

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting Air Group 20 (b) Based on or at USS ENTERPRISE (c) Report No. AG-20 #14
(d) Take off: Date 6 Sept. 1944 Time (LZT) 1300(-9) (Zone); Lat 11-20N Long 140-50E
(e) Mission Fighter Sweep on Yap Town, Yap Island (f) Time of Return 1635 (Zone) -9

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-20	15		15	6 VF-3x5" rockets, Body MK1 Motor MK7 Nose MK 148 Base-MK 148	No Delay
					9 VF-1 Frag. bomb cluster AN-M41 Nose AN-M 110A1	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F6F	VF-13	16	USS FRANKLIN				
	VF-51	4	USS SAN JACINTO				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s)

Did Any Part of

(i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? If so, Describe Clouds
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

Time of Day and Brilliance

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

Authority VND 9681.33

By CO NARA Date 7/30/05

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify) when
filled out

REPORT No **AG-20 #14**

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 F6F-5	VF-20	Unknown	Wing	Total loss Bu.No. 58675
2 F6F-5	VF-20	Unknown	Wing	Total loss Bu.No. 58713
3 F6F-5	VF-20	Heavy AA	Unknown	Total loss Bu.No. 58471
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-20	Joseph E. COX, Ens., USNR	Possibly enemy AA (Heavy)	Missing
2	VF-20	Howard A. HOLDING, Ens., USNR	Possibly enemy AA (Heavy)	Missing
3	VF-20	Harry D. BROWN, Lt. (jg), USNR	Heavy AA	Missing

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	
F6F-5	197	150	3.6	400	290		4500			12

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		☒		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		☒		
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

DECLASSIFIED
Authority **NND 968133**
By **CO** NARA Date **7/30/05**

CARRIER AIR GROUP TWENTY
Aircraft Action Reports
Nos. 1-63
Sep-Oct 1944

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No **AG-20/14**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Radio Station & bldgs. Yap Town** (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) **1435(-2)** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **1500** **Cumulus** **.5 - .4** (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Partially obscured** (e) Visibility **10** (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Steep glide** (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **1** (NUMBER) Spacing **--** (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release **2500** (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed **--** Probably Destroyed Damaged

(a) AIMING POINT	(b) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(c) NO. A/C ATTACKING (d) SQUADRON	(e) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(f) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(g) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Radio & Cable Sta.		9 VF-20	6 Frag. Bombs 18 Rockets	Unkn.	Damaged
2 Radio Station		1 VF-20	6 Rockets	Prob.	Unknown
3 West area of Yap Town		2 VF-20 AG-20	1 Frag. Bomb 6 Rockets	Unkn.	Unknown
4					
5					
6					
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).

- The radio and cable station is located on a jetty SW of the town proper. All hits were in a small area and are believed to have damaged the radio and cable station and some buildings around it. One plane was hit by AA and destroyed while attacking this target.
- Three planes started a dive on the radio station south of the inlet at Yap Town. Two of these planes were either hit or collided at the start of the dive. The first plane completed the dive and scored rocket hits on the radio station.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority **11/10/96 8133**

By **CO** NARA Date **7/30/05**

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

REPORT No. AG-20 #14

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
Reconnaissance, 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

Two 4-plane divisions, one 3-plane division and two 2-plane sections attacked Yap Town from SW to NE out of the sun. As the first division, Comdr. BAKUTIS leading, made its dive Lt.(jg) Harry D. BROWN, flying No. 4 position, must have been hit by heavy AA fire. His plane was seen a moment later by Commander SMITH flying at high speed in a flat dive and smoking badly. Comdr. SMITH'S wingman next saw the plane crash just west of Yap Town and the flaming wreckage scatter. Since BROWN was not seen by other members of his division after the start of the dive (8000') it is probable that his plane was hit by heavy AA fire.

