

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## CONFIDENTIAL

### I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VC-97 (b) Based on M.I.A. MALASSAR STRAIT (072-91) (c) Report No. 52  
 (d) Take off: Date 6 May 1945 Time (LZT) 0730 (1) (Zone); Lat. 25-15N Long. 127-20E  
 (e) Mission Target Combat Air Patrol (f) Time of Return 1115 (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>VC-2</u>	<u>VC-97</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>1600 rds 50 cal ammo.</u>	

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

None

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>JUBY</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0906 (1)</u> (ZONE)	<u>25-15N</u> <u>127-40E</u>	<u>None observed. No tail guns operated.</u>	<u>Brown with big red noseballs</u>
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Suicide mission against allied shipping  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds Cumulus - 5/10 coverage at 3500 feet  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon 0906 Overcast and Hazy (k) Visibility 5  
(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		
<u>JUBY</u>	<u>VC-2</u>	<u>VC-97</u>	<u>Ass. E.J. McCONNICK USNR,</u>	<u>4-50 cal. Head on and Astern</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>



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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) None (b) Time Over Target(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zone) \_\_\_\_\_  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target \_\_\_\_\_  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

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

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

Bombs Dropped per Run \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

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

(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					
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).

(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

**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

**Ans. Jack Frawel, USNR and Ans. E. McCormick, USNR** were orbiting when they got a vector 150° - gate. **Ans. McCormick** had a little trouble getting full power and speed and fell back about 2000 ft. They were told that the bogie was at angels 5 - the fighter director was not positive. As they proceeded on vector, they were given three new vectors, 140° 120° and 090°. This brought the section abreast of each other about 2000 ft. apart, closing. The fighter director told them that the bogie was at one o'clock down about four miles at approximately 4000 ft. After giving a tally-ho report and telling **Ans. Frawel** he had the bogie sighted, **Ans. McCormick** started to dive on him. The plane was definitely identified by **Ans. McCormick** as a **Judy**. He started his dive from approximately 6500 ft. - estimating the bogie to be at 3500 ft. The **Judy** was making some steep turns back and forth, five miles from the ships as though not quite decided upon what to do. As **Ans. McCormick** was in his dive the **Judy** headed straight for him climbing, trying to make a head-on run. **Ans. McCormick** got in about an eight second burst into his head-on. Then **Ans. McCormick** started a hard 150° turn to get on the **Judy** again. In this turn **Ans. McCormick** blacked out completely, but as things started to clear, he was in a position about 2500 ft. astern of him. It seemed that in his climb to meet **Ans. McCormick** the **Judy** lost a lot of speed because **Ans. McCormick** had no trouble in catching him. At this time the planes were at angels two, about four miles from a group of ships and heading toward them. In that four miles **Ans. McCormick** fired approximately 700 rounds point blank into him. As the planes approached the ships **Ans. McCormick** noticed no AA fire coming up from them and took for granted that they were letting him take care of the bogie. At about 1500 yards out, the **Judy's** prop began to windmill. At about 1000 yards - his engine began to smoke. At no time did **Ans. McCormick** observe any flame or an explosion. Apparently the **Judy** must be well armour plated from the rear. When his prop began to windmill **Ans. McCormick** started to close rapidly, and was approximately 500 ft. behind when the **Judy** struck a dry dock. He seemed to hit a railing and splash immediately into the water on the far side. No explosion or flames were seen. **Ans. McCormick** examined the spot on the water where the **Judy** hit and found no floating debris. On the pull out away from the dry dock one of the four **BF's** escorting her, fired at **Ans. McCormick**. He observed several (possibly three inch) flak bursts to his port, starboard and ahead. With excess speed and hard maneuvering he somehow managed to get away.

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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  
Diye 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:

**W. H. BRADEN Jr. Lieut., USNR, AGI Off.**

**M. T. WHITTIER, Lt. Comdr. USNR,  
Commanding Officer.**

**6 May 1945.**

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

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DATE