

VMB-611

ISI
⑫

Report # 82

II C (12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VIB 611 (b) Based on or at Moret Field, Zamboanga, P.I. (c) Report No. 82
 (d) Take off: Date 24 April 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission Kabacan Road Patrol (f) Time of Return Varied (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)		
<u>FBI</u>	<u>VIB 611</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8x250 Gp</u> <u>8x5" Rockets</u>	<u>M 112 4-11 sec. delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</u>							

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
<u>None</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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 _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
(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) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		
<u>None</u>						

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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	PBJ	VMB 611	Possible enemy AA or small arms fire.	Top of fuselage Both rudders Bombardier's Plexiglass " " " "
2				
3				
4	PBJ	VMB 611	Enemy small arms fire	Port elevator
5	PBJ	VMB 611	Brushed treetops flying at low level	Bombardier's Comp. Smashed plexiglass and framework - repairable.
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
	None			

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	
PBJ	226	225	4.3	974	700	X	18000	X	X	8

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		X		
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

No enemy a/c encountered.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Road patrol North & South Babacan (b) Time Over Target(s) Varied (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target _____
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Scat. cl - 2500-3000' base, 7 cover (e) Visibility 5 - 6 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC) (MILES)
lk 3 Corner sight
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used lk 15 Mod 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release Min to 1000'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT		(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed, or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON				
1 Road patrol, North & South from		8	40x250	Op	lk 3	Unobserved
2 Babacan		VIM 611	30x5"	Rockets	lk 3	Unobserved
3						
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.)

Unobserved

(p) Were Photographs Taken? NO 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

Call: Seahorse Red

A/C No.	Pilot	T.O.	T.O.T.	S.A.
MB-15	Boadley	0610	0735	1010
MB-10	Follan	0630	0730	1025

MB-15 flew to Kabacan and began to patrol the road North of there. The A/C went as far North as Maranag, where on the strip, 3 earth pillboxes were observed. 1 was completely destroyed by a direct rocket hit, the other two received near misses. During these rocket dives, which were made at the usual 20° angle, nothing out of the ordinary was noticed, such as AA, land mines or other fire, however upon pulling out of the dive, it was found that there were holes in the top of the fuselage and that the fabric of the radars was ripped. The A/C did not fly through the debris of its own burst. The holes are approximately .50 cal. After making this attack, the plane went to the town of Maranag and dropped bombs on habitable buildings there, destroying two. The A/C then returned to base.

MB-10 flew direct to Digos and patrolled the road from Digos to Davao. Two trucks on the road just North of Santa Cruz were strafed. The trucks were empty. Two rockets were fired into a house near Sirasan and the house blew up. Other houses were strafed along the Digos-Davao road. Six rockets were returned to base due to lack of targets.

Call: Seahorse White

MB-3	Peterson	0630	1000	1215
MB-4	Schnillen	0900	1030	1305

MB-3 flew East to Kabacan and then up to Mikalong. The Highway between Mikalong and Bugo was the area patrolled. One bomb was dropped in a clump of bushes just South of the Malaybalay A/D, into which a road ran. 7 bombs were dropped on some caves South of Macajalar Bay East of Cagayan. 1 cave was sealed up, but 2 or 3 more are still there. 2 of these 7 bombs were dropped on gun emplacements. 4 rockets were fired into the caves, 2 rockets were fired at Maluko buildings, and 2 rockets at Bugo hit a church. 2500 rounds of .50 cal. was fired in strafing houses along the road. A destroyed truck was strafed South of Del Monte, because of persons hiding in it.

MB-4 went direct to Davao then turned South and headed for Digos. Circled Digos saw nothing and headed back North. 8 miles along, gun positions were seen on top of a small hill. Strafing and bombed this position before it was found to be a bamboo tube dummy. During this run, the plane brushed a tree top so damaging the nose, that the pilot jettisoned the remaining 6 bombs and returned to base.

Call: Seahorse Blue

MB-9	Kronick	1030	1145	1530
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MB-9 went to Kabacan where caveman was contacted. They were assigned the road between Malaybalay and Valencia to sweep, and to look especially for a road heading East from between these towns toward Davao. The A/C could not find this road, so went on to the Del Monte area. The town of Maluko was strafed.

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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

CALL: SEAHORSE (CONTINUED)

The plane continued on south strafing possible personnel areas until arriving at Dancaygan. Here there was a camouflaged vehicle beside a hut. 2 bombs were dropped, but were off target, however a four-rocket burst damaged it. 6 bombs were dropped over the town of Maluko. Several houses were damaged as a result. The a/c came on down south to Kabacan and from there returned to the base.

CALL: SEAHORSE GREEN

MB-14	Hortons	1300	1415	1745
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This a/c proceeded to Kabacan where the pilot contacted Caveman and was instructed to sweep the road east to Digos. Friendly troops were 25 miles east of Kabacan. 2 trucks were seen on a side road just off the highway 10 miles west of Digos. Although they appeared to be unserviceable, they were strafed. The plane then came back to Kabacan and started North on the Sayre Highway. No activity was observed until Maranag A/D was reached. A rocket run was made on a pillbox and demolished it with 4 rockets. A 75' long building on the east side of Maranag strip was hit with 4 bombs, blowing it open and causing it to burn to the ground. The building was filled with fuel drums. The remainder of the bombs were dropped on personnel areas and groves where the presence of clear vehicle tracks indicated that activity might be concentrated. These areas were adjacent to the southernmost ends of the two fields. At the north end of the north field, a camouflaged truck was spotted standing in a clump of trees beside the creek that flows past the field. Since ammo and rockets had been expended, the last bomb was dropped on this truck, but it skipped over beyond the truck and exploded. The a/c then returned to the base.

CALL: SEAHORSE YELLOW

MB- 5	Haulsby	1515	1620	1920
MB- 8	Padgett	"	"	"

This two plane section flew to Kabacan, but could not make contact with Caveman. The flight was called by Stucco, who ordered them to stand by. After orbiting for 10 minutes, both a/c were ordered to Digos area for a sweep. The section split at Digos. MB- flew North along the coast road to Libby, following the road inland. What appeared to be a warehouse 45 miles in from Libby, was bombed halting the center. Up the road 3 miles, 3 houses were seen with 6, 300 gallon tanks nearby. He strafed and dropped a bomb, causing dark heavy smoke to rise 3000'. On up the road, 4 trucks were attacked with rockets. one was destroyed. The A/C then returned to base. MB-5 stayed in the Digos area for 30 minutes scoring 4 near misses on a beach pillbox. 2 bombs were dropped and destroyed what appeared to be a pump house 15x25'. A shed about 20x30 was burned by strafing. Heavy smoke rose to 500'. The A/C then proceeded up the coast attacking a 2 story mansion 3 miles North of Digos. 2 rockets were put in the front door. The A/C then returned to base.

A.S. BOURENO
1st Lt. USMC
Squadron Int. Officer

G.A. SARKIS
Lt. Col. USMC
Commanding Officer