

VMP 122

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Report # 63

LIC(20)

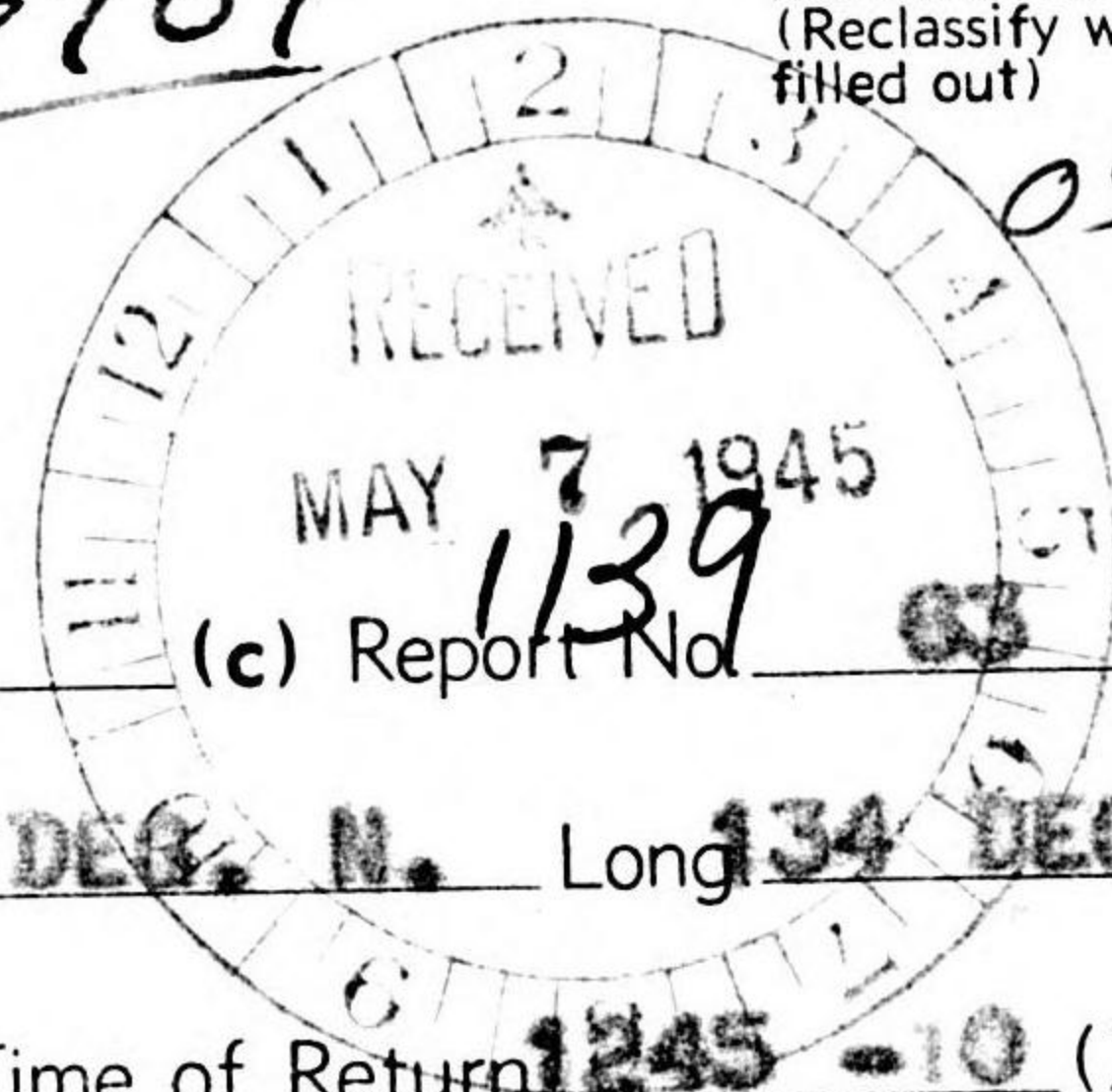
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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

8707

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

052948



CONFIDENTIAL
I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMF 122 (b) Based on or at PELELIU ISLAND
(c) Report No. 63
(d) Take off: Date 2 MAY 1945 Time (LZT) 0924 -10 (Zone); Lat 7 DEG. N. Long 134 DEG. E.
(e) Mission BOMB TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY--YAP (f) Time of Return 1245 -10 (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)		
F4U-1D	VMF 122	4	0	4	2-500 LB. G.P'S.	.1 NOSE .025 TAIL

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY-5A	RESCRON 4	1	PELELIU ISLAND				

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
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of _____
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 (j) Time of Day and Brilliance _____ of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)
 (k) Visibility _____ (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		

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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				
2		NONE		
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	270	270	3.4	402	285		500			4

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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

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

NOTE: THE BELLY TANKS WERE JETTISONED ON ARRIVING AT YAP. THE FIGURE UNDER VIII (F) ABOVE, INCLUDES WHAT GASOLINE WAS JETTISONED WITH THE TANKS.

