

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VF-12 (b) Based on or at USS Randolph (CV-15) (c) Report No. VF-12-26
 (d) Take off: Date 17 April 1945 Time (LZT) 0616 (I) (Zone); Lat. 26-40N Long. 129-32E
Scramble CAP & Sweep of TOKUNO SHIMA & KIKAI SHIMA,
 (e) Mission AMAMI GUNTO, NANSEI SHOTO (f) Time of Return 1013 (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)		
F6F-5	VF-12	8	8	-		

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

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
FRANK	8	8	0830 (I) (ZONE)	South of Kikai Shima		
OSCAR	6	6	0830 (I) (ZONE)	South of Kikai Shima		
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Attack vs either OKINAWA or Task Force 58
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____ (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			
FRANK	F6F-5	VF-12	Lt. Cr. F. H. MICHAELIS, USN	6x.50	Eng., 3, level	Destroyed
FRANK	"	"	"	6x.50	Eng., 12, level	"
GEORGE	"	"	"	2x.50	Fus., 6, above	"
FRANK	"	"	Lt., H. E. VITA, USNR	6x.50	Fus., 6, level	"
FRANK	"	"	En., P. J. NORTHUTT, USNR	6x.50	C'pit, 6-8, level-above	"
TOJO	"	"	"	6x.50	Fus., wing, 6, level	"
FRANK	"	"	En., E. RAFFERTY, USNR	4x.50	Eng., 12, level	"
OSCAR	"	"	En., E. S. MASSEY, USNR	6x.50	Fus., wg. roots, 6, level	"
OSCAR	"	"	Lt. H. E. VITA, USNR	6x.50	C'pit, 6, hi-above	"
OSCAR	"	"	"	6x.50	Eng. & C'pit, 6, 90° dive	"
OSCAR	"	"	Lt. L. E. THOMPSON, Jr. USN	6x.50	Wg. root, 4, level	"
OSCAR	"	"	Lt(jg) R. D. GAGLIN, USNR	6x.50	C'pit, 3-5, level	"
OSCAR	"	"	En. E. RAFFERTY, USNR	4x.50	Tail, Fus., 6, above	"
OSCAR	"	"	En. E. H. BALL, USNR	6x.50	Fus., tail, 6, above	"

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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

All guns of one HELLCAT burned out early in the engagement. It is believed that this situation developed from pilot error in firing too long bursts rather than from any fault of the guns, which had been installed in the plane shortly before its launch and were therefore used for the first time.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

H.W. Hewlett

1 May 1945

SIGNATURE **H.W. HEWLETT, Lt.(Jg), USNR, ACIO**

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE **F.H. MICHAELIS, Lt.Cdr., USN, CO**

RANK AND DUTY

DATE