

APPENDICE 30
Footnote 36 Tony shoot down
AAR 35 VC-81 27 Oct. 1944
Huston spots and attacks it first

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

OPNAV-16-V-2187
(Form ACA)
Print 1 of 2

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting **VC-81** (b) Based on or at **USS BAZENA BAY** (c) Report No. **35**

(d) Take off: Date **27 October 1944** Time (LZT) **1835 Item** (Zone); Lat. **11 08 N** Long. **122 44 E**

(e) Mission **Target CAP** (f) Time of Return **2000 I** (Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL 35

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOS CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
F4U-7	VC-81	8	8	Bomb	Full ammo.	

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, TORPEDOS CARRIED, GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
Boey	1	1	1700 I	SW Samar		Greenish - Brown paint Black balls.
Boey	2	None	1835 I	E Leyte		
Val	1	None	1840 I	E Leyte		

Lighted too far away to engage and lost in clouds.

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) **Sweeper, Hunter, Attack on troops and shipping.**

(i) Did Any Part of Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? **Yes** If so, Describe Clouds **2000, Cumulo-nimbus, .4**
(TYPE OR SIZE) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND VENTURE OF COVER)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance **Overcast** (k) Visibility **10 miles.**
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (MILES)

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

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) TYPE A/C	(c) SQUADRON	(d) PILOT OR GUNNER	(e) GUNS USED	(f) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(g) DAMAGE CLAIMED
Boey	F4U-7	VC-81	Lt. E. J. Huston Lt. G. J. Spore Ens. J. L. Boston Ens. S. H. Gingrich Ens. R. P. Taylor Ens. S. R. Fowler	.50 Cal. wing guns	From overhead in wing, fuselage and engine.	Destroyed.

44-3871 - 874. BY THE BUREAU OF AERONAUTICS, WASHINGTON

35

FORM 15-1-48 (REV. 1-4-48)
Form AC-1
Sheet 1 of 3

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

RESTRICTED
(Classify when filled in)

REPORT No. 88

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tony while on CAP (b) Time Over Target(s) 1700 Hours (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000, Cumulo nimbus, 4.

(d) Visibility of Target Overcast (e) Visibility 10 miles.

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ Bomb Sight Used _____

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

(1) AIMING POINT	(2) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(3) NO. A/C ATTACKING (a) SQUADRON	(4) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(5) NO. HIT ON Aiming Point	(6) DAMAGE (Name, weight, status, destroyed or sunk)
1 Engine on a Tony.		6 - F4U-2 VC-61	2000 .50 Cal.		Destroyed.
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(e) 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.)

Six F4U-2s from VC-61 were on target CAP orbiting over the SW part of Sumner. They were flying at 20,000 feet when Ensign Huston belly-bombed a Tony directly below at 8000 feet. He immediately pushed over and was followed by the other five pilots; Lt. C.L. Spiers, Lt. M.J. Belbeck, Enn. S.L. Gingrich, 1st Lt. Taylor and Enn. S.R. Peeler. The Tony apparently did not see them; he was travelling at 280 knots and ducking and headed for a cloud, but it was too late for 24 .50 Cal. guns were bearing on him. All pilots were in good position and all would have made the kill; the gun camera film did not eliminate any of the six. The Tony nosed over, rolled and the pilot came out, but his chute only partially opened, he went down fast and was killed. The plane went straight down, not on fire but smoking and crashed into the earth.

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

FORM 15-1-48 (REV. 1-4-48)

