OSCAR

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Rep	orting	W-12	(b)	Based on or	at USS	Randol	ph (CV-	15) (c) R	eport No.	12-26
(d) Take off	: Date1	e CAP & S	le goene	TORUMO SH	0616 IMA &	(I) KIKAI :	MILLIA.	at.23-401 (f) Time of Ret	The state of the s	
(e) Mission_	AMAMI G	UNID, HAI	INST PROT	0				(T) Time of Net	UIII ASSAULT LA	1201167
II. OW	N AIRCRA	FT OFFICE	ALLY COVE	RED BY TH	IIS REPO	ORT.				
TYPE	SQUADRON		NUMBER	ATTACKING			ND TORPEDOE		FUZE, SETTI	NG
		TAKING	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	TARGET (e)		CARRIED	(PER PLANE)		(g)	
(a)	(D)	(C)	(d)	173						
PSF-5	VF-12	8	8	•			•			
. III. OT	HER U. S.	OR ALLIED	AIRCRAFT	EMPLOYED	HT NI	IS OPERA	TION.			
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER		BASE		TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	
None										
	3-1-1-3									
							1			
IV EN	EMY AIRC	RAFT OBSI	ERVED OR E	NGAGED (By Own	Aircraft L	isted in II	Only).		
(a)	(b)	NO. ENGAGINO	18.		(e) TION OF			f)	CAMOUFL.	AGE AND
TYPE	OBSERVED	OWN A/C	ENCOUNTER	ED ENCO	DUNTER		GUNS	DOES CARRIED; DBSERVED	MARK	ING
FRANK	ò	Q	0830 (3	South	of.					
E BUSINA.	0	9	(Z01	VE) ALKEL	DNAMA					
OSCAR	6	6	0830 (20)	() Kikai	Shima					
	1	1	(ZO:	NE)						
(h) Apparei		A:==:== (=)	Attack ve	s either (DKINAW	A or Te	sk Fore	e 58 .		
(h) Apparei	nt Enemy N	Alssion (S)	and the change of the			,				/
(i) Encoun	rer(s) Occi	ur in Clouds	2 No	_If so, Desci	ribe Clou	ıds	/BASE I	N FEET, TYPE AND T	ENTHS OF COVER)
Time of	Day and Bi	rilliance	(YES OR NO)				(BASE I	N FEET, TITE AND		
(j) of Sun	or Moon _		(NIGHT, BRIC	SHT MOON; DAY	OVERCAS	T; ETC.)		(k) Visibility	(MILI	ES)
V FN	EMY AIRC	RAFT DEST					Aircraft Li	sted in II Only)	•	
(a)		OYED OR DAMA			4.			(c)		DAMAGE
TYPE ENEMY A/C	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON		OT OR GUNNER		GUNS I		WHERE HIT,		CLAIMED
PRANK	F6F-5	W-12	Lt.Cr.F.	H.MICHAEL	IS, USN			g., 3, leve		Destroye
FRANK	98	**		66	**	6x.	- 20	g., 12, a 1		50
GEORGE	99	29	12	99 mm (0.0 97)	- FE	2x.		s., 6, abov	-	99
PRANK	11	The state of the s		. VITA, U		6x.	A Train No.	pit, 6-8, leve		89
PRAHK	6.8	10	M. Lede	NOR THOUTT	* CHAMILE	6x.		s., wing, 6		40
TOJO	60	19	in., R.R	A PRIMA	USNR	Ax.		g., 12, lev		29
OSCAR	117	59	the state of the s	The state of the s		6x.	the same of the sa	B., Wg.roots		89
OSCAR	***	99	The state of the s	VITA, US		6x.	50 61	pit, 6, hi-	Spore	12
OSCAR	68	19	62	90 22		6x.		g.&C'pit,6,		
OSCAR	00	**		HOMPSON, J	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	6x.		s.root, 4, 1		20
OSCAR	17	**		D. GAWLIN,	The second secon	6x.		pit, 3-5, 1	THE THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY	50
OSCAR	29	• •	Tong E.R	AFFERTY.	USHR	4x.	50 Te	111, Fus., 6,	FOOLG	

