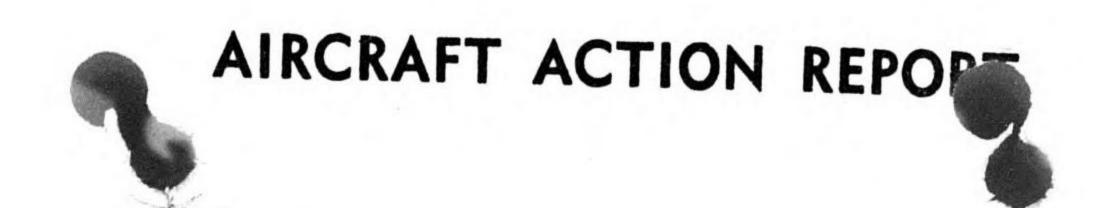
OPNAV-16-V-#S37
Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

1. GENERAL



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CONFIDENTIAL

Report No. 70-45

Y. EWELL AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAHAGED IN ARE (Continued).

Zelke	FAU-1D	WEF 112	Capt. Donald	A C. Owen	6-50a	Fuselage,	Acad	ment areas		DESTROYED
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Kate	10	WF 123	letit. H. D.	. Shields	13	13	12	- 10		Table Charles
Zelke	19	10			10	***	83	23		THEODOCYCE
Oscar	13	11		•	**		23	**		

(TOTALS: DESTROYED 20 - Demaged 6).

^{*} For accring purposes thes planes are tabulated as one-halves on VAF 112's scorebourd.

OPNAV-16-V-#537 Form ACA-1 Sheet 2 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPOR

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

TYPE OWN A/C SQUADRON TYPE GUN, OR OPERATION		MY A/C, IONAL CAUSE	WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)			(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)				
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OPNAV-10-V-#-5 Form ACA-i Sheet 4 of 5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No

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 Effe tiveness

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 Fuzina Strafing Tactics Defensive Tactics Use of Radar Reconnaissance Photography Briefina

OPERATIONAL

Navigation Homing Rendezvous Recognition, Ships Communications Flight Operations Search and Tracking Base Operations Maintenance

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.)

Here's a well tested recipe for the " Jap Demolisher " cocktail. Leunch and rendevzous at least a dozen Marine piloted Corsairs. Send them out in the vicinity of hostile sirfields. Add a tiny portion of the UEA. Keep that little chunk of American well staked out in the sky, no matter where you may be. Take a goodly number of Maps - Kamikaze or whatever flavor you desire - and put the Marine Wolfreck (VMF 112) meet grinder into action. Sprinkle with a bit of good common sense.

The result will be most pleasing. You can take the Wolfpack's word for that. The last time these flying Leathernecks tried the recipe the result was emost tasty and satisfying cocktail flavored with no less than 20 yellow Nipe. And the cocktail made the Skyrines considerably happy.

This all began as a birthday amiversary perty on 12 April for Major Herren Hansen, boss of the Wolfpack. Like Stateside natal parties there were cocktails - " Jap Demolisher " cocktails - served in fitting fashion in the blue sky room of Amend O Shima. Before the party ended the Major had consumed three of the Nip-flavored delicacies himself and his flight had 17 more. Everyone had a hell of a good time - the only disappointment being that there weren't 25 cocktails - because, you see, it was the Major's 25th anniversory.

Here's what the ACA News had to say about the party:

Major Hensen and a flight of 12 FAU-1Ds were launched at 1155 as an Interceptor Combat Air Patrol with its station near Amemi O Shima. Enroute to the area the divisions were stacked at three levels - 7000, 9000 and 10000 feet. Off the north tip of Amend the Corseins spotted 15 to 20 Nips - headed toward Ameni. The enemy was flying at about 10000 feet.

As soon as the Nips were observed the Corssirs climbed at military power toward them. The Japs kept coming but slid to the dide. Hensen's division climbed above them and turned and in on their tails.

