

# 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. 6  
 (d) Take off: Date 2-16-46 Time (LZT) 1445(K) (Zone); Lat. 33-25N Long. 142-35E  
 (e) Mission Strike-Kisumigaura(21)-Fighter Escort (f) Time of Return 1745(K) (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-5</b>	<b>VP-12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8 Rockets - HVAR</b>	<b>MK. 49</b> <b>AN/M-139-Nose-Instant</b> <b>AN/M-159-Base-.02 Delay</b> <b>MK. .015</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>SB2C-4B</b>	<b>VB-12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>USS RANDOLPH (CV-15)</b>	<b>F6F-5</b>	<b>VP-12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>USS RANDOLPH (CV-15)</b>
<b>VB and VF Elements from USS YORKTON also.</b>							
<b>F6F-5P</b>	<b>VF-12</b>	<b>4</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>Zekes</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1545-1630</b>	<b>Kisumigaura</b>		
<b>Tony</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1600 (ZONE)</b>			
<b>OSCARZ</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>(K)</b>			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) Interception  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon Day Overcast (k) Visibility UNLIMITED (MILES)  
 (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

## 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:			(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER		
<b>Tony</b>	<b>F6F-5</b>	<b>VP-12</b>	<b>Ens. P. (n) CHAPPELL, Jr.</b>	<b>6 x .50</b>	<b>Power Plant 3 Level</b>
			<b>USNR</b>		<b>Destroyed</b>

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
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## CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. **6**

### 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				
2				
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

### 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	
<b>F3F-5</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>300</b>			<b>8525</b>		<b>16</b>

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		<b>X</b>		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm			<b>X</b>	
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm			<b>X</b>	

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes
- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

**Fighter mission being primarily escort, there was very little engagement with enemy A/C as few enemy planes attempted to break up the formation.**

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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**CONFIDENTIAL**  
REPORT No. 8

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Facilities at Kasumigaura  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)  
Facilities and planes at Hokoda (b) Time Over Target(s) 1610(K) (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target \_\_\_\_\_  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear No Clouds  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility Unlimited  
(MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide - 50° Bomb Sight Used MX23  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Rockets Spacing Altitude of Bomb Release 1500 yards  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)  
Slant Range
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed Unobserved Probably Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ Damaged \_\_\_\_\_

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Hangars, A/R Shops, Etc., on	72	12 F6F VBF-12			
2 North and South Sides of Kasumi-	Rockets				
3 gaura A/P					
4x					
2. Hangars, Facilities, Planes at Hokoda A/P (26)		4 F6F VBF-12			Hangars and bldgs. fired. Plane damage unobserved.
6x					
7					
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).

- Photographs unavailable. Negatives and prints required by INTERFRON 2 at Guam. Ref: CV15-43 18 February 1945 1615(-10)K17 152.2 mi 6500' #13 and 14 Kasumigaura A/P Honshu (Restricted) Results, however, were satisfactory. The 12 fighters mentioned above could make but one dive (ahead of the bombers) and rendezvous at once to escort. Results therefore unobserved.
- The 4 fighters mentioned above were ROYING high cover and did not go down on the primary target. Returning to base they expended their rockets and strafed Hokoda A/P with results as mentioned heretofore.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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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

### 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

**PLOS**  
 VBF escort used a stack formation ~~plan~~ one division as roving high cover. This formation is squadron doctrine for all fighter planes in Air Group 12. One bomber was lost to A.A just after push over in his dive. But no bombers were lost to enemy A/C. Even though no aggressive attack was made by the enemy on the formation before diving or during pull out and rendezvous, it is believed this formation will be effective. Future operations will be watched in this respect.

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

No Comments

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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

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SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

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2-28-45

DATE