

VMF-113

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Report #82

HC(16)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. 82

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

(9 June, 1945) Captain W.A. BALDWIN had led his division on a dusk patrol over Point URGHIN for two hours without incident when bogies were reported in the vicinity and the division was vectored out by URGHIN on a course of 285° from that point. The controller verified their position off Point ALE and instructed them to search for the intruder at two o'clock low on the water. The enemy plane was tallyhoed twenty seconds later, at three o'clock, by Lt. HALQUIST. This contact was made at 1940 hours, under extremely adverse light conditions. Darkness and haze limited visibility to one-half mile or less.

The bogey, later identified as a Japanese "Judy", was flying at 25 to 50 feet altitude on a course directly toward the destroyer on which URGHIN control was based. Its mission appeared to be an attack on this picket boat.

The division reversed course in a diving right turn, and aided by 1200 feet of altitude, closed rapidly. Capt. BALDWIN and Lt. HALQUIST made an approach from directly astern and Lieutenants TUTTLE and Lt. JUNGU spread out slightly to bracket the enemy plane.

Capt. BALDWIN pulled ahead of Lt. HALQUIST to about 150 feet where he was fired on by the rear gunner. BALDWIN fired an extremely short burst, estimated at not more than five to ten rounds per gun, the tracers converging at the left wing root, and a burst of flames flared up enveloping the wing and left side of fuselage. BALDWIN overran and Lt. HALQUIST got in a burst as the Judy started a gentle turn into the water. The left wing dug in and the plane hit twice and exploded. The splash was confirmed by Lieutenant's TUTTLE, JUNGU, and HALQUIST and was caught on the radar screen by URGHIN control. It was also reported by Ruby 12 planes which were in the vicinity.

The two sections joined up. Lt. HALQUIST's directional compass was spinning and his section became separated from Capt. BALDWIN.

BALDWIN and TUTTLE, flying together, were given a vector toward Baker to a reported bogey. By this time, about 2000 hours, it was very dark and the two planes were flying very close to the water, when looking up they spotted a single engine plane coming out of the overcast from about 3500 feet at the reported position of the bogey. It was traveling fast in a dive in the direction of the shipping at Point Zebra, where ant-aircraft was seen to have opened up.

The section did a chandelle off the water and started a climbing chase, closing after two minutes at full throttle, and water injection. After closing to within 150 feet Capt. BALDWIN was unable to see recognition features due to darkness and called Lt. TUTTLE for his opinion. Lt. TUTTLE was slightly behind Capt. BALDWIN and was also unable to make identification. The plane was still in a straight course toward Zebra, now only 2 miles away, which crystallized Capt. BALDWIN's decision to fire. He opened with a short burst directed at the right wing root. The plane started a short turn into Lt. TUTTLE and Capt. BALDWIN saw the radar burst characteristic of the F6F on the right wing tip and as he stopped firing grabbed his mike and told Lt. TUTTLE, who had by this time opened fire, to quote "knock it off" unquote. Lt. TUTTLE heard this message and at the same time saw the white star marking in the illumination furnished by his tracers and pulled off. The F6F pulled around and started a run, upon which both 113 planes pulled into the overcast to avoid his fire.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No. 52

-SECRET-

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

Capt. BALDWIN Reports that he flew in the overcast for several minutes in which time he was contacted by Bridegroom control who told him they thought he was firing on one of their black chicks to which he gave an affirmative.

Upon pulling out of the overcast they joined up with Ruby planes and returned to base, landing at 2050 and making the above report.

The following pilots participated:

Captain W.A. BALDWIN -- Division Leader.
2nd Lt. B.N. TUTTLE -- Wingman.
2nd Lt. D.C. HALLIBURST -- Section Leader.
2nd Lt. H.L. JUNG1 -- 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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. H. Jordan

Capt., AGC

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

H. H. JORDAN

All material performed in a satisfactory manner.

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

APPROVED BY:

Hensley Williams

SIGNATURE

HENSLEY WILLIAMS

Maj. O.O.

RANK AND DUTY

9 June 1945

DATE