In less than two minutes lajor Hammen destroyed a Zeke and blew up a Kate. Destruction of the Kate made him an ace - first member of the New Wolfpeck to win the honor. A couple of hours later he chesed a Tojo right into the sea. Hansen's wingman, 2dLt. George J. Murray, confirmed all three kills.

Meanwhile Murray was busy, too. At 8000 feet he climbed onto the tail of a Zeke. The Zeke made all kinds of manouvers to get away. Hurray kept with him down to 3000 feet - firing bursts all the way. The Jap's final effort was a split S. Hurray flamed him. Climbing to attack again, Hurray spotted three Kates flying along at 3000 feet. Hensen was already disposing of the first, so Murray took the second and did likewise. Before the action was over Murray damaged two more Nips. (Hansen confirmed the kill).

2dits. Jim Hamilton and R. W. Rooms followed Hensen's section. Jim burned a Zeke at the very start. A dogfight developed with one Jack battling the two Corsairs. And he held his own for a few moments. He made four or five turns, then started down with the Corsairs chasing. During the dive another Jack "horned in" and made passes at Hamilton but Koons kept him away by turning into him. Hamilton overren the first Jack at about 500 feet off the water and Koons followed up with the killing blow. Like stateside basketball, a well executed follow up was phying dividends. A burst hit the Jack and he fell into the sea. The other Jack made another pass - a fatal pass. Hemilton fell in on his tail. He smacked his with a good burst. The engine smoked. Then Koons and Hamilton bracketed him and send him plunging in flames into the see.

As the fight progressed Hamilton kept getting good shots at other planes He kept timescore on his plotting board while Hoons kept others off his tail. Hamilton tallied hits on three Zekes but couldn't flame them.

Hamilton confirmed Koon's kill, and Koons confirmed Hamilton's kills. The second plane was divided between them).

NND 760124 Jim KNew 3/26/86 DECLASSIFIED BY

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THE PERSON ST

Report No. 70-45

At the same time Captain Don Owen's division was getting their shere of the " Jap Demolisher " cocktail. Owen turned on the first Zeke he met and chased him right into the sea. The Japs were being most obliging. A bit later he and an F6F from an unidentified carrier closed on a Weke and shot him down. (John Callahan confirmed the kill).

2dLt. Wendell Browning thought the planes were friendly - until he saw the big red meat balls. He rolled over, opened up on a 'ack - and shot him into the sea. " I just couldn't miss " he daid. Later he joined with an F6F from another carrier group. They opened fire on a Zeke and soon afterward the Nip pilot parachuted. (Owen confirmed the kills).

lstLt. Randolph " Biscuit " Smith climbed on a Zeke. It took only a few good shots before devris began to fall from the plane. There was an explosion and another Zeke was

done for. (Hanson confirmed the kill).

lstit. Herb Lundin, who had shot down his first Jap a few days before, got another rather easily. Items a Zeke - and after a few bests it began to fall apart. Pieces of the Nip plane struck Lundin's windshield and the Jap went down and into the sea. (Shields confirmed the kill).

Big John Callahan had the most fun. As the dogfight began he may two Oscars. One of them dove on Amen's Corsair. John out inside of him and came down on his tail. He fired three bursts - and the Jap crashed. Finishing his attack, he saw a Tojo split S away from another Corsair. John climbed on his tail and followed him down - firing all the way.

The Nip was added to Devy Jones' collection.

As he neared Kikai island's airfield Wohn saw four Hellcats destroying a couple of Nips. Then he saw another Jap making a slow over water approach to the field. He was apparently coming in for a landing. After the first burst, the Jap pulled up and turned into Callahan. He swung around and moved to the enemy's side and tail. One more burst finished him off. (Gun camera shots confirmed the first ki two kills; Owns and Browning confirmed the third).

Callahan figured it required less than five minutes to destroy the three Mips. During the Sky battle a pilot was reported down in the water about a mile and a half from Kikai airfield. Owen immediately assumed charge of the rescue. Despite anti-aircraft fire from shore batteries and the danger of enemy interception Owen remained on the post -Callahan and Browning assisting - until the rescue was effected. When Owen arrived the downed pilot was without a lifeboat and Owen made a low level approach and dropping it with a high degree of accuracy. The pilot, later rescued by an OS2U, was Mills of VF-82.

