AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

I. GENERAL

II. OV	VN AIRCRA	FT OFFICI	ALLY COVERE	ED BY THIS RE	PORT. CO	NHI	E NE, STILL	* * *
TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	TAKING OFF (c)		TACKING TARGET (e)	CARRIED (PER PI	PEDOES	(g)	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH
r6F-5	VF-12	20	20	20 6 E	IVAR, MK V	The state of the s	AN-M-139-Nos AN-M-159-Tai	102
								Dara'
						The state of the s	To Gyrone	The state of the s
ш с	THER II'S	OR ALLIED	AIRCRAFT F	MPI OYED IN T	HIS OPERATION	•		
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		ASE	TYPE SQUAE		BASE	
Llemen	s of TE	58				2 4 4	Ann chass	
ISS RAI	DOLPH E	weeps	ecompani	ed to cars	et by simi			
•	1	1 .		1	Aircraft Listed	in II Only).	(g)	
TYPE	NO. OBSERVED	NO. ENGAGING	TIME ENCOUNTERED	LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	BOMBS,	TORPEDOES CARRIED	ED; CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING	
Zeke	1	1	0855 K (ZONE)	Tsukuba A field, Ja	pan Not	Observed	None	
		-	0920 K	West of I	sioka			
Zeke	1	1	(ZONE)	airfield,	Japan	**	**	
Zeke	1	1	(ZONE)	airfield,	Japan	***		
Zoke	1		(ZONE)		Japan			
(h) Appar	ent Enemy N	Aission(s)	(ZONE) (ZONE)	tion				
(i) Encou	ny Part of nter(s) Occu	ur in Clouds	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (YES OR NO)	f so, Describe CI		ASE IN FEET, TYPE	AND TENTHS OF COVER)	
(i) Encou	ny Part of nter(s) Occu	ur in Clouds	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (YES OR NO)	f so, Describe CI		ASE IN FEET, TYPE		ed
(i) Encou Time ((j) of Sur	ny Part of nter(s) Occu of Day and Br or Moon —	ir in Clouds	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NIGHT, BRIGHT	f so, Describe Cl	ouds(B	ASE IN FEET, TYPE (k) Vis	bility Unlimit	ed
Did Ail (i) Encou Time ((j) of Sur (a)	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	ir in Clouds	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT ROYED OR DA	f so, Describe Cl	ouds	ASE IN FEET, TYPE (k) Vis	bility Unlimit	,
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clarita MOON: DAY, OVERCA AMAGED IN AII OR GUNNER	OUDS(B	ASE IN FEET, TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (Dnlimit (MILES)nly). (c) E HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER	Dnlimit (MILES Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE (Clock, level	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS(B	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER Tail,6	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
(i) Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER Tail,6	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER Tail,6	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER Tail,6	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Did Ai Encou Time ((j) of Sur V. E TYPE ENEMY A/C	ny Part of nter(s) Occup of Day and Brown or Moon — NEMY AIRC (b) DESTRI	r in Clouds illiance RAFT DEST OYED OR DAM SQUADRON	(ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (ZONE) (NO PROPOSITION NO) (YES OR NO) (YES OR NO) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT, BRIGHT (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT) (NIGHT)	f so, Describe Clara Moon; DAY, OVERCAMAGED IN All	OUDS	ASE IN FEET. TYPE (k) Vis ft Listed in II (WHER Tail,6	Only). (c) E HIT, ANGLE Colock, level Colock	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

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

CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE (a) (b) (d) (e)
EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE,
(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit) TYPE OWN A/C SQUADRON Loss, Water Ldg. Bu. #72411 Engine Starboard wing am-Minor, repaired on USS munition magazines. WASP, where pilot landed. 34 F6F-5 Prop., top of fuse- Minor, repaired on USS lage just aft c'pit.WASP, where pilot landed. 7 . 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) (b) (d) (e) NAME, RANK OR RATING NO SQUADRON CAUSE CONDITION OR STATUS VF-12 TOLIVER, J.E., Lt., USN Water landing 5 mi. off Missing shore from Hokoda A/F. Pilot seen to break out and climb aboard his rubber raft. Position reported & orbitted. Rescue not made.

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

(a) TYPE	(b) MILES	(c) MILES	AV. HOURS	(e) AV. FUEL	AV FIJEI	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h)
A/C	MILES	RETURN	IN AIR	LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM ·	NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
F6F-5	140	130	4	400gal.	370gal.		19,400			19
7.0										-

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				
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

ZEKE dived when he spotted F6F approaching. HELLCAT followed and caught him.

