

VMF-122

167
20

Report # 34

Ltc(20)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

Confidential

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

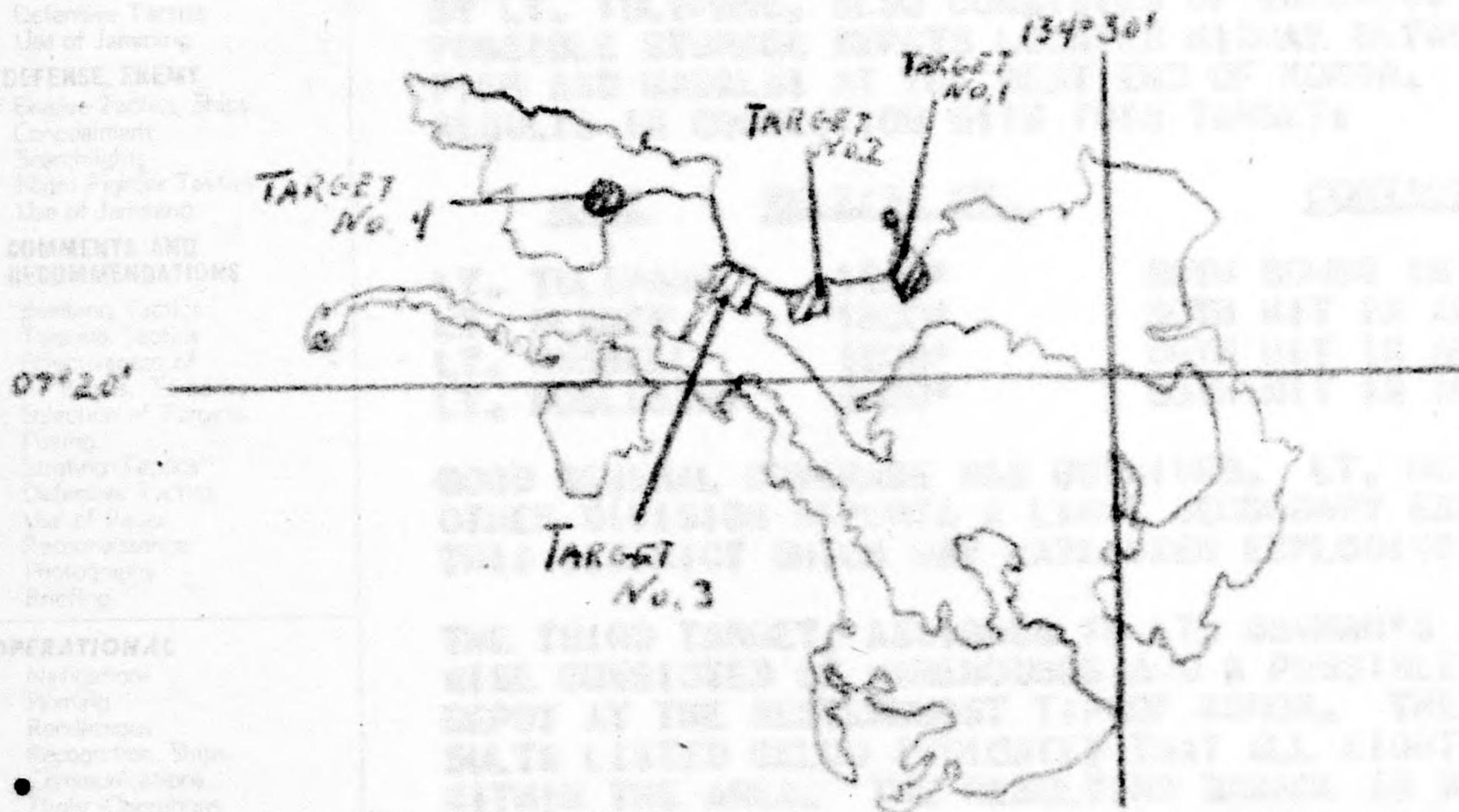
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XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) THREE SEPARATE BUILDING AREAS - KOROR
AA POSITIONS - ARAKABESAH (b) Time Over Target(s) 0735 - 10 (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target SCATTERED CUMULUS WITH 2/10 COVER AT 2000'
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target SLIGHT HAZE (e) Visibility 15 MILES
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type GLIDE Bomb Sight Used NONE
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 3 Spacing (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 1450' AV. (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(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)
<u>1</u> BUILDINGS AT BASE OF NORTH PIER - KOROR	<u>500 YDS X 500 YDS.</u>	<u>4</u> <u>VMF 122</u>	<u>8-500 LB. G.P.'S.</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>BELIEVED TO BE EXTENSIVE.</u>
<u>3</u> BUILT UP AREA BETWEEN NORTH PIERS - KOROR.	<u>400 YDS X 400 YDS.</u>	<u>4</u> <u>VMF 122</u>	<u>8-500 LB. G.P.'S.</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>BELIEVED TO BE EXTENSIVE.</u>
<u>5</u> TRANSPORTATION DEPOT - WEST END OF KOROR	<u>200 YDS X 200 YDS.</u>	<u>4</u> <u>VMF 122</u>	<u>8-500 LB. G.P.'S.</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>BELIEVED TO BE EXTENSIVE.</u>
<u>7</u> AA POSITIONS ARAKABESAH	<u>200 YDS X 400 YDS.</u>	<u>3</u> <u>VMF 122</u>	<u>5-500 LB. G.P.'S.</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>UNDETERMINED.</u>

(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).