John Callahan had another unusual experience. As he was circling the downed aviator - who was close to where on of the Jap pilots had been seen to parachute - he noticed a big splash in the water. A black object made its appearance above the water. John turned his Corsair nose toward it and strafed hell out of it. It disappeared and a small oil slick

was visible on the water.

A minute or two later the object had popped up again. John strafed at and down it went again. It was Callahan's belief that it might well have been a midget sub attempting to pick up the Jap pilot - but this was only a guess. " It was darned unusual, " John said.

On the way back to base the flight ren into a bunch of Kamikazes preparing to launch an attack on our surface units.

lstLt. Bert Henson was first to sight them.

He reported his observation to the FDO on the Bennington, slowly and nethodically counted at least 10 of the enemy and then climbed to attack them. He destroyed two in jig time. (Smith confirmed both kills).

Probably the most unusual experience was that recorded by lstLt. H. D. Shields. Shields, who because of his small stature is nicknamed "Hitler," was not scheduled to takeoff with Hansen's flight. He is a member of VMF 123 and went up on the flight deck with the flight merely to taxi one of the corsairs after the others had taken off. But as happens sometime, Shields was waved into the launching spot and became the 12th member of Hamsen's flight. Turing the fight near the fleet he destroyed two Nips - thus as he said " I taxied forward and got two Japs."

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Form ACA-1
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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

MARIATIVE (CONT.)

REPORT No.

ARMAMENT

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

Use additional sheets if necessary).

Guns Gu

Guns, Gunsights
Turrets
Ammunition
Bombs, Torpedoes
Bomb Sights
Bornb 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:

Shield's kills were a Kate and a Zeke. Both flamed. he Kate and its bomb blew up when it hit the water. In addition, he damaged an Opear. (Lundin confirmed both kills).

Never has Ready Room Three seen a more excited flight - than Major Hansen's group was this afternoon. "very one had a story to tell - everyone had an exciting moment to relate. But as usual, the ACI officer was the most excited. Twenty kills and six damaged was a fine score to write about. All remembered some odd happening.

Bert Hanson, as he was closing in to destroy his second Aspenese plane, said to himself " Gee I wish the ACI officer could see me now. Boy, would be be jumping."

Major Mansen recalled that one of the planes he shot at fell into a

little town on Amemi's coast - and started a huge fire.

Jim Hamilton said the Jacks he observed had four 20mm cannons, two under each wing. There were no small calibre guns. "It was hard to burn. There wasm plenty of armor plate - and self sealing tanks, too."

Others said at least half of the enemy planes were a silver color - not the metallic silver but a silver grey paint job. The other half were the

usual brown.

The Jack was found to be exceptionally maneuverable - and the Corsair couldn't stay with it.

The Kates made no violent turns. The Corsairs shadowed every movest without effort.

A couple of the Jacks, Major Hansen reported, were all red color. In fact it was the glob of red against the blue ocean that first attracted Hansen's attention.

Other planes had red stripes in addition to the customary red meat balls.

The Japs had no organized tactics.

The Jack at sea level is as fast as the Corsair. However, the Jack had no bedly tank - and it was believed to be using water injection. The belief concerning water injection was based on the fact that black exhaust puffs were observed - as is seen on the water injecting Corsair.

The task organizations included:

Major Merman Hansen 2dlt. George J. Murray 2dlt. J. M. Hamilton 2dlt. R. W. Koons Capt. Donald C. Owen latLt John Callahan 2dLt. Wendell Browning latLt. H. D. Shields

lstLt. Rendolph Smith lstLt. Bert Hanson lstLt. Herbert Lundin 2dLt. Howard Sankey

AIIII --- No comments.

Joseph Davis Scott, Lt. USNR ACIO VMF (CV) 112 - 123

Lt. USNR Maj. Herman Hansen Jr. Maj. T. E. Mobley Jr.

123
USNC - WAF (CV) 112

APPROVED BY Commanding Officer. Commanding Officer.

