

VMB-611

152
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Report #133

Itc(12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

18148
026671

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMS 611 (b) Based on or at Moret Field, Zamboanga, P.I. (c) Report No. 133
 (d) Take off: Date 1 June 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 56' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission PT Support - Sarangani Bay (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>FBJ</u>	<u>VMS 611</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8x250 GP</u>	<u>AN-M 113 4-5 sec.</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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(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) **Sarangani Bay** (b) Time Over Target(s) **Varied** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **CU, Base 2000', .2 to .8 Cover**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **25 miles**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mk 8 Gunner's Sight**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **Varied** Spacing **Varied** Altitude of Bomb Release **Minimum**
(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 (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed, or sunk)
1 Targets assigned	-	2 VMB 611	16x250 GP	Unobs.	Unobserved
2 by PI boats.			7700 rds. .50 cal.		
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? **Yes** 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

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TOT	TOR
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CALL: SEAHORSE RED

MB-1	Chelgren	0830	0945-1155	1300
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This a/c flew to target area and contacted Toddy Leader. It then proceeded to scout rivers, looking for a surface vessel that was presumably Japanese. The Buayan area was also scouted, where guerrillas had reported 1000 Japs. One landing barge was observed to be in very good condition. Others, too, were seen, but not in as serviceable condition. The barges were heavily strafed, while bombs were dropped on houses close by on the beach. One house exploded, causing smoke to rise to an altitude of 1500', and completely destroying it. Oil drum storage areas were then bombed and thoroughly strafed, but they did not burn. The PT's came and burned two barges with 40 MM fire. The plane then came in and strafed a possible dispersal area. Observation showed that the area north of Buayan contained many trenches and dugouts, as well as many houses, sheep and cattle. S/H White relieved this flight at 1130, whereupon the a/c returned to the base.

CALL: SEAHORSE WHITE

MB-10	LeMasters	1010	1130	1520
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Upon relieving S/H Red on target, this plane contacted Toddy Leader and was told to hit the dock area and oil drums 1/4 mile inland. This area was well strafed and four bombs were unloaded on it. A report from the PT boat said the oil drums were hit. A dugout, covered with palm leaves, was spotted and strafed. A bombing run destroyed a house by the docks, while the PT boat came in and knocked out two pillboxes on the beach with 40 MM fire. More oil drums were spotted on the northwest corner of the strip and were heavily strafed, causing the liquid to run all over the ground, but it would not burn. A drum storage near the docks was blown up with a direct hit. Another direct hit on a 12'x20' dugout blew it up. The a/c circled around and observation showed that the dugout was reinforced with concrete. Many huts that looked as if they might be of military use were strafed. Trenches, with dugouts at each end, were seen all over the area. From all appearances, the strip seems to be in good shape.

These aircraft, supporting the PT boat, made excellent use of their bombs and fire power. Damage results can be considered extremely good.

A.S. BODRERO
1st Lt.-USMCR
Squadron Int. Officer

R.R. DAVIS
Major-USMC
Acting