

VMF-113

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Report #98

HC(16)

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMSB-113 (b) Based on or at Charlie Airstrip, Ie Shina (c) Report No. 98
 (d) Take off: Date 11 July, 1945 Time (LZT) 1505 (I) (Zone); Lat 26° 43' N Long 127° 47' E
 (e) Mission Destroy enemy shipping in the vicinity of Tanaga Shina (f) Time of Return 1845 (I) (Zone)
(Alternate target, Kikai Shina, Amami Oshima)
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)		
P4U-1D	VMSB-113	7	0	5	8 AR 5" HE, head inst ND.	
P4U-1D	VMSB-113	1	0	1	4 AR 5" HE, head #1 motor inst ND.	
PB-1D	VMSB-113	7	0	7	8 AR 5" HE, head inst ND.	
PB-1D	VMSB-113	2	0	2	4 AR 5" HE, head #1 motor inst ND.	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
Corsair	VMSB-422	16	Ie Shina				
Corsair	VMSB-314	16	Ie Shina				

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
None			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) None
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? No If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 (YES OR NO)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____ (k) Visibility None (MILES)
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.)

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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
None						

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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 None				
2				
3				
4				
5				
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	
F4U-1D	150	150	3.7	395	260	0	0	0	0	8
F8-1D	150	150	3.7	395	235	0	0	0	0	9

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	0			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		X		
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		X		

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
- TURNES
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft 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) **Antiaircraft emplacements and planes in revetments in the vicinity of Wan Airfield, Kikai Shima.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1715 (1)** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **CAVU** (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **Unlimited**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Dive** Bomb Sight Used **None**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Rocket**
Bombs Dropped per Run **4 - 5** Spacing **0** Altitude of Bomb Release **2000**
(NUMBER) (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 (Name, type, serious, destroyed or fire)
(1) 1 Antiaircraft emplacements and planes in revetments in the 2 vicinity of Wan Airfield.		15 VMF-113	86 AR 5" HE, head inst HD.		Undetermined
3			12 AR 5" HE, head #1 motor - inst HD.		Undetermined
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 number of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

Results were largely undetermined, but one (1) plane in a revetment south of the field was hit and burned.

- (p) Were Photographs Taken? **No** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple

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REPORT No. 30

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

(11 July, 1945) Sixteen (16) VMF-113 planes took off from Charlie Airstrip at 1505 Item as part of a combined dive-bombing and strafing mission to Kyushu. These planes rendezvous with the other fighters assigned to the strike at 1515, but were unable to start out on course until 1645 because the TBF squadron was delayed and did not arrive at the rendezvous until that time. While waiting two (2) 113 planes were forced to return to base, one (1) replacement joined the flight.

Having lost so much time it was decided that Kyushu strike would be abandoned and targets of opportunity on Kikai Shima would be substituted.

The four 113 divisions having passed Kikai, to the west, reversed course and approached on a N - S course to a point south and west of the island, then made a long 180° left turn, diving by divisions, line abreast, from 8000 feet. Picking up about 380 knots, the rockets were released at 2000 feet and planes pulled out a 1000 to retire on a course of 360°.

Targets selected were Antiaircraft emplacements and planes in revetments in the vicinity of Wan Airfield. Results were largely undetermined, but one plane in a revetment, south of the field was hit and burned. It was not considered to have been operational. This attack was launched at 1715. There was no strafing.

Antiaircraft fire was reported as light and medium, meager and accurate.

All VMF-113 planes returned safely to base, landing at 1840 Item.

The following VMF-113 pilots participated:

Capt. W. A. BALDWIN - Division Leader
1st Lt. B. N. TUTTLE - Section Leader
1st Lt. A. J. IVY - Wingman
1st Lt. W. C. GREEN - Division Leader
1st Lt. G. K. O'MALLEY - Wingman
1st Lt. W. M. WASKOM - Section Leader
1st Lt. H. J. JUNOJ - Wingman
1st Lt. W. F. BLAND - Division Leader
1st Lt. H. F. SMITH - Wingman
1st Lt. R. F. SCOTT - Section Leader
2nd Lt. H. J. PETERSEN - Wingman
1st Lt. S. R. CROWELL - Division Leader
1st Lt. L. R. WEATHERSBEE - Wingman
2nd Lt. H. L. MIXSON - Section Leader
2nd Lt. P. J. MILLER - Wingman

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

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

Two (2) planes were forced to return to base due to engine trouble. One (1) replacement joined the flight.

Ten (10) rockets were returned to base. Eight (8) due to failure of pilot to push contact plug in, two (2) would not release.

All other material and equipment operated in a satisfactory manner.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

W. H. Jordan
SIGNATURE **W. H. JORDAN**

Capt., AG10
RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

Hensley Williams
SIGNATURE **HENSLEY WILLIAMS**

Maj., CO
RANK AND DUTY

12 July, 1945

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