





SB2C - HELLDIVER





CV-12 U.S.S. HORNET

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the GOLD STAR in lieu of a Second DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS to

LIEUTENANT TUDOR RICHARDS UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

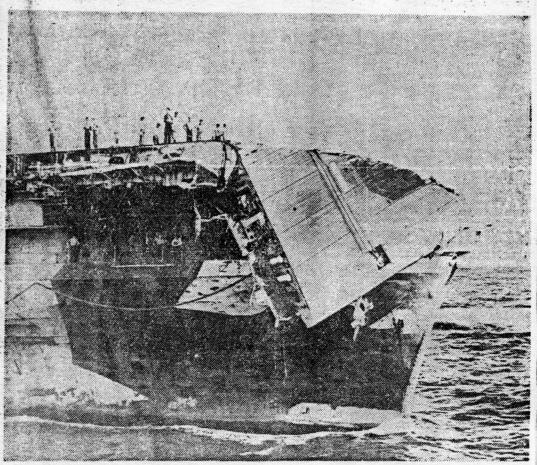
"For heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as Pilot of a Dive Bomber in Bombing Squadron SEVENTERN, attached to the U.S.S. HORNET, in action against enemy Japanese forces in the vicinity of Tokyo, Iwo Jima, Kyushu and Nansei Shoto from February 17 to May 13, 1945. Participating in twenty missions during this period, Lieutenant Richards contributed materially to the success of his squadron and to the infliction of damage on enemy shipping, air fields and installations. His courage and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

For the President,

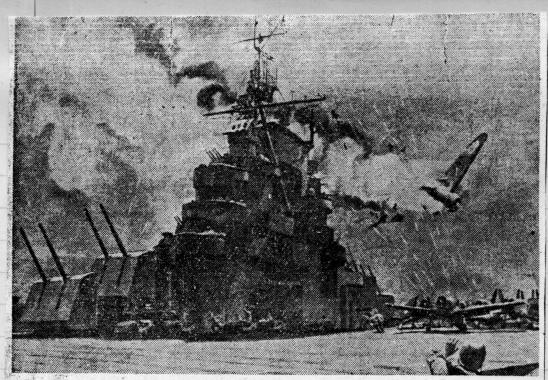
James Tone, top Secretary of the Navy



Navy Reveals Amazing Story of the Hornet



TYPHOON DAMAGE ON THE HORNET—The Navy's aircraft carrier Hornet rode out the June 5 typhoon, but the big blow turned down one end of the flight deck like the brim of a soft hat, this Navy photo discloses.



(AP Photo) THE HORNET IN ACTION—A Jap suicide plane, flying into concentrated fire from guns on the aircraft carrier Hornet, disintegrates. This kamikaze attack is shown in a watercolor by Lt. Dwight C. Shepler, USNR, of Cohasset, Navy combat pilota RTIST.

Unscathed in Year of Fighting, Carrier Is Damaged by Typhoon

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6 (AP)-A mountainous wave lifted up and smacked down the 27,000-ton aircraft carrier Hornet so hard last June 5 that the forward corners of the flight deck folded down along the sides.

the big ship.

HORNET'S STORY BARED

The Navy told the Hornet's story today. It let the Japanese know exactly where the Hornet is -Hunter's Point in San Francisco Bay. She steamed through the Golden Gate July 7 and went to drydock for repair.

Behind her lay 1,270,000 tons of enemy shipping sunk or damaged and 1410 ruined enemy planes.

Some of the figures:

668 planes shot down; 742 planes destroyed on the ground; one cruiser sunk; one carrier sunk;

which launched the first bombing Eniwetok and back to the Bonins. raid on Tokyo, was 150 miles off She was in the Guam invasion, then Okinawa when the typhoon struck again. at 2 A. M., June 5.

Thus nature, in the form of a Her bow rose atop a great wave 120-knot gale (138 miles an hour), which folded down the flight deek achieved what the Japanese never were able to do in 14 months of ship drifted before the raging wind. hard-fought action - it damaged She had to back into the wind next morning to get search planes off the deck. They helped reassamble the task force. After their return the Hornet retired from the area. UNTOUCHED BY JAPS

The Hornet spent 52 days under Japanese air attack without being hit by even a machine gun bullet.

Her crew claims a record in the shooting down of 255 Japanese planes in a 30-day period.

In one day she accounted for 67. The Hornet was launched at Newport News, Va., Aug. 30, 1943; and after the shortest cruise in carrier history was in action against the Japanese exactly seven months

Under Rear Admiral (then cap-tain) William D. Sample of Pensacola, Fla., the Hornet went into 10 destroyers sunk; 42 cargo ships the Marianas, from Guam to the Bonin and Volcano islands, through The Hornet, named for the ship Pagan and the Bonins again, to

As part of Task Force 58 and flagship of Rear Admiral J. J. (Jocko) Clark, she was into the Bonins so often the men formed a "Jocko Jima Development Corporation for the purpose of "developing and selling shares in real estate within 500 miles of downtown Tokyo." HECTIC CAMPAIGNS

After the successful Marianas operation, Capt. Sample was made a rear admiral and was succeeded as the Hornet's skipper by Capt. Austin K. Doyle of Pensacola, Fla., who took her through the subsequent campaigns.

These included strikes in the Philippines and Okinawa, support of landings in the Philippines and, in February, 1944, the great carrier strike on Tokyo. For two days the big ship steamed unchallenged 200 miles off the coast of Japan, sending her planes in to spread destruction. Later in February she took part in the Iwo Jima invasion.

On Easter Sunday the Hornet was off Okinawa again, this time for the invasion of the island. On April 6-7, more than 500 Japanese planes attacked Clark's group. The group accounted for 152 of them. the Hornet claiming more than a third of those destroyed.

The Hornet's last major action was the destruction by her planes of a huge new Japanese aircraft factory on the home island of Kyushu before it had time to manufacture a plane.

1945 NOT 1944

5 guntum Mass. - 10/9/41- 12/6 (on leave at home 12/7/4/57 allantos ga. - 12/10/41- early Jan "42 Florida (mostly Jacksonville + vicinity and then Daytona Jan: 42-4/ California (based mostly at alameda) Late april 44 - early and San Diego - Flawin & Man 11/3 -9/44 1-1 ilo (Hawaii - 11/10/44 - Late Dec. Mawaii - Quam several days area Quem - about a month there, lite Dec. to hate Jan. Quam - Vlithi. Caroline I stands , the Fleet anchorage V. S.S. Hornet CV-12 2/1/45-7/7/45 Vlithi - of Horshu, early Feb. 45 attack on Mamamatan, 2/16/45, " Toyohashi, 2/12/45 " I wo Jima 2/2012/45 or 20 " Mig also Jima in March Return to Vlithi for a good rest for all Ulithi to of Kyushu attack on Kanone airfield 3/18/45 after that attacks more or less alternated between Kyushus various of the islands extending southwest of there especially O kinawa, much The largest of The Mansei Strate We also had occasion to attack a small is or figure Hyamato another cruise" for attacks in the same area. a return to Whithis may have been followed by another antie but wentually we got to the new pleas anchonge at Legte in the Phillippine. before sailing home, reaching San Francisco 7/2/45

