

VMF-115

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Report # 32-341

JIC (18)

4

VMF-115.

23 May 1945.

KIRAVE ALERT.

ZAMBOANGA, P.I.

See Log.

6°55'N.

32-34.

122°01'E.

See Log.

Corsairs.VMF-115. 12 None. 12

12-500 lb. bombs.
6-1000 lb. bombs.

Instantaneous.

NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

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NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

Corsair. VMF-115. Possible AA Fire. Unknown. 57962--Destroyed.

NONE.

NONE.

Corsairs. 250 280 30 3000 2100 2800 11

NONE OBSERVED.

NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

KIBAWA AREA.

See Log.

See Log.

See Log.

See Log.

See Log.

None.

None.

None.

None.

KIBAWA AREA.

4 Planes. 2-1000 lb.-4-500 lb. bombs.
VMF-115. 1500 rnds. 6

Serious.

KIBAWA AREA.

4 Planes. 2-1000 lb.-4-500 lb. bombs.
VMF-115. 1300 rnds. 5

Unobserved.

KIBAWA AREA.

4 Planes. 2-1000 lb.-4-500 lb. bombs.
VMF-115. No ammo. 2

Unobserved.

NO ENEMY SHIPPING ENCOUNTERED.

MISSION LOG REPORT
REPORT NO. 32

23 May 1946.

MISSION: KIBAWA ALERT.
FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Williamson, Caldwell, Oleson, G. Bradley.
TIME: TFC:1000. ATA:1510.
WEATHER: Cumulus from 2-10000 feet, 4/10 coverage over MORG GULF.
COMMENTS: The target was a triangular road and river junction about eight miles northwest of LICANAN airstrip. Two pilots had bombs that hung, but one got his off on the second pass, and the other on the third pass.

REPORT NO. 33

23 May 1946.

MISSION: KIBAWA ALERT.
FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Dawson, Lawson, R. Olsen, D. Bradley.
TIME: TFC:1200. ATA:1655.
WEATHER: Cumulus from 6-7000 feet, 6/10 coverage.
COMMENTS: ATA MALABANG 1500. TFC 1605.

All but one 500 lb. bomb hit in the target area, supply dump and Jap concentration, about one mile northeast of NINTAL. They strafed on the dive. Three SBD's followed the flight in. Bradley, after releasing, said he was in trouble. He was trailing smoke. He said he was heading for LIBBY AIRSTRIP, about 10 miles away. Dawson flew with him and saw his plane burst into flame at about 1000 feet above ground. Bradley pulled up sharply to about 1500 feet and started to bail out. His parachute hung on the vertical stabilizer and hung there for about a second. His plane meanwhile had started its dive. Pilots were unable to estimate the altitude of the plane when Bradley's chute came clear, but they guess it was between 150 and 300 feet. None saw his chute blossom before he struck the ground about 25 yards off the North Center of the LIBBY runway. His plane crashed between 25 and 50 yards in front of him. It burned fiercely. Ambulances, jeeps and persons started streaming across the field immediately. Fighter director reported to the rest of the flight that Bradley was burned, that the skin on his hands, face and legs peeled off but that he thought he would be okay. He said Bradley was "skinned up" and jarred. Fighter director recommended the use of the strip--said it was good and that they had servicing facilities.

REPORT NO. 34

23 May 1946.

MISSION: KIBAWA ALERT.
FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Groatkreutz, Browning, Aegerter, McNeill.
TIME: TFC:1400. ATA:1905.
WEATHER: Visibility unlimited.
COMMENTS: ATA MALABANG 1715. TFC 1815.
CALANAN Radio Station was the target. Two 1000 lb-bombs hit in the area, results unobserved because pilots lacked gas to hang around. The four 500-lb. bombs would not release--pilots said the mechanism was faulty--and they lacked sufficient gas to make another pass. These bombs were jettisoned.

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