A second MEKE dived low, apparently typing to force attacking F6F to follow him into the ground. HELICAT pulled up within
200 feet of the deck. ZEKE was destroyed by accompanying
F6F on his pull-out.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. VF-12-5

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Hangars - Locomotive (b) Time Over Target(s) 0915 K (c) Clouds Over Target No (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 15 (MILES) Rocket Glide (f) Bombing Tactics: Type. Gun sight Bomb Sight Used 23 (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Rockets Bombs Dropped per Run 4 60 Spacing. Altitude of Bomb Release Mant ran (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 7 Probably Destroyed 7 Damaged 10

	(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(i) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	NO. HITS On	DAMAGE (None, slight,
1	Hangar		WF-12	16 HVAR	Aiming Point	serious, destroyed or sunk
2	Hangar		VF-12	12 HVAR	12	Slight
3	Aircraft		W-12	6 HVAR	4	Destroyed
4	Hangar		WF-12	34 HVAR	32	Serious
5	Hangar		8 VF-12	30 HVAR	30	Serious
6	Locomotive		VF-12	2 HVAR	2	Slight
7	SB Vessel	1500T	VP-12	Unexpended .500al.		None
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. Hangar at MAWATARI airfield left in flames.
- 2. Hangar at MAWATARI left smoking. Gaping holes, but not fire observed.
- 3. 2 twin engine aircraft at ISHIOKA airfield attacked; one was seen to explode, the other to burn.
- 4. Hangar at HYAKURIGAHARA airfield left burning after rocket and strafing attack.
- 5. Hangar at HWAKURIGAHARA airfield seemed to explode, then burn.
- 6. Locomotive strafed and hit by 2 rockets, between HYAKURIGAHARA and ISHIOKA airfields. Train stopped, no explosion or fire was visible. Target was partly obscured by trees, no accurate assessment of damage could be made.
- 7. SB vessel met about 15 miles off shore from HOKODA airfield while enroute to base. Nine HELLCATS expended unused ammunition. Vessel seemed to be down at the bow, and headed toward beach. No further damage was observed.
- * Negatives forwarded to INTERPRON 2 at Guam, upon request. Above hanger damage confirmed.
- (p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, WhenTaken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

-

REPORT No. VF-12-5

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

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

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 action was the first fighter sweep of 17 February over the target area. The only two airborne enemy aircraft observed were shot down. Many planes parked on airfields the previous day had since been hidden ar removed. Example: HITACHI airfield, which had been strewn with planes on the 16th was found to be empty. More camouflaged revetments

A/A was still meagre or nonexistent except at HYAKURIGAHARA airfield, where the Japanese seem to have laid a trap: a twin-engine aircraft was placed in an obvious position just before a hanger on the West side of the field. When a division of F6F's attacked this target medium A/W opened up on them. Lt. TOLIVER's plane received a hit in the engine which forced him and his division to retire. About 5 miles off shore peast of HOKODA airfield he made a successful water landing. Though his situation was reported and covered, rescue agencies failed to appear and he is presumed to be missing, a loss keenly felt by the entire air group.

Two HELLCATS were jumped simultaneously from the stern by two ZEKES, with a no deflection angle. One was hit in the magazines in the starboard wing, another in the propeller and top of the fuselage just aft of the cockpit. Both were apparently 20mm hits as a large hole about 6" in diameter was reported knocked out of one propeller blade, and the area aft of the severely chewed up in one aircraft; in the other all three starboard guns were discharged and jammed. These planes landed aboard and were repaired on the USS WASP. Escape from the attacking ZEKES was facilitated by a welcome and handy cloud, into which both pilots immediately disappeared.

A B-17 (Blying Fortress) with silver finish and U.S. ARMY markings on the tail was observed on the ground at TSUKUBA airfield. This was reported by three pilots independently; each was sure of the plane's identity, and declared it was not a model of JAPAN's new, large 4 engine aircraft with tricycle landing gear.

CONFIDENTIAL

causes. VF-12 carries ARC-1 equipment.

The hardy construction of Ensign R. L. HATCHER's

target in a no deflection shot and badly hit, he was able

to return to a friendly base. Vibration due to his chopped

H. M. BARRETT, his colleague in the adventure, accompanied

as failing during the sweep, attributable to no external

him back to the USS WASP where necessary repairs were made.

Lt. Comdr. F. H. MICHAELIS reported his radio receiver

CONFIDENTIAL

HELLCAT saved him to fight another day. Caught as the

up "prop" was intense, and his radio was dead. Ensign

REPORT No. VF-12-5

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
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

Horace W. Hewlett, from ACI SIGNATURE APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE SIGNATURE

Commanding

5 Quar 45

ALLSET - MFD. BY THE EGRY REGISTER CO., PATENTED