6x.50

Bas. E.H. BALL, USHR

Fus., tail, 6, above

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

(c) (a) (b) CAUSE: TYPE EN TYPE OWN A/C SQUADRON TYPE GUN, OR OPERA		CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
F6F-5	VF-12	Oscar - 20mm	starboard wing	slight-rep'd without ch
2 F6F-5	VF-12	Frank	port wing tip	11 11
3				
	Special Control of the Control of th			
5 of Security Control				
		The state of the s		
•	194			
	F-10-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1			

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
No	ne			
12.				
6-34	ξ,			
	- 10 2 - 11	78 A		
3. 2. 3				

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

(a)		(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				NO OF PLANES
TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
P6P-5	120	120	4	400	320		16,000			8
		-								
	The state of the s		1 1 1 1 1 1 1							

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over 1000 1000 1100		8-	X	
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm Sea plane base)	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	*			

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes

TURNS DIVES CEILINGS. RANGE PROTECTION ARMAMENT

The F6F-5 outperformed the FRANK and OSCAR in every respect. This may be attributed in part to the fact that the enemy showed no inclination to maneuver or to take evasive action beyond a loose turn and shallow dive. The situation varied in one or two instances, but in general the accustomed tight turns and turning dives were not employed. No external bombs were observed so it may be assumed that they were not intent upon attacking our fleet. The conclusion is that the pilots were either novices or poorly trained.

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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

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

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Two fighter divisions were standing by in condition 10 when approaching bogeys necessitated their launch. time they were airborne the emergency had subsided sufficiently to negate their need in CAP; they were therefore vectored out to proceed to TOKUNO and KIKAI SHIMA as a fighter sweep. Two strafing runs were undertaken on the airfield at TOKUNO SHIMA, as a result of which one enemy single-engine aircraft was destroyed, and another damaged. The flight passed over the seaplane base on southern AMAMI O'SHIMA on its way to KIKAI SHIMA; moderate heavy AA was encountered at this point. Halfway between the latter two islands Ensign E.L. RAFFERTY tallyhood seven bogeys at 7000 feet (mattress), two o'clock, level, about three miles distant. Both groups approached each other to investigate. the identity of the enemy being questionable as they were flying in a modified U.S.N. formation of two groups - one of four planes, another 3000 feet astern of three. Lt. (18) R.D. GATLIN opened the attack picking out the last of the seven aircraft. He came in abeam and followed around to about 60°, getting in a long burst. The other HELLCATS jumped in immediat ely and a general melee ensued. Other Jap planes to the number of seven appeared on the scene from the clouds. At times during the dogfight the enemy appeared to fight in pairs as a team; for the most part, however, there was little organization. The engagement lasted approximately ten minutes at the end of which all bogeys had been splashed. The last was shot down as he attempted to make a run for KIKAI SHIMA, eight miles to the north. Eight HELLCATS had destroyed fourteen assorted FRANKS and OSCARS, of which Lt.Cdr., F.H. MICHAELIS, the squadron skipper, and Lt. H.E. VITA, each accounted for three apiece, Ensigns E.L. RAFFERTY and T.J. NORTHCUTT for two each, and Lt. L.I. THOURSON, Lt. (Jg) R.D. GATLIN, and Ensigns E.H. BALL and E.S. MASSET for one apiece. The only damaged sustained was a 20mm shell in Ensign BILL's starboard wing. The relight continued to KIKAI SHIMA, but observing no activity returned to base.

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All guns of one HELLCAT burned out early in the en-

gagement. It is believed that this situation developed

from any fault of the guns, which had been installed in

the plane shortly before its launch and were therefore used

from pilot error in firing too long bursts rather than

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

for the first time.

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:

APPROVED BY

NWWanter

RANK AND DUTY

RANK AND DUTY

DATE