaged by previous strafing and rocket attacks. Rocket attacks on hangars and air facilities in general at the above mentioned fields were considered most successful, unfortunately photo coverage is not available.



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

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No Comment

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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T.W. MORSMAN, Lt(jg), USNR, A.G.I. Officer

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

E.J. Panka

E.J. PANKA, Lt. Cdr., USNR

SIGNATURE

Commanding Officer.

RANK AND DUTY

2-26-45

DATE