The 3-plane division consisting of Lt-Comdr. LAWLER, Ensign COX and Ensign HOLDING had just started its dive when Lt-Comdr. LAWLER saw COX cross over from the right to the left. COX' and HOLDING'S planes were next seen in tight spirals. One plane crashed west of Yap Town in flames while the other was not actually seen to crash. No parachutes were observed. It has not been determined whether COX and HOLDING collided or whether a burst of AA fire hit both planes simultaneously.

The other planes searched for possible survivors of the three plane crashes without success and returned to base.

Heavy and medium AA fire were meagre but very accurate. It is possible that the Japs were using medium AA without tracers since very few tracers were seen although there is a fair concentration of automatic AA installations at this location. (Just south of the inlet at Yap Town).

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

11-14-2005 10:38 AM

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

REPORT No **AG-20 #14**

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

PREPARED BY

APPROVED BY

D.F. SMITH, Jr.,
Commander, USN, (CAG).

VF-20

B.H. ROBERTS,
Lieut., USNR, AGIO.

F.E. BAKUTIS,
Commander, USN, (CO).

DECLASSIFIED

Authority **AVND 968133**

By **CO** NARA Date **7/30/05**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

ALLGET - WFO. BY THE GARY HANSEN CO., PATENTED

Carrier Air Group TWENTY
Aircraft Action Reports
Nos. 1-63
Sep-Oct 1944

U. S. S. ENTERPRISE
Medical Department

F6-1/00/MH(75-hs)
Serial:

12 September 1944

C O N F I D E N T I A L

From: The Medical Officer.
To: The Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.
Via: The Commanding Officer.

Subject: Report of Casualties.

Reference: (a) Para. 3518, Manual of the Medical Department, 1939.

1. The following named officers are listed as missing in action over enemy territory on 6 September 1944.

PLACE: U.S.S. ENTERPRISE (VF-20)
DATE: 6 September 1944 (E.L.T.)
NAME: BROWN, Harry Dugan 278232.
RANK: Lt(jg), A-V(N), U.S.N.R.
DIAGNOSIS: Unknown.
DETAILS: Pilot of an F6F-5 on an assigned combat mission over Yap Island, failed to return.

PLACE: U.S.S. ENTERPRISE (VF-20)
DATE: 6 September 1944 (E.L.T.)
NAME: COX, Joseph Edward 300730.
RANK: Ensign, A-V(N), U.S.N.R.
DIAGNOSIS: Unknown.
DETAILS: Pilot of an F6F-5 on an assigned combat mission over Yap Island, failed to return.

PLACE: U.S.S. ENTERPRISE (VF-20)
DATE: 6 September 1944 (E.L.T.)
NAME: HOLDING, Howard Allen 305686.
RANK: Ensign, A-V(N), U.S.N.R.
DIAGNOSIS: Unknown.
DETAILS: Pilot of an F6F-5 on an assigned combat mission over Yap Island, failed to return.

2. The following named man is listed as missing.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. **AG-20 #14**

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 F6F-5	VF-20	Unknown	Wing	Total loss Bu.No. 58675
2 F6F-5	VF-20	Unknown	Wing	Total loss Bu.No. 58713
3 F6F-5	VF-20	Heavy AA	Unknown	Total loss Bu.No. 58471
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-20	Joseph E. COX, Ens., USNR	Possibly enemy AA(Heavy)	Missing
2	VF-20	Howard A. HOLDING, Ens., USNR	Possibly enemy AA(Heavy)	Missing
3	VF-20	Harry D. BROWN, Lt. (jg), USNR	Heavy AA	Missing

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	
F6F-5	197	150	3.6	400	290		4500			12

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		☒		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		☒		
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

TURNING
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

3 861

ALL SET — MFD. BY THE KORY REGISTER CO., PATENTED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority **11ND 968133**
By **CO** NARA Date **7/30/05**

AG-20 USS Enterprise
6 Sept 44 1300
LAT 11-20N CON 140-50E