(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

THIS IS THE FIRST OF FOUR CONTEMPLATED STRIKES TO GO OUT ON THIS DAY DIRECTED AGAINST ENEMY INSTALLATIONS IN THE KOROR-MALAKAL-ARAKABESAN AREA. THE OVERALL ATTACK, INVOLVING SIXTEEN PLANES FROM EACH OF THE THREE PELELIU BASED VMF SQUADRONS, WAS WELL PLANNED AND WELL INTEGRATED. VMF 121 EQUIPPED WITH DEPTH CHARGES INSTANTANEOUSLY FUSED WAS THE FIRST TO STRIKE THE AREA. THIS SQUADRON AND VMF 114 EQUIPPED WITH NAPALM FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY, EACH DIVISION STRIKING ITS ASSIGNED TARGET WITH EXCELLENT RESULTS.

THE FIRST TARGET LISTED UNDER NUMBER XI CONSISTS OF A LARGE GROUP OF BUILDINGS AND WAREHOUSES AT THE BASE OF EBADULUS PIER ON THE NORTH COAST OF KOROR. THE DIVISION LED BY MAJOR PIERCE STRUCK THIS TARGET WITH THE BELOW LISTED RESULTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
MAJOR PIERCE	1200°	BOTH BOMBS IN INSTALLATIONS DIRECTLY AT BASE OF PIER.
LT. MISLEY	1500°	BOTH BOMBS WELL WITHIN TARGET AREA.
LT. MORRISON	1800°	ONE BOMB IN AREA. ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND WAS JETTISONED IN WATER LATER.
LT. ASHE	1800°	BOTH BOMBS IN CENTER OF AREA.

THE DESIGNATED TARGET AREA WAS WELL COVERED. CLOSELY BUILT UP THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT WHAT EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WAS ACHIEVED.

THE SECOND TARGET LISTED, THAT ASSIGNED TO THE DIVISION LED BY LT. TULIPANE, ALSO CONSISTED OF NUMEROUS BUILDINGS AND POSSIBLE STORAGE DEPOTS LOCATED MIDWAY BETWEEN EBADULUS PIER AND MADALAI AT THE WEST END OF KOROR. BELOW ARE THE RESULTS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TARGET:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. TULIPANE	1500°	BOTH BOMBS IN DESIGNATED AREA.
LT. BLANEY	1800°	BOTH HIT IN AREA.
LT. RUSSELL	1500°	BOTH HIT IN AREA.
LT. POSLUSZNY	1800°	BOTH HIT IN AREA.

GOOD GENERAL COVERAGE WAS OBTAINED. LT. MC LELLAN IN ANOTHER DIVISION REPORTS A LARGE SECONDARY EXPLOSION FROM THIS DISTRICT WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN EXPLODING AMMUNITION.

THE THIRD TARGET, ASSIGNED TO LT. BAUMAN'S DIVISION LIKEWISE CONSISTED OF WAREHOUSES AND A POSSIBLE TRANSPORTATION DEPOT AT THE WESTERMOST TIP OF KOROR. THE REPORTED RESULTS LISTED BELOW INDICATE THAT ALL EIGHT BOMBS FELL WITHIN THE AREA. THE RESULTING DAMAGE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIAL.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
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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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. BAUMAN	1200°	BOTH IN DESIGNATED AREA.
LT. MC LELLAN	1100°	BOTH IN DESIGNATED AREA.
LT. HAUSER	1300°	BOTH IN DESIGNATED AREA.
LT. AVERY	1200°	BOTH IN DESIGNATED AREA.

THE TARGET FOR THE REMAINING DIVISION, THAT LED BY LT. JEWELL, CONSISTED OF AN AREA ON ARAKABESAN KNOWN TO CONTAIN NUMEROUS MEDIUM AND LIGHT AA POSITIONS. SEE DIAGRAM FOR GENERAL LOCATION. THE RESULTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. JEWELL	1500°	IN CENTER OF AA POSITIONS AT S.E. CORNER OF HILL. ONE BOMB HUNG UP AND WAS RETURNED TO BASE.
LT. THOMPSON	2500°	BOMBS FELL SHORT OF VISIBLE M/G POSITIONS.
LT. LAGONI	1800°	BOTH BOMBS IN GENERAL AREA.

THESE AA POSITIONS DID NOT CEASE FIRING AS FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED. THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE, IF ANY, IS UNDETERMINED.

GLIDE BOMBING TACTICS WERE EMPLOYED, THE RUNS BEING MADE FROM SOUTH TO NORTH IN ALL CASES. THE ENTIRE AREA UNDER ATTACK IS KNOWN TO BE A HOTBED OF AA POSITIONS. THESE WERE NOT ONLY ALERT BUT ACCURATE AS WELL ON THIS DATE.

SEPARATE REPORTS WILL BE SUBMITTED COVERING THE OTHER TWO SQUADRONS EMPLOYED IN THE OPERATION.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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ACIO, VNF 122
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

F. E. PIERCE JR. **MAJOR, USMC**
COMD'G, VNF 122 4 MARCH 45
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE