

VMF-111

129  
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Report # 286

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# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

SECRET  
(Reclassify when filled out)

**SECRET**

REPORT No **256**

**VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). None**

(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				
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). None**

(a) NO	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS

**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	
<b>F4U-1D</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>4300</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>5</b>

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

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

**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 aircraft encountered.**

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **266**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Bivouac Area, Alu Island, Mille Atoll. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0630-0730 ~~(None)~~  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3000-5000 Cumulus 5/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level and dive Bomb Sight Used None  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)  
Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Napalm 2 Frag. Clusters Spacing None Altitude of Bomb Release 2800  
(NUMBER) (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 Bivouac Area Alu Island,		5 VMF-111	15	15	One large fire.
2 Mille Atoll.					
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.)

**Foliage prevented observation of what was burning.**

- (p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes : Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.  
**Photographs and negatives delivered to Commander, Majuro Air Group for forwarding.**

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

**S E C R E T**

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. 256

**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
- 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

Five Corsairs of this squadron took off at 0600 M on 19 June for Alu Island, Mille Atoll. This was a part of a larger operation covering an all day harassment of Alu. Jap POW's had stated that there were many Japs living on the island and the mission was to bomb the northern section of the bivouac area. The plan for the day included aircraft over Alu all day long, with one hour of freedom from bombing in every four in order that those desiring to could surrender to an LCI on station in the vicinity.

The Corsairs dropped their bombs in the target area. One large fire was started. The northern portion of Alu is covered with dense vegetation and it was not possible to observe what was burning. The Napalms were dropped in the initial run from fifty feet and the fragmentation clusters in salvo on the second run from twenty five hundred feet. The island was then strafed. All runs were from north to south.

The Corsairs were fired upon by rifles and machine guns from Alu.

An SB2C photo-observer plane covered this portion of the strike.

Pilots participating were as follows:

- Major Thomas A. Todd
- Lt. T. L. Bigger
- Lt. W. Waller
- Lt. A. R. Perkins
- Lt. C. D. Dawkins

Weather and flight data are given below.

	<u>Weather</u>	<u>Clouds</u>	<u>Cover</u>		
<u>To Target</u>	Average	2000	5/10		
<u>At Target</u>	Good	3000	3/10		
<u>Return</u>	Average	2000	5/10		
	<u>Altitude</u>	<u>IAS</u>	<u>MFD-Press.</u>	<u>RPM</u>	
<u>To Target</u>	5000	150	30 in.	2000	
<u>Return</u>	5000	170	33 in.	1750	

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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

**All material functioned satisfactorily.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

**Capt., USMCR  
Intelligence Off.**

**Major, USMCR  
Commanding Off. 22 June, 1945.**

SIGNATURE

**GEORGE J. PUGH.**

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

**R. D. KELLEY**

RANK AND DUTY

DATE