

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VP-12 (b) Based on or at USS Randolph (CV-15) (c) Report No. VP-12-42  
 (d) Take off: Date 3 May 1945 Time (LZT) 0500 (I) (Zone); Lat. 26-25N Long. 129-20E  
 (e) Mission CAP, KIKAI SHIMA, NANSKI SHOTO (f) Time of Return 0710 (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)		
<b>F6F-5N</b>	<b>VP-12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>		

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>None</b>							

## 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
<b>TONY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0625 (I)</b> (ZONE)	<b>WAN A/P</b> <b>Kikai Shima</b>	<b>Not observed</b>	<b>Dark Brown</b> <b>Red Heat Balls</b>
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) At point of taking off  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? Yes If so, Describe Clouds 500 ft. base; stratus; 10/10  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Dim, Hazy Overcast (k) Visibility 3  
(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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
<b>TONY</b>	<b>F6F-5N</b>	<b>VP-12</b>	<b>R.F. MONAGHAN, Ens., USNR</b>	<b>6 x .50</b>	<b>C'pit, 6, above</b>	<b>Destroyed</b>

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## VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1 PGP-5H	VF-12	Unknown	Unknown	Lost. BuNo. 77558
2 PGP-5H	VF-12	Unknown	Unknown	Lost. BuNo. 72675
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

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

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
1	VF-12	WOOD, James Julian, Lt. USNR	Unknown	Missing in action
2	VF-12	WOODS, Lamar Oliver, Ens. USNR	Unknown	Missing in action
Lt. J.J. Wood was attached to VF(N)90 serving temporary duty with VF-12				

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

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL LOADED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
PGP-5H	143	110	4h 10m	400	270		700			1

## 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

URNS  
DIVES  
CEILINGS  
RANGE  
PROTECTION  
ARMAMENT

**No basis for comparison**



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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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**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 failure of **Ens. WOODS'** radar gear made it necessary that he take position close to **Lt. WOOD** whose gear was functioning properly. Under ordinary circumstances each plane would operate separately but with weather conditions as they were it was imperative that **WOODS** join **WOOD** in section formation. It is possible that the disappearance of both pilots was caused by this close section at low altitude. It would seem that the proper procedure under similar circumstances in the future, when the **APS-6A** gear fails, would be for that aircraft with faulty radar to return to base alone by navigation or radio aids. Unlike the daytime, when poor flying conditions and low visibility rarely prohibit the section formation, such a disposition at night under adverse weather is extremely hazardous.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE **H.W. HEWLETT, Lt.(jg), USNR, ACIO** RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE **F.H. MICHAELIS, Lt.Cdr., USN, CO** RANK AND DUTY

**10 May 1945**

DATE