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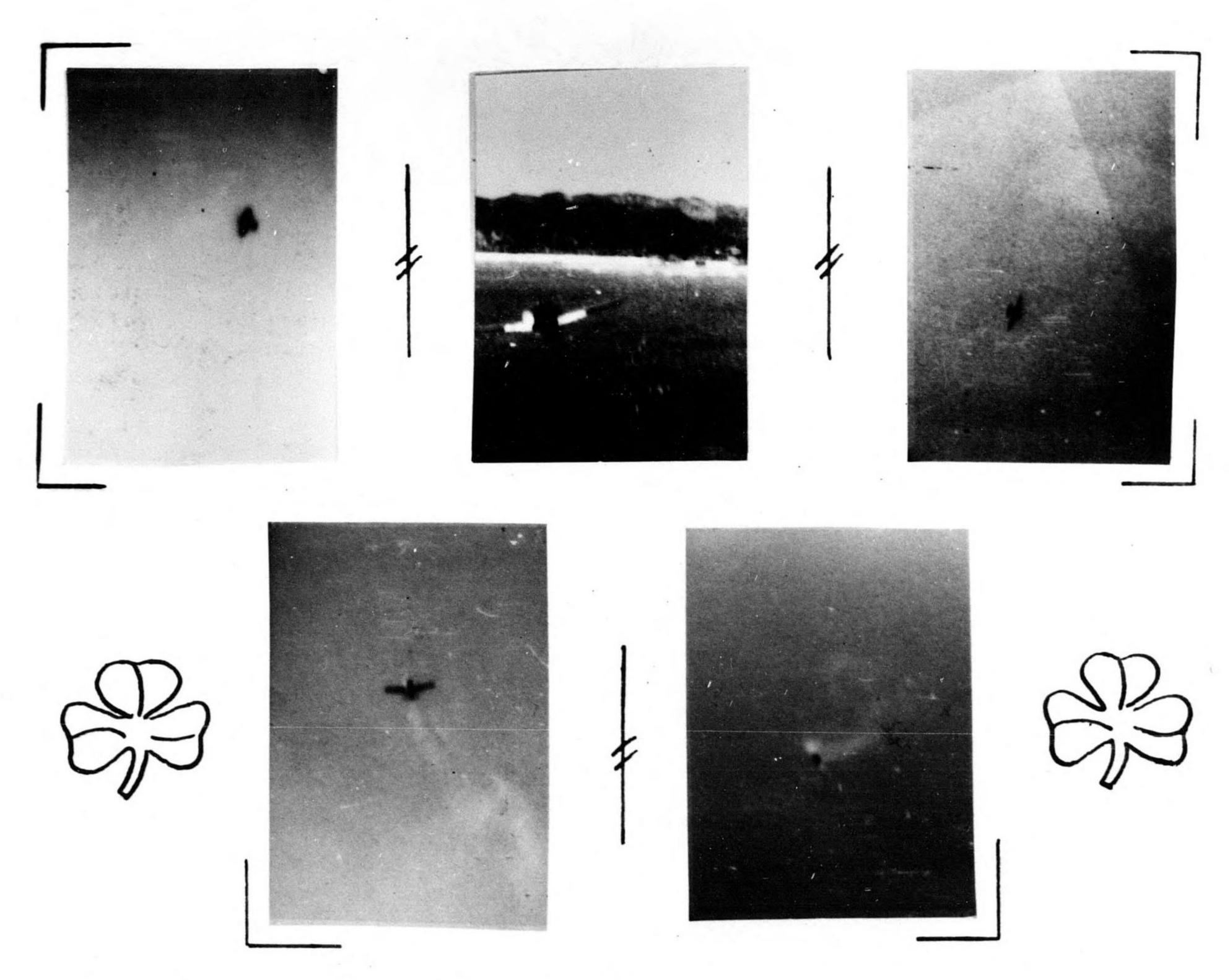
RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

When Irish Eyes Are Keen



1st Lt. John Callahan bagged three of these Japs in five minutes!

MARINE FIGHTING SQUADRON-112