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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) TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY--YAP (b) Time Over Target(s) 1055 -10 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 6/10 CUMULUS AT 2500'
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target CLEAR (e) Visibility 30 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 (2)-1 (2)-2 Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 1000' AV.
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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)
1 POSSIBLE CAMOUFLAGED AA POSITIONS		1 VMF 122	1-500 LB. G.P.	1	UNOBSERVED.
2 CAUSEWAY BETWEEN RUMUNG AND MAP		2 VMF 122	2-500 LB. G.P.'S.	0	NONE
3 BLOCK HOUSE RUMUNG	20' X 30'	1 VMF 122	1-500 LB. G.P.	1	DEMOLISHED.
4 POSSIBLE AMMUNITION DUMP-YAP		1 VMF 122	2-500 LB. G.P.'S.	2	UNDETERMINED.
5 BUILDINGS YAP		1 VMF 122	1-500 LB. G.P.	1	DAMAGED.
6 POSSIBLE AMMUNITION DUMP-YAP		1 VMF 122	1-500 LB. G.P.	1	NONE
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? _____ 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
- Defensive 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

THERE BEING A DEARTH OF SUITABLE BOMBING TARGETS IN THE YAP GROUP OF ISLANDS AT THE PRESENT TIME, THIS FOUR PLANE STRIKE WAS BRIEFED TO FIRST MAKE A RECONNAISSANCE FOR TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY PAYING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO POSSIBLE AA POSITIONS ON RUMUNG ISLAND. SEVERAL LOW LEVEL STRAFING PASSES ACROSS THIS ISLAND FAILED TO DRAW ANY RETURN FIRE. AT "YAP, SHEET 5, T.A. 278 VICTOR" LT. TULIPANE NOTED A SMALL CAMOUFLAGED AREA WHICH LOOKED LIKE A GUN POSITION. LISTED AS AIMING POINT 1 ON PAGE 3 IT WAS STRUCK WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. TULIPANE	1000'	NEAR MISS-DAMAGE NOT DETERMINED.

THE CAUSEWAY BETWEEN MAP AND RUMUNG HAS BEEN REPAIRED WITH WOODEN BRIDGES SPANNING THE BOMB CRATERS. LISTED AS AIMING POINT #2 ON PAGE 3 IT WAS STRUCK WITH THE FOLLOWING RESULTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. TULIPANE	900'	OVERSHOT, IN WATER.
LT. BLANEY	800'	IN WATER, NO DAMAGE.

LT. BLANEY RELEASED HIS SECOND BOMB OVER A CEMENT BLOCK HOUSE AT "YAP, SHEET 5, T.A. 272 EASY". A DIRECT HIT SERVED TO DEMOLISH THE STRUCTURE.

THE SECOND SECTION MADE A THOROUGH RECONNAISSANCE OF THE DISTRICT AROUND THE AIRSTRIP ON YAP. THE STRIP REMAINS COMPLETELY CRATERED AND NO ACTIVITY OF ANY SORT WAS NOTED. LT. RUSSELL NOTING CONSIDERABLE TRACK ACTIVITY WHICH TERMINATED IN A SMALL WOODED AREA AT "YAP, SHEET 1, T.A. 121 CHARLIE" RELEASED BOTH BOMBS THERE ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE WOODS MIGHT CONCEAL AN AMMUNITION DUMP. THIS TARGET IS LISTED AS AIMING POINT #4 ON PAGE 3. THE DAMAGE WAS UNDETERMINED. THERE WAS NO SECONDARY EXPLOSION.

AIMING POINT #5 CONSISTED OF TWO SUBSTANTIAL LOOKING BUILDINGS AT A ROAD JUNCTION LOCATED AT "YAP, SHEET 1, T.A. 117 MIKE". LT. TABLER RELEASING ONE BOMB OVER THIS TARGET CRATERED THE ROAD AND DAMAGED THE BUILDINGS. HE RELEASED HIS SECOND BOMB OVER WHAT APPEARED TO BE A POSSIBLE AMMUNITION DUMP AT "YAP, SHEET 1, T.A. 121 VICTOR". THE RESULTS WERE NEGATIVE.

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A VERY MEAGER AMOUNT OF M/G FIRE FROM "YAP, SHEET 1, T.A. 113 CHARLIE", NO AA WAS ENCOUNTERED.

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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

Aarmor; 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

**NOTE: THE TARGET AREA DESIGNATION USED ABOVE ARE FROM
THE AIR INDEX MAP OF THE YAP ISLANDS PREPARED
BY THE 64TH ENGR. TOP. BN. USAF 1CPA-NO. 740-5.**

REPORT PREPARED BY:

J. R. FLETCHER
SIGNATURE

CAPT., USMCR
ACIO, VMF 122
RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

J. R. BOHNET
SIGNATURE

MAJOR, USMCR
COMD'G, VMF 122
RANK AND DUTY

4 MAY 45
DATE

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